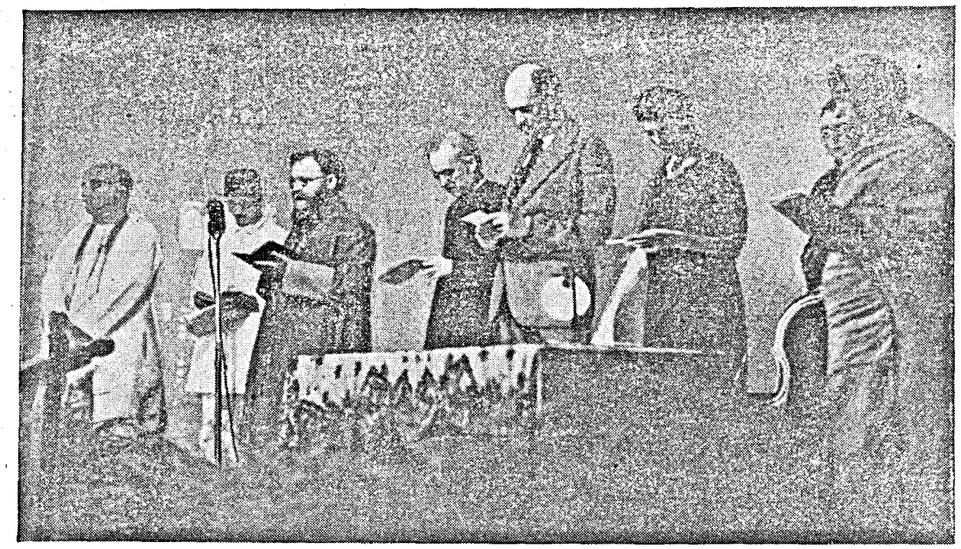
JL
V211:19(3m)N39
N472.4
C.1 5-10



PRAYER OF UNITED RELIGIONS : On Sunday, September 6, a unique function took place in the Victoria Public Hall, Madras. Leaders of different religious faiths united on a common platform to pray for the success of the Allies against the forces of evil. Their Excellencies Sir Arthur and Lady Hope were present at the function.

Common Prayer

[*Contributed*]

THERE is a famous Book of it, and now we have had a most notable evening of it. In the Book we were bidden, with the majestic insularity of a by-gone age, to commend to God's mercy " all Jews, Turks, Infidels and Hereticks." But on Sunday evening last, at the Victoria Public Hall we did not pray so much for them, as with them. The ' Turks ' of the occasion were not those Saracens whom Europe once dreaded, but they were their descendent co-religionists, sons of mighty, changeless, and democratic Islam; ' Infidels ' was perhaps an ignorant Tudor generic for the ancestors of those Hindus and Parsees and Buddhists who worshipped with us on Sunday evening; Jews we have always with us—proud, patient and, these days, pitiful; and as for the " Hereticks, there were Tom, Dick, Harry and myself—like the rest to be awed, uplifted, and comforted.

Some may suggest that the success of the National War Front's appeal to each creed and sect, *dharma* and philosophy of Madras—Shaivites and Vaishnavites, Catholics and Protestants, Muslims and Theosophists, Parsees and Buddhists—to share an hour of thanksgiving and re-dedication of self, was merely a manifestation of a growing urge among all with any faith in humanity (as contrasted with moronism)—a simple and piteous impulse to Togetherness, in a common admission of man's littleness in the face of cosmic catastrophe, and a common call for aid from the Most High.

Whatever be the truth, there passed an hour from which all may draw their own moral. A Catholic prelate next to a Parsee priest with a Theosophist on his other hand; a turbaned Moulvi seated between a Sankarachari and a Chinese; and in the midst the central figure of our political life and his wife—themselves of differing Christian persuasion—standing with bent heads for prayer in six different languages, sitting for the sweetly-sung devotional music which intersected our orisons, and below and before them a massed crowd of polyglot, polycredulous humanity, all filled—beyond reasonabe doubt—with a sense of unity under, sacrifice for, and victorious faith in " whatever Gods there be "—they engraved on one mind at least a picture unlikely to be forgotten.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page 2.*)

having a force to which we could turn in various theatres in which danger might develop. Referring to America's great help, Mr. Churchill said:

"At a critical moment, we had round the Cape a very large and well-equipped force which could be directed immediately to Egypt. A broadening stream of replacements of equipment, tanks, guns and vehicles of all kinds have also been flowing from this country and the United States to the Middle East."

* * * *

The hour of liberation and retribution

In conclusion, Mr. Churchill made another reference to America, he said:

"The hour of liberation strikes. It will also be the hour of retribution. I wish particularly to identify the British Government and the Commons with the solemn words of President Roosevelt that those who are guilty of Nazi crimes will have to stand before tribunals in every land where their atrocities have been committed, in order that an indelible warning may be given to future ages."

There are already indications, thanks mainly to the United States of America and its constant flow of supplies to the Allies right from the beginning of the war, that the day of this warning is coming nearer and nearer and the hour of annihilation of Hitlerism is approaching.

* * * *

Britain's War Expenditure

Introducing the vote of credit for £1,000 millions in the House of Commons on September 9th, Sir Kingsley Wood, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that during recent weeks Britain's average expenditure amounted to £12¼ millions daily, which represented an increase of £½ million daily over the figures for June. The increase of expenditure over the last two years, he said, was an eloquent testimony to the growing intensity of munitions production. Britain's total budget expenditure has grown from £3,884 millions in 1941-41 to the present estimate of £5,286 millions for the current year. During the last three years of war Britain has spent 10 million pounds. The total expenditure including the cost of debt and the normal peace time services amounts to £12,100 millions, forty per cent of which is met out of taxation. Sir Kingsley Wood said:

"We have been able hitherto to finance the war on sound lines, and if we proceed with equal circumspection in future and continue to husband our financial strength we shall face the task before us with confidence."

* * * *

An Economic Miracle

It is of interest to examine how the British Government have been able to husband their financial strength and economic resources and carry on this war. In 1938 the Government used only one-fifth of the national resources for war, leaving four-fifths for personal consumption. But within a period of three years, Britain achieved an economic miracle, and more than half the country's resources were turned into various means of winning the war. Direct control of labour, raw material, and industrial capacity by the Government prevented people from making things which the nation did not essentially need. This was further supplemented by increased taxation and rationing. On December 2, 1941, Mr. Churchill said:

"Britain had reached, at the twenty-seventh month of the war, the same employment of women in industry, services and forces as in the forty-eighth month of the last war. . . . We have a million more men in munition industries at this moment than at the end of the last war."

(*Continued on page 8.*)

Mr. CHURCHILL ON INDIA

"The course of events in India has been improving and is on the whole reassuring. The broad principles of the Declaration made by the British Government which formed the basis of the mission of the Lord Privy Seal, Sir Stafford Cripps, to India must be taken as representing the settled policy of the British Crown and Parliament. These principles stand in their full scope and integrity. No one can add to them, and no one can take anything away."

—Mr. CHURCHILL, in a statement on India in the House of Commons, on September 10.

President Roosevelt's Production Program is not Wishful Thinking

WHEN President Roosevelt announced to the people of the United States in his annual message to the Congress on January 6, 1942 that the production goal for the year 1942 was 60,000 airplanes, 45,000 tanks, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns and 8,000,000 tons of merchant vessels, and that for the year 1943 this rate of production should be stepped up to 125,000 airplanes, 75,000 tanks, 35,000 anti-aircraft guns and 10,000,000 tons of merchant vessels, it sounded fantastic and almost beyond the productive powers of even so great an industrial nation as the United States.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

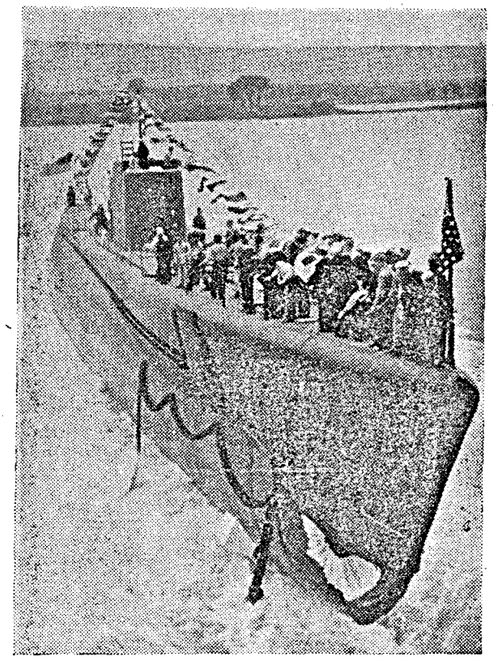
Before answering the question as to how this program is progressing, it may be useful to go back a little time in recent history and to examine the position of the United States from the standpoint of war production in the summer of 1940.

Fortunately for the United States and for the free world, the President of the United States at the time of the fall of France happened to be Franklin Delano Roosevelt. President Roosevelt had no illusions and had foreseen the danger and menace to the rest of the world (including the United States) inherent in the aggressive policies of Nazi Germany and of Japan, long before these policies led to the outbreak of open warfare. He had done his best to lead and to show the people of the United States that the successful culmination of these aggressive policies constituted a real and direct menace to the United States.

GROWTH OF NAVAL STRENGTH

A start had been made. For instance the Navy, which had seen practically no new building since the early twenties, received new life in the form of increased appropriations, largely due to the President's influence, which resulted in the modernization of numerous vessels, and the keels of several new ships were laid during the President's first term 1933-1937. The tempo of naval strength grew considerably in the President's second term, and this program has recently borne fruit in the launching last year and this of the new battleships *Massachusetts*, *Indiana*, *Alabama*, *South Dakota* and *Iowa*. Several new aircraft carriers have also recently joined the fleet.

But to go back to the dark days of June 1940 and the fall of France. The President in a radio talk to the nation explained just what this might mean to the individual American if the nation did not forthwith prepare to meet the menace, seeing that in mid-1940, in spite of war orders from Great



NEW AMERICAN SUBMARINE LAUNCHED. Day after day ships of all kinds take the water as they are launched from United States Navy yards to aid the United Nations' war effort. Photo Shows Submarine U.S.S. "Runner" hitting the water after sliding down the ways at the Portsmouth Navy yard, in the United States recently.

Britain and France, the United States was not on a real war production basis and only a few aircraft factories and machine tool plants were engaged on war orders.

In that year—1940—for the first time in the peace time history of the United States a conscription law was passed and the young men who were selected cheerfully went to camp to prepare themselves for any eventuality while the production of airplanes, guns, munitions of war and merchant shipping was commenced on a large scale.

LEASE-LEND BILL

If the transfer of 50 destroyers from the United States to the British Navy, at the instigation of the President in September 1940, did not convince the people where their interests in this war lay, then the passage of the Lease-Lend Bill in January 1941, again at the instance of the President, left no room for doubt. With the passing of this measure war production of all kinds received a tremendous impetus and new factories were speedily erected all over the country for the manufacture of airplanes, guns, shells, explosives and all the other accoutrements of war. New shipyards and shipways were built, for it was recognized that without the means to carry the production of the arms factories to the fighting fronts, all the rest of the effort was useless.

Thus, and thanks mainly to the foresight of the President, it came about that the United States was not entirely unprepared when the attack on Pearl Harbour brought the United States into the war on a full-fledged scale. The Pearl Harbour attack on December 7, 1941 served to galvanize the whole nation into action. People who had been isolationists before were isolationists no longer and the war efforts which had hitherto been made were completely dwarfed by the program laid down by the President in his message to the Congress on January 6, 1942.

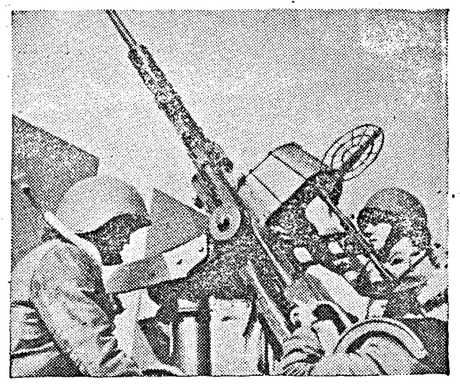
And now how is that program being carried out and will it actually achieve the goal laid down by the President? Owing to the necessity for military secrecy it is impossible to give exact figures and information is not entirely up to date but it can be stated, and with authority, that the goal for 1942 will be met and in some categories actually surpassed.

MANUFACTURE OF "JEEPS"

The automobile factories in the Detroit area, the supreme example of American mass production, are now entirely converted to war needs. Every motor car factory is on an all-out war basis, working 24 hours a day, producing among other things tanks, airplane engines, airplane fuselages, guns, shells and other munitions of war, even pre-fabricated parts of ships, and, of course, military vehicles of all kinds, including the famous "jeeps," the army all-purpose vehicle, by the thousands.

Airplane production in July and August was at the rate of 5,000 monthly. Mr. Henry Ford, in what only a few months ago was an open field near Detroit, is now turning out complete bombing planes in a factory, said to be the largest one-storey building in the world, which covers an area over half a mile long by almost a quarter of a mile in width. This is the famous Willow Run plant, which when in full production will employ 90,000 people, a large percentage of them women and is expected to turn out a four-motored bomber every hour, operating on a 24-hour basis.

(*Continued on page* 9.)



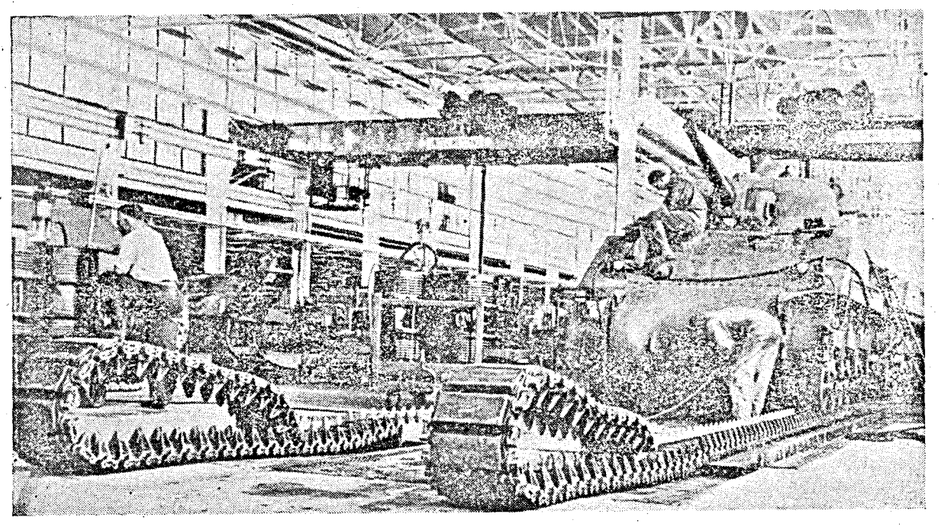
AMERICAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNERS ON ATLANTIC PATROL. Photo shows: Anti-aircraft gunners on a warship attached to a unit of the United States Atlantic Fleet, at their stations while on patrol duty of the Atlantic shipping lanes.

Tribute to American C.-in-C.

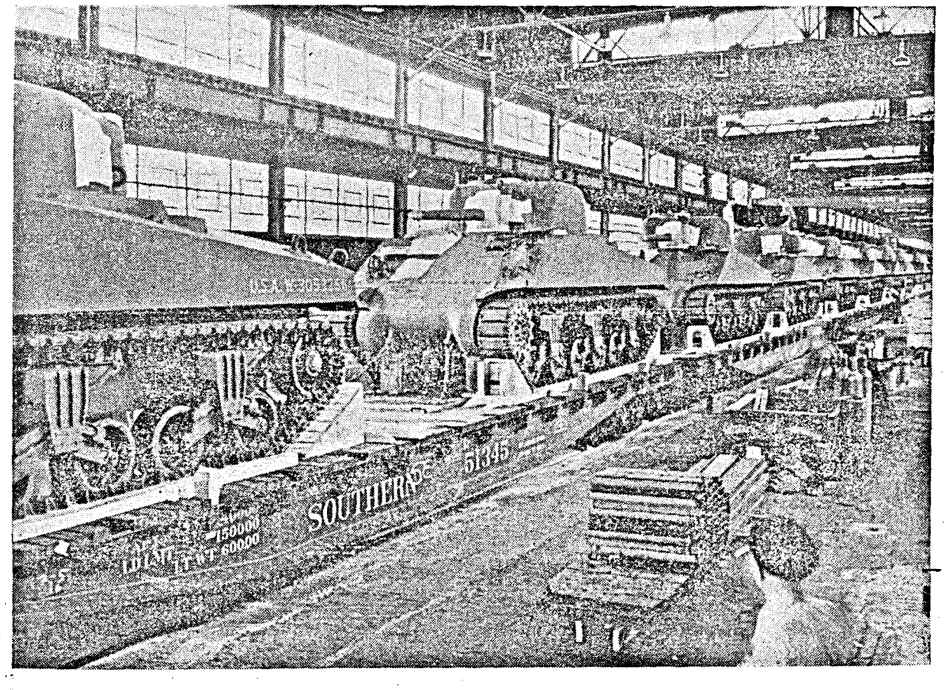
Admiral King, the United States Navy Commander-in-Chief, was largely responsible for the planning and determination of the Allied blows against Japanese. There had not been adequate appreciation of the boldness and ingenuity of the recent northern thrusts of the United States and Australian forces over a great distance towards the Solomons.

—DR. EVATT, *Australian Commonwealth Minister for External Affairs, in the House of Representatives, on 4th Sept.*

AMERICAN PRODUCTION



A scene in a giant war factory in the U.S. Midwest, now turning out all-welded tanks in mass on three production lines. Lines of freight cars loaded with tanks wrapped in protective covering now leave the plant on a special track almost daily. The tanks are the new M-4's, called the "General Lees" by the British who already are using them in Africa. Among the principal developments in the M-4 tank over its predecessors is increased fire power and improved location of the 75-mm. gun in a turret that revolves in a complete circle. In addition, it is highly manœuvrable and is protected by a tough hide of heavy armour plate. Photo shows: Laying the track for the M-4 which is one of the most spectacular operations in the manufacture of the 30-ton giant.



A train loaded with the latest type U.S. tank, the 30-ton M-4, pulls out of an arsenal in the Middle West. Now in mass production, the M-4 carries a 75-mm. cannon on a revolving turret, enabling it to fire in all directions.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 4.)

Britain's Increased Production

A systematic scheme was put into operation by which half the nation would be in arms and the other half at the battle stations, and the success of this plan was made clear by Mr. Ernest Bevin in a recent speech. Mr. Bevin said that no country in the world had ever been so fully organized at such a pitch of productive intensity as Britain was in 1942. British production had to go on under great difficulties as the *Luftwaffe* rained its bombs mercilessly as much on schools and hospitals as on factories. One of the methods by which production was carried on despite handicaps was by "dispersing" the factories. Mr. Churchill said in December 1941:

> "A great Bristol firm was dispersed into 48 sub-centres. I can give instances of dispersion to 20, 30, or 40 sub-centres."

In December of the previous year (1940), Lord Beaverbrook told the British people:

> "In four months from August to November, the output of aircraft in London was double the output of last year."

Britain's armament production has thus been rising by a phenomenal degree. Eighty-seven per cent of the Royal Air Force planes operating from home bases and 75 per cent at bases abroad are British-made. In 1941 nearly 10,000 planes were sent by Britain to battle-fields abroad, which figure represents four times the number it imported. Everyone of the 1,000 bombers employed in the colossal raid on Cologne in May 1942 was British-made.

Equally outstanding is Britain's record of ammunition output. Forty thousand big guns with 25 million rounds of ammunition and millions of small arms are produced every year. How great an achievement this is can be realized when one remembers Mr. Churchill's vivid description of people fainting in their lathes after Dunkirk to produce the goods Britain needed just to exist. Britain now produces twice as many tanks as in August 1941, three times as many as in February 1941, and five times as many as in August 1940.

* * * *

Britain's Life-line and Hitler's "Rattle-snakes"

As regards shipping which is Britain's life-line, all of Hitler's "Atlantic rattle-snakes" have not been able to starve Britain or check her shipping programme. In 1941 Britain launched over a million and a quarter ton of shipping. The naval tonnage produced in the last quarter of 1941 was four times as great as that of the last quarter before the war, and the merchant tonnage was twice as great. In June 1942, Mr. Lyttelton said:

> "We have increased our production of all war-weapons as a whole by 100 per cent during the last twelve months alone."

Production has increased, but there has been severe rationing of almost all foods, which the British people have willingly accepted. No one can buy more than two ounces of butter or more than two ounces of tea a week, and fruits are almost unobtainable. Britain however is the only country in a total war that has managed to increase its vital rations as years passed by. Four million extra acres of land are under cultivation and 120,000 tractors have made Britain the most highly mechanized agricultural country in the world. Britain is producing two-thirds of her needs and more than 5½ million families are growing their own vegetables in gardens. The acreage under wheat is greater than that of the last pre-war year by more than one-third, potato by more than two-thirds, oats by about twice and farm vegetables by about one-third.

As regards rationing of clothing, each person is given 66 coupons to cover the entire year's supply of clothes. A man's suit takes 26 coupons and a woman's dress 11, but such restrictions have not made Britain after three years of war as badly off as Nazi-ruled Norway, where a suit contains 75 per cent rayon and cotton, or as Germany where a thirty-shilling shirt is made up of cotton waste. The present

(*Continued on page* 10.)

TECHNICAL TRAINING

It is officially stated that the total number of seats now provided under the Technical Training Scheme of the Government of India is 41,407. On July 31, 1942, 31,400 men were actually under training, and up to the same date 15,000 trainees had passed out from training centres into the technical branches of the Services and war factories. The total number trained or under training on July 31 was therefore 46,400.

There are at present 353 training centres, of which 49 with a capacity of 5,403 seats are in Indian States. The Punjab has so far produced the largest number of trained men, the number exceeding 4,000, while MADRAS TAKES SECOND PLACE WITH 2,549, the United Provinces third place with 1,576 and Bengal fourth place with 1,262. In the case of the Indian States, Mysore leads with 313 and is followed by Travancore with 259 and Hyderabad with 200. Cochin comes fourth with 151.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S PRODUCTION PROGRAM IS NOT WISHFUL THINKING.

(*Continued from page* 6.)

The production of explosives, shells, cartridges, rifles, light and heavy machine guns is up to or beyond schedule. So also are tanks of which improved models, based on experience gained by the British on the Libyan front, are now being manufactured.

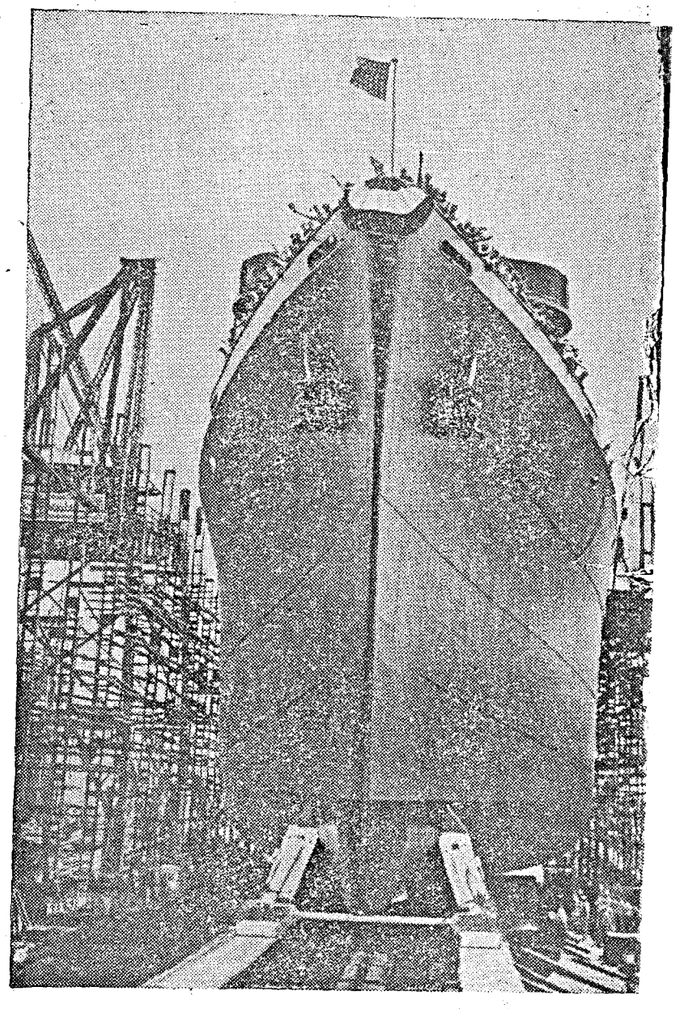
And now what about cargo ships, perhaps the most crucial of all war supplies? We all know that the Nazi submarine campaign in American waters has taken a heavy toll of United Nations shipping since March 1942. The latest information to hand is that launchings in August were greater than sinkings during that month. In July 71 cargo ships and tankers with a tonnage of 790,300 were launched and in August 68 vessels of 753,600 total tons took the water. One shipyard launched 12 ships in August, and the average delivery time for cargo ships was 119 days in June as compared to 156 days in May. One west-coast shipyard launched a ship in 24 days from the time of keel laying, but this is, of course exceptional. One shipyard launched five ships in one day in August. The President's shipbuilding programme has been stepped up, so that not 18,000,000 tons will be built in 1942 and 1943 but 25,000,000 tons. And it will be done.

MORE PEOPLE ENGAGED IN WAR WORK.

Every month more people are working on war production. By the end of June 1942 there were 12,500,000 so engaged as compared to 6,900,000 on January 1. This figure will be stepped up as fast as the war industry can absorb them. Present plans call for 17,000,000 by the end of this year, and by the end of 1943 it is expected that 20,000,000 people, men and women, will be engaged full time on the war effort. This is, of course, exclusive of the nation's greatly augmented and steadily expanding Army and Navy and its spirit. Well, on July 4th, the nation's greatest holiday, thousands of workers celebrated by putting in a full day's work in the war factories!

In truth it can be said that great as the program outlined by the President is, it actually has no limits in figures. War production will be limited only by the ability of the nation to obtain the raw materials essential for manufacture. Chairman Donald Nelson of the War Production Board recently put the matter in a nut-shell when he said that we have the production problems licked; it now is only a question of feeding raw materials to the machine.

It seems, therefore, fitting to close this article with the observation of General Somervell, Chief of the Service of Supply of the United States Army, who referring to mechanized warfare remarked that "When Adolf Hitler put his army on wheels, he drove right down our alley!"



SHIPBUILDING IN U.S. Photo shows a completed war cargo carrier sliding down the ways to join the United Nations' fleet.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 8.)

scheme has released about 750,000 workers from luxury production to war work and 300,000 tons of shipping for war purposes. Britain is, of course, not as well off as in peace-time, but no country fighting for existence and liberty can be better off. Even after the war is over, the same problems may continue to face the British people. Sir Kingsley Wood referred to this in his speech in the House of Commons. He said:

"The domestic problems we have to face after victory will, in the earlier post-war period, be very like the problems we have to face to-day. It will be necessary to maintain for some time a considerable measure of the war-time system of control."

Munich and After: Maginot Phase Sir Kingsley Wood has referred to post-war reconstruction. Let us look back a little and see how Britain reconstructed itself when all the odds seemed against her. The first period up to May 1940 may be called the Maginot Phase. It is commonly dismissed nowadays as a period of inefficiency and complacency, which is not correct from the point of view of historical perspective. Britain's desire for peace was earnest and profound, and public opinion was sympathetic and favourable to the peace-palaver of the Nazi war-monger. Mr. Chamberlain said after Munich:

"I have no doubt, looking back, that my visit alone prevented an invasion for which everything was prepared."

SERVICE IN THE INDIAN AIR FORCE

Service in the Indian Air Force has now become even more attractive with the news that considerable increases in the rates of pay of airmen have been sanctioned by the Government of India.

These new rates of pay, which have effect from July 1, have been devised further to attract the educated boy of good family from the colleges. Formerly, pay on entering the Indian Air Force was Rs. 30 per month; now this has been doubled to Rs. 60 per month for recruits selected for training in skilled trades and to Rs. 40 per month for unskilled. There are other increases all round according to rank and trade. These rates increase as a trainee makes progress and passes his trade tests.

The new rates of pay are about equal to those paid in civilian jobs for men of similar age and attainments. But it should be noted that the serviceman gets such additional advantages as free rations, uniform, accommodation, medical attention, railway travel when going on leave, sports and pastimes.

Life in the Indian Air Force is a life free from the ordinary worries of civil life. There are no barriers of class, caste or community. Airmen who show ability and powers of leadership are selected for commissions from time to time. It is not a matter of seniority, but they may be selected at any time in their careers.

A large number of airmen have been commissioned and many more are being taken into the commissioned ranks. Increased rates of pay have also been sanctioned for married officers. These rates vary from Rs. 450 per month for an Acting Pilot Officer in the general duties branch to Rs. 930 per month for a Squadron Leader, general duties.

Full details of pay, as influenced by ranks, service and skill, in the various groups—there are six and a special section for air gunners—and particulars of enrolment, discipline, training, etc., can be obtained from technical recruiting officers or from the Recruiting Directorate, General Headquarters, Delhi.

But the world was soon rudely shaken out of its illusion, and Hitler overran the Continent and occupied one country after another till his bloodthirsty hordes were divided from England by a mere strip of water. In May 1940, Mr. Churchill said:

"It would be foolish to disguise the gravity of the hour. It would still be more foolish to lose heart and courage."

Then came the prologue to Britain's "finest hour"—Dunkirk, and Mr. Churchill told the British people on June 4:

"British losses have exceeded 30,000 in killed, wounded and missing, perhaps a third as many as were lost in the opening days of the battle of March 21, 1918. Losses in material were enormous . . . this equipment, the first fruits of what British Industry had to give is gone."

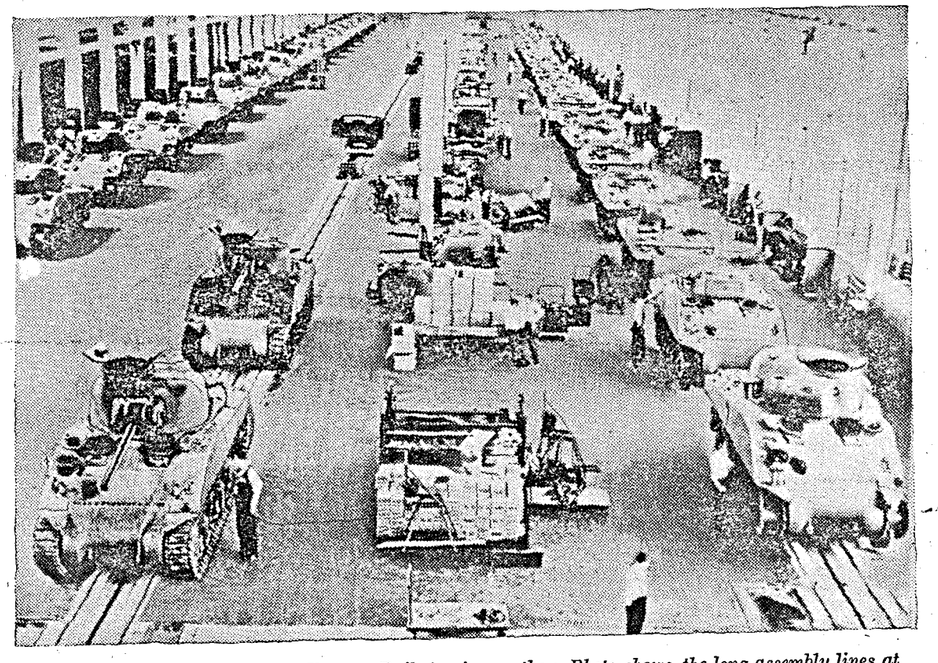
Then came the second innings—the Battle of London. Hitler speaking in Paris in September 1940, announced his impending arrival in London. He said:

"Whatever happens, England will be broken."

On September 11, Mr. Churchill said in a broadcast speech:

"A heavy full-scale invasion of this Island is being prepared. . . it may be launched now."

A systematic attempt was made to bomb and destroy London. London showed that it could "take it." The Battle of London cost Germany 883 planes and more than 2,500 airmen. Hitler failed to break the resistance of the British people. The honours of the second innings also went to Britain.



M-4 Tanks by the Trainload at Factory Built in six months: Photo shows the long assembly lines at M-4 tank factory.

Battle of Britain The second period may be described as the Struggle for Survival. It began on August 8, 1940, when the *Luftwaffe* attacked convoys near the coast and in the Thames estuary. Ports and aerodromes on the coast were bombed, and Goebbels and his gang fixed August 15 as the date of invasion. On that day 400 planes attacked Portsmouth, but the Royal Air Force repulsed the attack. British fighters and anti-aircraft guns made the Nazis pay a heavy price for their intrusion. A neutral reporter said:

"The first innings is in favour of England."

Invasion of Egypt In September 1940, Graziani began his invasion of Egypt, but he began to rest content with strengthening his position inside the frontier at Sidi Barrani. General Wavell took the initiative and launched an offensive with limited resources. Though the Italians were superior in numbers, they were driven from one position to another. By February 1941, ten Italian divisions were wiped out and Cyrenaica was cleared of all the Italians. Sir John Dill said about General Wavell:

"He gave us confidence when we needed it most."

In 1942, the Battle for Egypt is being fought on a much greater and fiercer scale. The object of Rommel's renewed offensive on May 26 was the winning of essential communications so as to shut off Russia from any aid from outside. By July 1, Rommel had taken Tobruk and reached El Alamein in Egypt, and Hitler was hoping that he could smash his way through the Caucasus and meet Rommel near Suez. But Stalingrad still stands, and Rommel has not been able to make much headway on land.

He has no doubt repeated his former successful attacks in the El Himeimat region, and chose to strike at the Allied southern flank at Gazala, with the object of breaking through, then wheeling round and encircling the Allied forces. But the offensive lasted barely 36 hours.

* * * *

Allied strategy: Rommel's withdrawal

Why was the battle broken off? Something must have gone wrong somewhere. What happened was that, owing to the soundness of Allied strategy, Rommel failed to by-pass the Allied southern flank at El Himeimat, and has therefore partially withdrawn for the moment. Reports have it that he has fallen ill on account of the loss in action of General Bismarck, his right-hand man, and is shortly returning to Berlin. Referring to the position in Egypt in his review of the war situation in the House of Commons three days ago (September 8), Mr. Churchill said:

> "We have in Egypt a very good, strong, well-equipped and resolute army barring further advance of the invader. I feel able to assure the House that they may be confident in our ability to maintain the successful defence of Egypt for several months ahead. I say for months, but I might say more. I am strengthened in this view by the results of the heavy fighting last week."

Heavy fighting there has no doubt been, but now all is quiet: Rommel has failed and is returning home, and Egypt has been held—but the lull on the Egyptian front now, it is obvious, is only of a temporary character.

AUXILIARY NURSING SERVICE

Recruitment to the General Service category of the Auxiliary Nursing Service, India, which had been suspended temporarily pending the revision of the terms and conditions of training, will be resumed from October next. Under the revised terms, candidates will receive a preliminary training for 3 to 9 months in certain selected civil hospitals throughout the country, provided their services are not required in the meantime for military duty. During training the candidates will be provided with free accommodation and board in the hospital and will receive a small personal allowance in addition.

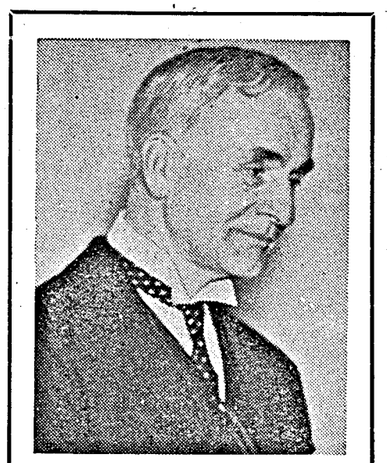
The Lady District Superintendents of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas will, as usual, act as the recruiting agents.

'XMAS AND NEW YEAR MAILS

On account of the present uncertain conditions created by the War, the public are advised to post their Christmas and New Year mails for the United Kingdom by the end of September 1942, a further allowance of about two weeks being made for other countries in Europe and America. The air-*cum*-sea service *via* Durban takes three to four weeks less, but owing to the load difficulty on planes, the public are requested to utilize the all-sea route for their Christmas and New Year mails.

If, however, Christmas and New Year greetings are sent by airgraph (to the countries to which this service is available) or by the all-air route to U.S.A. and Canada, they may be posted by the 15th November 1942.

How Cordell Hull's Lima Conference has borne fruit



MR. CORDELL HULL

ALTHOUGH the Pan-American ideal of co-operation and understanding between the twenty-one American Republics dates back to the latter years of the nineteenth century and numerous Pan-American conferences have been held in the past, it was not until the adoption by the United States of the Good Neighbour policy of President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull that these periodic conferences have really begun to engage the attention of the world at large. The reasons for this are plain, however, when one stops to consider what the policy of the United States towards its Latin American neighbours has become since the Roosevelt administration came to power in 1933. For the advent of Roosevelt and Cordell Hull marked the end of "dollar diplomacy" and saw the last traces of "the big stick" policy, i.e., the use of force to maintain peace and order in Latin America, vanish from the Pan-American scene.

The results of this new policy of mutual understanding were soon plain and if any further evidence of its success were needed it has been abundantly supplied by the war. At the Buenos Aires Conference of 1936 the American republics, including the United States, all agreed to consult with one another if the peace of the American continents should be threatened, and the Lima Conference of 1938 provided the machinery to make that agreement effective. The Panamá Conference of Ministers held in September, 1939, at the time of the outbreak of the war in Europe, put this machinery under test and found that it would work. Shortly after the fall of France, a second meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American republics was held in Havana, Cuba, and lasted from July 21 to July 30, 1940. The importance of the conference was so evident that ten of the republics sent their ministers of foreign affairs in person. Secretary of State Hull represented the United States and in his opening address to the conference he emphasized the dangers to nations who rely for their safety upon a desire for peace and upon avoidance of provocation. As a means of protection, he urged a specific programme of economic co-operation, the eradication of alien propaganda, and the establishment of a collective trusteeship to be exercised in the name of all the American republics over any European colonies where the existing status was threatened by cession or transfer, such trusteeship to be designed to further the interests of all the American nations as well as the interest of the region in question and the original sovereignty to be restored or independence declared when the conditions should permit. Mr. Hull had in mind, of course, the execution of the Monroe Doctrine with regard to the Caribbean colonies of France, such as Martinique, French Guiana, and other islands in the Caribbean area. As the fate of Great Britain and the Netherlands was also in the balance at that time their colonies in the New World were also threatened by the developments of the war in Europe.

LATIN AMERICA JOINS THE WAR

With the spread of the war to most of the major countries of the world as well as many smaller ones, and with the active entry of the United States into the war following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, the machinery which had been built up over the past few years was quickly put into operation. Of the twenty-six United Nations who signed the Joint Declaration on January 1, 1942, no less than nine were Latin American nations, all of whom had declared war on the Axis. Since that time two of the leading nations of Latin America, Mexico and Brazil have also declared war and have thereby joined the ranks of the United Nations in their fight against the forces of barbarism and darkness.

At the Third Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in January 1942, Mexico's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Senor Ezequiel Padilla said, "The men who have fallen in Wake and the Philippines have not fallen only to defend the honor and sovereignty

of the United States; they have also fallen to defend the human liberties and the common destiny of America." How different these words sound from those of twenty-five years before when the United States was forced to keep valuable divisions along the Mexican border, divisions that could have been used much better in Europe to help throw back the German offensive in the West, and all because Mexico was at that time considered a probable enemy of the United States!

MORAL SOLIDARITY OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

What were the concrete results of the conference at Rio de Janeiro? A declaration was passed by all the twenty-one republics recommending that the Americas break with the Axis, a step which many of them had already taken of their own accord. The subsequent declarations of war on the Axis by Mexico and Brazil, while prompted largely by the ruthless and unlawful sinkings of Mexican and Brazilian ships by U-boats in American waters, was also a fulfilment of this pledge, and showed the world still more clearly, that the moral solidarity of the American Republics was greater than ever.

The assistance now being rendered to the United States and to the other United Nations outside of Latin America by the nations of Latin America is of very great extent. Huge quantities of vital strategic materials are being supplied to the factories of the United States and Great Britain. Naval and air co-operation in defeating the Axis U-boat campaign in the Atlantic have been quickly furnished, and the entire resources and manpower of these nations are committed to the complete overthrow of the Axis. Although not sufficiently industrialized to train and equip highly mechanized or mobile armies of the type necessary in modern war, these nations by their important contributions of raw materials to the arsenals of the United Nations are helping to release American and British manpower for service overseas.

SUCCESS OF PAN-AMERICAN POLICY

The record of success in Pan-American relations which has resulted from President Roosevelt's wise and far-seeing policy cannot be gainsaid, no matter how hard Axis propagandists try to sow the seeds of discord among the twenty-one American nations. Their propaganda seed will fall on barren ground! Speaking with frankness and conviction, Sumner Welles, the United States Under Secretary of State, opened the session of the meeting at Rio de Janeiro, on January 15, 1942, with these words: "The peoples of the Americas face to-day the greatest danger which they have ever confronted since they won their independence. We are meeting together under the terms, and in the spirit, of inter-American agreements to take counsel as to the course which our governments should take under the shadow of this dire threat to our continued existence as free peoples. We meet as the representatives of nations which in former times have had their differences and controversies. But I believe that I may speak for all of us, and not least in the name of my own Government, when I say that we all of us have learned by our past errors of omission and commission. We are assembled as representatives of the 21 sovereign and independent republics of the American Continents, now welded together as no continents have ever before been united in history, by our faith in the ties of mutual trust and of reciprocal inter-dependence which bind us and, most of all, by our common devotion to the great cause of democracy and of human liberty to which our New World is dedicated." The general acceptance of these sentiments by the nations of the Americas has been borne out by their deeds!

American Machine-Tools

THE United States is now manufacturing in a few days as many machine-tools as were manufactured in a whole year ten years ago. It is estimated that industry will produce more than 200,000 during 1942, which has already beaten the 1941 record output.

—MR. RALPH BARD, *Assistant Secretary of Navy, in a speech on 4th Sept.*

American Analyst's View

"The wee k ending September 4 looked a little better, but we are still a long way from victory and every American should plan his affairs for a minimum of five years' war."

—REAR-ADMIRAL YATES,
United States Naval Analyst, on 6th Sept.

The Importance of India to America Industrially and Strategically

MR. WENDELL WILLKIE—the American leader, who is expected to visit India in the course of his world tour as President Roosevelt's unofficial ambassadar of goodwill.

IN this world-wide struggle or "global war," as President Roosevelt has described it, every one of the United Nations is important to the others, strategically as well as industrially. This is true regardless of whether the various nations are near neighbours or separated from each other by great distances. A perfect example of the truth of the above statement is to be found in the relation existing between India and America in this total war.

In peace time India's principal exports to the United States consisted of raw and manufactured jute, hides and skins, lac, raw cotton and raw wool, to mention only a few. Now that the United States is interested primarily in war materials, some of which are of great strategic importance, such as mica, manganese, various mineral sands, vegetable oils, etc., the character of this trade has changed somewhat, but many of the products exported in great quantities in normal times are also of vital importance in war. One of these is jute, and without India's jute the United States, which is by far the largest purchaser of this product, would have to turn to more expensive and less suitable substitutes. This is only one instance of India's industrial importance to the United States, but it could be many times multiplied.

STRATEGIC MATERIALS FROM INDIA

It may be pertinent here to give some indication of the importance of India as a supplier of strategic materials. One-third of the world's output of manganese ore, without which steel cannot be made, comes from the Indian fields, which at present produce over a million tons of ore per year. India is the world's largest producer of sheet mica, vital in the manufacture of electrical equipment of all kinds as an insulating material. Three quarters of the world's supply of sheet and block mica comes from Indian mines. Besides these essential materials there is also a plentiful supply of bauxite, ilmenite and chromite.

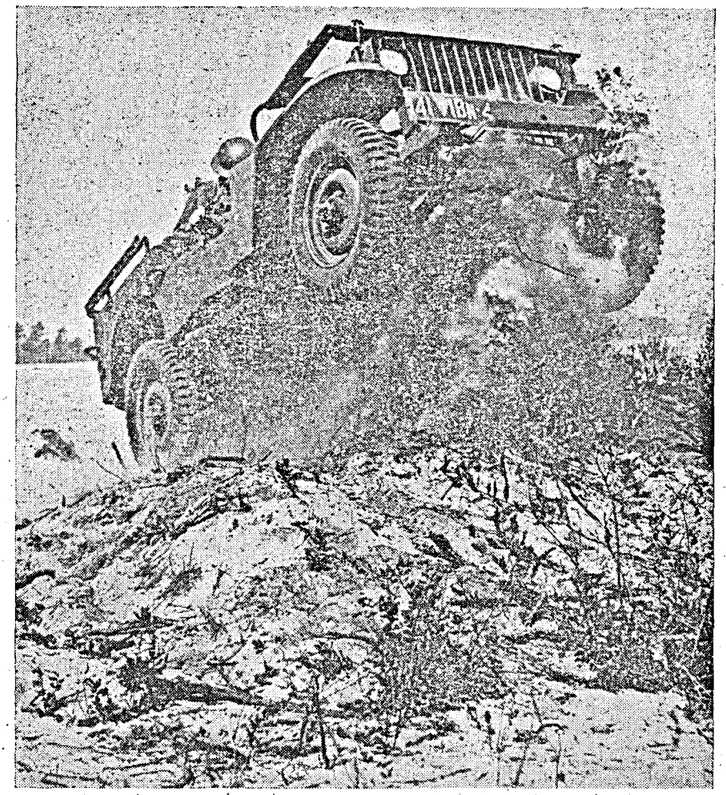
In many of the materials mentioned the United States is already well supplied, either from its own resources or from countries closer home, such as Brazil. Nevertheless, with the huge expansion in America's production of war materials increasingly larger quantities are needed. So much so, that it may be asserted with the certainty of truth that the only limit to America's capacity to produce the weapons of war lies in the amount of raw materials that can be delivered to American industry. The problem of production is really one of raw materials since the labour force, the skill, and the plant capacity are abundantly available. It may, therefore, be stated that America is leaning heavily on India to supply many of the vital materials of war on a larger scale than ever before in the peace time trade relations of the two countries. India's unique position with regard to jute, of which she enjoys a virtual monopoly and produces nearly nine million bales annually, has been mentioned. In addition, one-third of the world's cattle population is in India and vast quantities of hides and skins are exported to America every year. The importance of these hides and skins for leather in the war effort is obvious. India is also the world's largest producer of oilseeds, the most important of which are linseed, castor seed, rape seed, groundnut and sesamum. In addition a host of other less well known products, such as medicinal herbs, nux vomica (from which the important drug strychnine is made), rutile, monazite, cashew shell oil, coir rope and matting, etc., are being exported to the United States in considerable quantities.

INDIA, A STRATEGIC SPHERE

In the strategic sphere India is also indispensible to the United Nations. The United States was quick to see the importance of India as a supply base and a base for military operations against the Japanese on the one hand and the Axis in their bid for the Middle East on the other. India faces both ways. It constitutes a huge land mass, a sub-continent in fact, located between the areas occupied by Japan in the Far East and Germany and Italy

(*Continued on page* 18.)

AMERICA'S MAIN CONTRIBUTION TO MODERN WAR



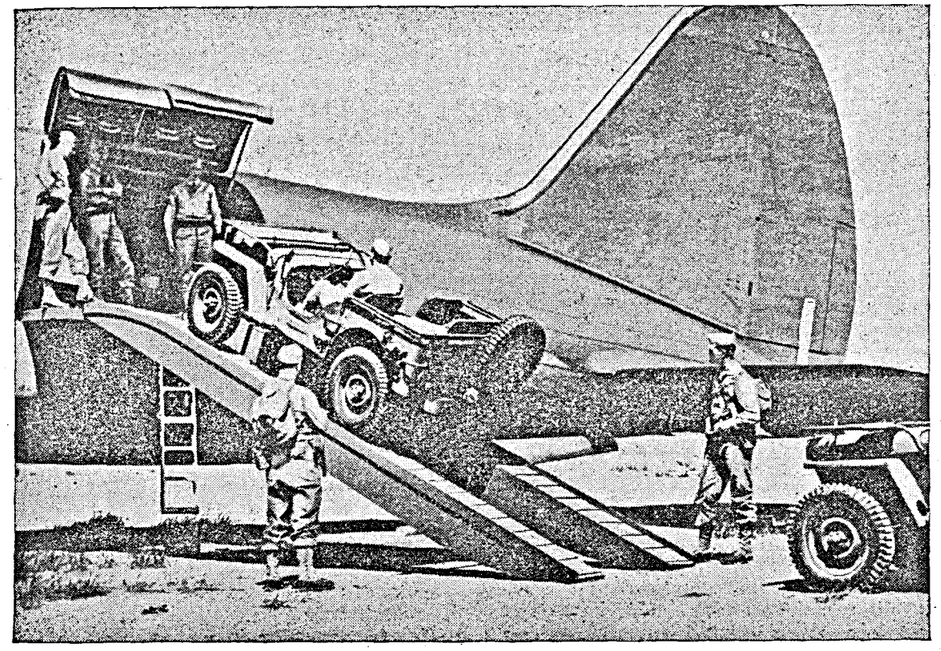
A striking action picture of the United States Army's Jeep, all-purpose military car, as it blasts through a sand embankment during manœuvres somewhere in the United States.

WHAT IS A "JEEP"?

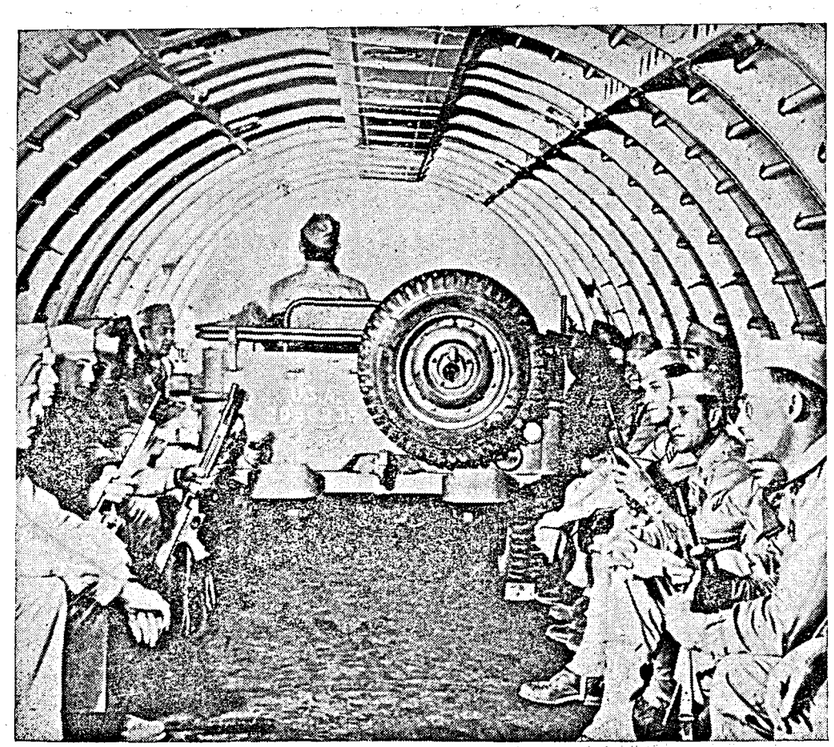
"JEEP," the smallest combat vehicle used by the United States Army, is only 11 feet long, 56 inches wide and 40 inches high. Its performance is so remarkable that the British Army proposes to use great numbers of them.

General Marshall, Chief of the United States Army Staff, describes it as "America's main contribution to modern war." With six speeds forward and two on the reverse, and a 60-h.p. engine, it can claw up or descend steep banks, be kept going through water, carry a machine-gun, or tow an anti-tank gun. It can lay a smokescreen or be used for reconnaissance.

American airborne units have been equipped with "Jeeps," which weigh 2,200 lb. and can be carried in army planes. Its nickname comes from its American manufacturing classification, "G.P."



"Jeeps" moving up the ramp to enter the wide doors of the Commando.



Infantrymen and a "Jeep" inside one of the Commandos.

THE IMPORTANCE OF INDIA TO AMERICA INDUSTRIALLY AND STRATEGICALLY.

(*Continued from page* 15.)

in the Mediterranean and Caucasus areas. It is of great importance for the whole future course of the war that these two areas of conquest are not allowed to unite. India bars the way. So long as the United Nations control the Indian Ocean from bases in India proper and Ceylon, this junction cannot be effected. On land, too, India's geographic position is almost unique. All aid to China must go forth from India as a base until Japan's grip on Burma, Malaya and Thailand is broken. Any attempt to drive the Japanese back from these areas would have to come from India. Similarly, the reinforcement of the Middle Eastern countries, such as Iran, Iraq, Syria, Palestine and Egypt can be effected from India. Of course, the control of the Red Sea and the coasts of Africa, both east and west, is also of great importance, but it is doubtful whether this could be accomplished if India were to fall to Japanese land and sea power. India is the apex of the triangle of Allied strength in the Indian Ocean, which has its bases on the west-coast of Australia and the east-coast of Africa (including Madagascar). The loss of any one of these three pivots would be disastrous.

BASE FOR ALLIED OPERATIONS

If the Nazi tide should ever erupt over the Caucasus barrier into Iran the role of India would become doubly important. Such outlying countries as Iran, Afghanistan, and Iraq are merely the shields guarding India and in order to defend them successfully and launch a counter offensive against the Nazi hordes a safe and strong base from which troops and supplies could be moved to the battlefronts as rapidly as possible would be indispensable to Allied success. India is just such a base.

In view of these strategic considerations the presence of American troops on Indian soil is readily comprehensible. The United States is vitally interested in utilizing any base or combination of bases in this war against the Axis powers. The bombings of airfields and troop concentrations in Japanese-occupied Burma, as well as Japanese positions in the Andaman Islands, by United States heavy bombers is merely one phase of the war on the Axis. India has already served as a base for American attacks on the enemy and will continue to do so.

The fact of the matter is that although the strategy of the present war is global, certain key areas can be singled out as particularly important theatres of war. India is such an area, and the strategy of the United Nations will make full use of that fact.

"The Same the Whole World Over . . ."

THE U.S. *Air Forces News Letter* recently compiled a glossary of red-tape officialese in wartime Washington :

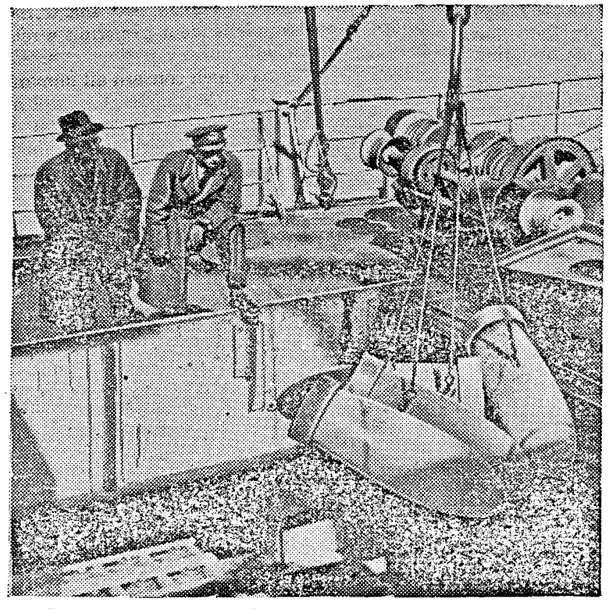
Under consideration means : never heard of it.
Under active consideration means : will have a shot at finding the file.
Has received careful consideration : A period of inactivity covering time lag.
Have you any remarks ? : Give me some idea of what it's all about.
That project is in the air : Am completely ignorant of the subject.
You will remember : You have forgotten, or never knew, because I don't.
Transmitted to you : You hold the bag a while—I'm tired of it.
Concur generally : Haven't read the document and don't want to be bound by anything I say.
In conference : Gone out—don't know where he is.
Kindly expedite reply : For God's sake try and find the papers.
Passed to higher authority : Pigeon-holed in more sumptuous office.
In abeyance : A state of grace for a disgraceful state.
Appropriate action : Do you know what to do with it ? We don't.
Giving him the picture : Long, confusing and inaccurate statement to a newcomer.

An American View of what Democracy is to mean after the War

AT a time when all the forces of the United Nations are being exerted to the utmost in the supreme task of winning the war, it is sometimes difficult to put aside consideration of this more immediate problem and to devote one's attention to what, after all, is equally if not more important—a consideration of what kind of world we expect to live in after the war has been won against Fascist aggression.

It is important to remember that even before the United Nations were formally associated together in the common struggle, and at a time when victory, though never despaired of, seemed, nevertheless, far away, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill jointly published to the world on August 14, 1941, their blueprint for the future—the Atlantic Charter. Briefly summarized, this charter which is, in substance, an International Bill of Rights, provides for the following : (1) It outlaws aggrandizement, territorial or other. The era of attempted domination must end. (2) It abandons territorial changes, except as they accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned. (3) It requires respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live, and it proposes restoration of sovereign rights and self-government to those who have been forcibly deprived of them. (4) It sets forth that these nations propose to further the enjoyment by all states, great and small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to necessary trade and raw materials. (5) It proposes collaboration between all nations to secure improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security. (6) And when a final victory shall have been achieved, it proposes that the resulting peace shall afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want. (7) It proposes a peace which will enable all men to traverse the high seas without hindrance. (8) And finally, it proposes disarmament of nations which have threatened or may threaten aggression, and a lightening of the crushing burdens of armaments. In the words of Cordell Hull, the Atlantic Charter "is a statement of the basic principles that have received the support of all civilized nations and shall continue to receive their support until they are completely restored throughout the world."

The Atlantic Charter was formally subscribed to by the twenty-six United Nations on January 1, 1942, and their joint declaration has since been adhered to by a number of other nations.



Canada is now producing every type of equipment needed by the Allied fighting services. In addition, the Dominion is making a 1,000,000,000 contribution to Britain to help her pay for munitions, foodstuffs and other supplies which are being delivered in increasing quantities to Britain and the Allies. Picture shows : Unloading 500-lb. bombs from a Canadian ammunition supply ship immediately on arrival at a British port.

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE

In his annual message to Congress on the state of the nation on January 6, 1942, President Roosevelt, after outlining his gigantic production-for-victory programme, said "We of the United Nations are not making all this sacrifice of human effort and human lives to return to the kind of world we had after the last world war. We are fighting to-day for security, for progress and for peace, not only for ourselves but for all men, not only for one generation but for all generations. We are fighting to cleanse the world of ancient evils, ancient ills. . . . We are fighting, as our fathers have fought, to uphold the doctrine that all men are equal in the sight of God."

It has been said by many, cynics perhaps, that all these high-sounding principles are familiar stuff, that they have been reiterated before, that nothing was done to implement them after the last war. It is true that the high promise for humanity which many idealists believed would be the outcome of the last war was not realized, but, in more than one sense, the present war is merely a continuation of that struggle, and with the lessons learned it should be easier this time for enlightened men of good will throughout the world to avoid the errors of the past. "Notwithstanding the hideous blundering of the past generation; notwithstanding the holocaust of the present moment, that great ideal of a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free still stands untarnished as the supreme objective of suffering humanity." These are the words of Sumner Welles, United States Under Secretary of State, spoken at the Third Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the American Republics at Rio de Janeiro on January 15, 1942. We Americans like to think that the successful co-operation in Western Hemisphere and world affairs that has resulted from the Pan-American conferences and the Good Neighbour policy can be extended to a world concourse of free nations. We Americans believe that the example of the American Republics and the British Commonwealth of Nations can and will provide the basis for a post-war world settlement.

BROAD SPIRIT DEMOCRACY

Americans, because of their deep-rooted heritage of democracy, naturally desire the democratic way of life, which has been responsible for the advancement of their own welfare and civilization, to be given more universal application. This is not by any means, however, a narrow attempt to export a system of government and a hide-bound political philosophy, or to impose an unwanted alien system upon other peoples whose traditions, culture and individual genius may not coincide with those of America. Such an attempt would be the very essence of Fascism, which we so earnestly desire to destroy. No, American interest is not in the minute details but rather in the broad spirit of the democratic way of life. It matters little to Americans whether the free nations of the world have a republican form of government or a monarchical form. The real concern of Americans is that the power of the government should be broadly based in the people, and should not spring from a ruling absolutism at the top.

The essence of democracy is respect for the individual man; yet with respect and freedom for the individual goes responsibility. It is most devoutly to be hoped that the democracies of the future will have now learned the lessons of the past and will realize that the world of to-day is too interdependent to permit a return to isolationism and narrow nationalism. The universal problems which concern all humanity, as embodied in the Atlantic Charter, will have to be solved by mutual co-operation and understanding in the new world order which is to follow the present war. It may ne necessary for States to surrender certain sovereign rights, hitherto considered inviolable, in order that the common good may be advanced. But surely this should not be too difficult or even distasteful. In fighting the war most of us have learned how to subordinate our own individual desires in the common struggle. In the same way nations will learn to subordinate their own individual desires if mankind is served thereby.

A great deal is now being written about the shape which the new world after the war ought to take. Hardly a day goes by that does not bring forth a speech by some statesman, a book or article by some famous writer, on the "brave new world" to come; countless learned societies have already put their experts to work on blueprints of the future world order; and many govenments are also giving earnest study to this problem. Yet it is safe to say that all the various schemes that are being worked out will place the emphasis on those simple democratic principles that were given broad expression in the Atlantic Charter, the Four Freedoms of President Roosevelt, and the Joint Declaration of the United Nations. These together form our creed. It is only necessary for us to live up to their tenets. The geopolitics of the future will be a democratic geopolitics.

America and Japan

Former U.S. Ambassador's View

THE former Ambassador of the United States in Tokyo, Mr. Joseph Grew, gave an account of the Japanese military machine in a speech at Washington on August 31. He said:

"I have lived for ten years in Japan. I about the Japanese military machine which brought on this war and against which we are fighting to-day. But before turning to that subject, there is something else I cannot leave unsaid.

'I have lived for ten years in Japan. I have had many friends in Japan, some of whom I admired, respected, and loved. They are not the people who brought on this war. As patriots they will fight for their emperor and country to the last ditch, if necessary, but they did not want this war and it was not they who began it.

"Even during our imprisonment in Tokyo many of those friends used to contrive to send us gifts in spite of the usual obstruction of police who wished to cut us off completely from the outside world. They were not the usual gifts of flowers, but gifts of food, sometimes a piece of meat, which was the most precious gift they could confer because they themselves could seldm get meat. . . .

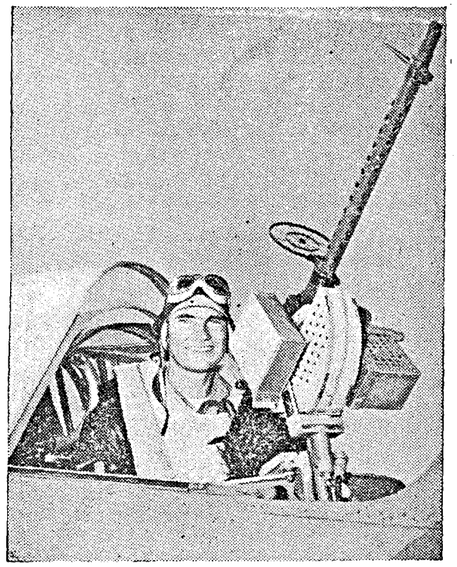
THE OTHER SIDE

"But there is another side to the picture, an ugly side of cruelty, brutality, and utter bestiality, ruthlessness and rapaciousness—the Japanese military machine which brought on this war. That Japanese military machine, military caste, and military system must be utterly broken for the future safety and welfare of the United States and the United Nations, and for the future safety and welfare of civilization and humanity. In a nutshell: There is not sufficient room in the area of the Pacific Ocean for a peaceful America or for any and all of the peace-loving United Nations and a swashbuckling Japan. . .

TRAINED MACHINE

"I would like to tell you something about the Japanese military machine against which we are fighting to-day. That machine has been trained and perfected through many years, for it has always had in view, even before the invasion of Manchuria in 1931, the prospect of eventually sweeping not only to the north against Russia, but to the west and south in order to control what the Japanese have lately termed 'the co-prosperity sphere of Greater East Asia, including the South Seas.' It need hardly be said that that phrase 'Co-prosperity sphere' denoted in fact the intention to exert Japanese control politically, economically, absolutely—over all those far-flung territories.

"In 1931 came their invasion of Manchuria. In 1937 came their invasion of China south of the Wall, and while their army eventually floundered in China because of the magnificient fighting spirit of Chiang Kai-shek, his courageous armies, and his determined people, nevertheless, the warfare that then ensued proved to be practical training for the Japanese soldiers and sailors who tirelessly developed and perfected tactics that they subsequently used in their landings and conquests southward.



John Liska, United States Navy aviation radio man, flashes his victory grin after the U.S. Navy dive-bomber plane, in which he was the rear gunner, shot down seven Japanese Zero fighters in two successive days in the Southwest Pacific.

NEW SITUATION ACCEPTED

"The idea should not for a moment be entertained that the failure of the Japanese forces in China has discouraged the Japanese people. It has instead served to steel them for

still greater sacrifices and better to prepare them for the war of deadly purpose whereupon they have finally embarked.

"As the realization came home to them of the need for greater and greater efforts, they accepted the inevitable war footing and reorganization of the life of the country with characteristic calmness and determination."

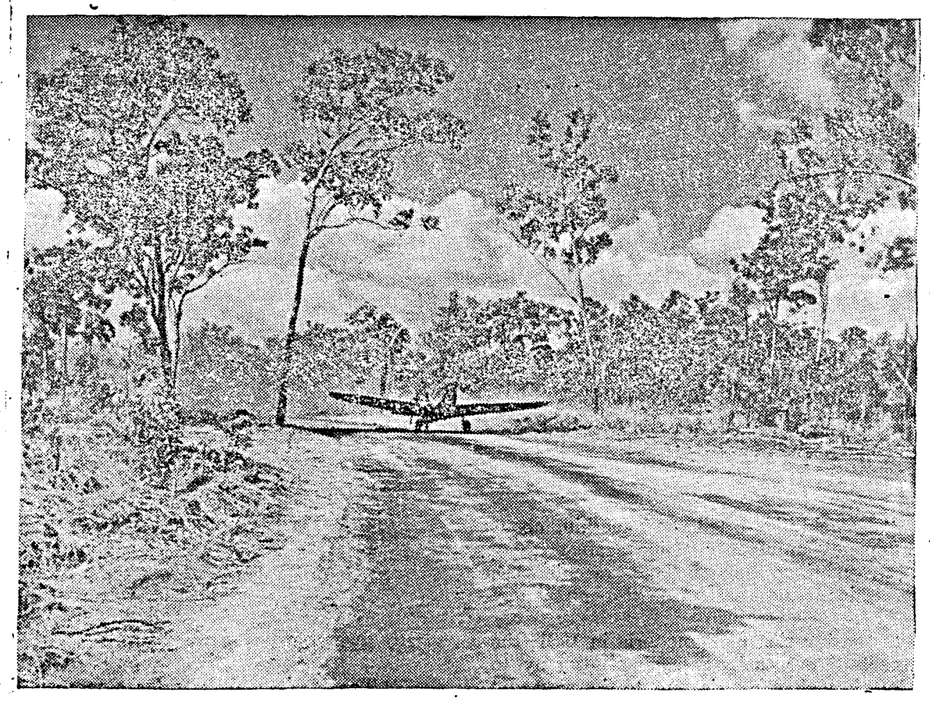
Strongly warning his audience of the spartan hardness and fighting spirit of Japan's army and navy, and the fact that the Japanese High Command counts heavily on gaining complete control of all East Asia before the United States is thoroughly aroused, Mr. Grew declared:

SHORTENING THE WAR

"I know my own country even better than I know Japan, and I have not the slightest shadow of doubt of our eventual victory. But I do not wish to see the period of our blood, sweat, and tears indefinitely and unnecessarily prolonged. That period will be prolonged only if our people fail to realize the truth of what I have just said, that we are up against a powerful fighting machine, a people whose morale cannot and will not be broken by economic hardships, a people who individually and collectively will gladly sacrifice their lives for their Emperor and their Nation, and who can be brought to earth only by physical defeat, by being ejected physically from the areas which they have temporarily conquered, or by progressive attrition of their naval power and merchant marine which will finally result in cutting off their homeland from all connexion with and access to those outlying areas—by complete defeat in battle. . . .

MAXIMUM EXERTION NECESSARY

"Nothing less than exertion of our maximum capacities will bring our beloved country safely through these deep waters to our longed-for heaven and victorious peace. We are fighting this war for the preservation of righteousness and law and order, but, above all, for the preservation of the freedoms that have been conferred upon us by our glorious heritage, our American citizenship, and for these same freedoms in other countries of the United Nations. And while we are fighting against the forces of evil, lawlessness and disorder in the world we are primarily fighting to prevent the enslavement that actually threatens to be imposed upon us if we fail."



FROM BASES HACKED FROM JUNGLES, U.S. AIRMEN CARRY WAR TO JAPS :—Down a runway cut through trees move the planes, one by one.

America and Britain:

Two-way Lend and Lease

THE Notes exchanged between the American and British Governments on September 3 formally set out the principles which apply to "reciprocal aid in the prosecution of the war against aggression." The principles are not new; they have been followed in practice for many months, declares *The Times*. They are now defined precisely, but not so precisely as to restrict the munificent spirit which lies behind and inspires the great adventure in partnership rather prosaically known as Lend and Lease. President Roosevelt's Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, expressed great satisfaction with what he rightly described as "this further integration and stengthening of our common war effort." And no less satisfaction will be felt here.

The latest agreement reaffirms the essential principle of Lend-Lease that reciprocal aid shall be in such form as to reduce to a minimum the need of each Government for the currency of the other—that wise provision adherence to which will still further stimulate the whole war effort, hasten victory, and consolidate peace. A debt-ridden world, as recent history all too clearly proves, is not one in which peace can be made secure.

The volume and variety of British aid to the United States appear broadly and formally in the agreement itself. They are described graphically in more detail in a statement issued simultaneously by the American authorities in Washington and in London. It is a proud record of practical collaboration. It shows how we and other members of the British Commonwealth have been helping, and shall continue to help, American forces in many lands and on many seas.

Reciprocal Lend-Lease will grow. Already more than 500,000 sons of America are serving abroad, and many more will cross the ocean in the coming months. Much of the material and supplies they need are provided on the spot. On the other hand, British equipment and men have been sent to reinforce the air defences of Western America and the anti-submarine defences of Eastern America.

These are a few among the more tangible forms of two-way Lend-Lease. There are less tangible but not less vital forms. Experience gained by many trials and reverses, knowledge won by sacrifice, and inventions and contrivances born of hard struggle—these too have been freely placed at the service of the United States. Lend-Lease is no mere matter of accountancy and balancing of debits and credits, but a partnership of help and hope. It provides the foundation of victory now; and if the next peace is not to be lost as after the last war, its spirit must continue after victory.

AMERICAN LABOUR AND THE WAR

"THIS is, indeed, Labour's grave hour, as it is the grave hour of the farmer, the industrialist, the teacher, the preacher and the aproned housewife and the smallest child in its cradle. All these are beneficiaries and heirs of the democratic system and it is democracy itself, which evil men from west and east seek to destroy."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *in his Labour Day Statement.*

American Workers' Appeal to Indian Congress

AN appeal to the Indian National Congress to call off the civil disobedience campaign and a pledge that " at the hour of victory we will do everything in our power to help you realize your rightful claims " are contained in a resolution adopted by the New York State Federation of Labour. The resolution says:—

" To the Indian National Congress: The New York State Federation of Labour, representing 1,500,000 organized workers in the State of New York, sends fraternal greetings to the people of India and urgently appeals to Congress to abandon the ill-timed, ill-advised civil disobedience campaign which cannot but injure India's own rightful cause.

" We are sending you this message from our 79th annual convention. Over 1,000 delegates feel impelled with the deepest regret to express their dismay at the tactics inimical to the cause of the United Nations.

" From a sense of friendship, we advise you that our dismay is shared by an overwhelming majority of Americans.

NOT DEFENDING IMPERIALISM

" We, the workers of America, have never condoned imperialism. We have never defended it. We do not defend it now. We are glad and proud that our brothers in the British Trade Union Conference have taken a stand against imperialism, recommending India's independence.

" You know that your aspirations found wide and deep sympathies among our people. Our interest in your many and complex political and social problems have risen from our esteem for you. Our interest has grown with our ever-growing hope of seeing a speedy solution to your difficult problems which would assure you an independent and secure national life. Your rightful reverence for your great leaders is shared in this country by millions of our citizens.

PLEDGE TO INDIA

" We pledge you that at the hour of our victory we will do everything in our power to help you realize the rightful claims to independence.

" To-day we are at war. India's position is not a question of principle. India is a geographic and military reality.

" We and all free peoples of the world are engaged in a life-and-death struggle against the Axis. There must be no misunderstanding between us. The workers of America and the American people as a whole stand solidly behind President Roosevelt in the iron determination to fight this war anywhere and everywhere that circumstances make it necessary. We are committed to destroy the Axis and shall not be stopped until we have carried the war to a successful conclusion.

" FOR YOUR OWN SAKE "

" We workers of America urgently appeal to you for your own sake not to play into the hands of your enemies. Do not prodigally throw away your own cause and compromise the cause of China and all the peoples of Asia by indulging in ill-advised obstructionist tactics which can only alienate India's true friends.

" People of India, we appeal to you because we are confident that your aspirations and great ideals will bring you inevitably to our side as allies, friends and co-workers in building a peace that shall be a peace of the common free peoples."

AMERICAN WAR PRODUCTION

" THE production of war materials is now the greatest in our history, but it is not yet enough. It will be greater still. There are certain to be stormy days ahead. We are certain to be asked for sacrifices. There may be sacrifices of wage increases or crop price increases or profit increases or bodily comforts. All this is little enough for free men to sacrifice in a world in which freedom is imperilled." : : : : : :

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT *in a Labour Day Statement on 5th Sept.*

American Flying Fortresses

Naval and Air Bases wrested from Japan

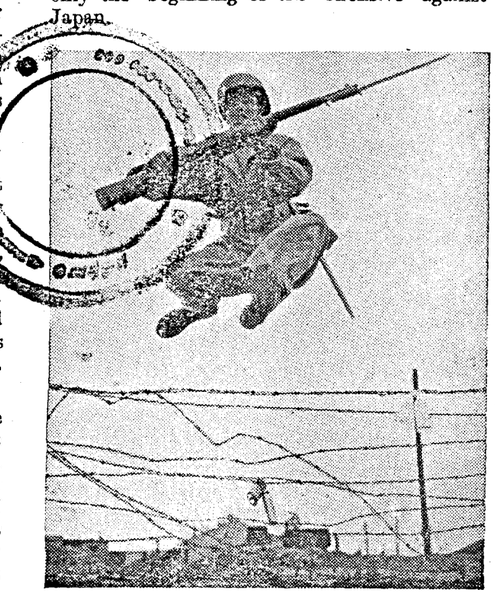
ON all fronts from the islands of the Southern Pacific to the North of France and the Low Countries, air attack is developing greater power and continuity, declares the *Daily Telegraph* in a leading article entitled " Key to Victory." The daylight operations of the American Flying Fortress bombers, combined with the heavy night onslaughts by our Halifaxes, Stirlings and Lancasters, have begun to work up to the full pressure of an offensive without respite.

Night sorties penetrate deeper and deeper into the Reich. Nuremberg repeats the warning of Gdynia that distance from British airfields will not save any armament factory in Germany and that places which Hitler delights to honour by his wildest boasts and his worst abominations of cruelty, he cannot now protect.

What the Fortresses have done from great heights to ærodromes, factories and power stations in occupied territory, they may be doing before long within the German frontier, but already the ancient German fear of being caught as between two fires has come true. While our bombers hammer Western and Central and Southern Germany, Russian bombs fall on the East and North—Berlin, Silesia, the sacred land of East Prussia.

As fervently as when they flung the Luftwaffe on Warsaw and Rotterdam, the Nazi leaders still believe that air attack is the key to victory. Though the balance of power sways against them, attack is still the order. Thousands of aircraft were sent to bomb the Russian armies defending Stalingrad and to destroy the city and its communications. The end of that struggle is not yet, but much of the strength of the Luftwaffe is being expended there while the Allies multiply blows at the machinery which sustains its existence.

The Americans have established themselves on six of the Solomon Islands, and thus wrested naval and air bases from enemy hands. This was only made possible by the American supremacy in the air. Aircraft from carriers put up an " umbrella " for landing. Long-range bombers co-operated. Without such assistance, the marines could not have gone ashore, and ships could not have approached. As soon as the marines had made progress, fighters were based on land. This is indeed only the beginning of the offensive against Japan.



With fixed bayonet, a trooper of the U.S. Army's Airborne Command clears a wire barricade with ease during training at an eastern post.

AMERICAN PRODUCTION SCHEDULES

THIS time it is not a question of ' How Long ? ' but ' If. ' Arms production schedules for September and October are so great as to exceed the capacity to provide materials. Schedules in the month to come would be much heavier.

—MAJOR-GEN. BRETON SOMERVELL, *Commander of the U. S. Army Supply Services, on 4th Sept.*

Mexico Planning Expeditionary Force?

PLANS are being laid for the formation of a Mexican Expeditionary Force of 400,000 men, to be sent to any theatre of war where it may best serve the interests of the United Nations, writes Leon Pearson in his syndicated column "Below the Rio Grande."

Such a move would be reversal of what was expected last May when Mexico declared war on the Axis, for at that time President Avila Camacho clearly indicated that the Government did not intend to send Mexican forces abroad.

Great numbers of young men, most of whom are not professional soldiers, have been clamouring for military action and have petitioned the United States Government to let them join the U.S. Army. It is believed that the Expeditionary Force will be recruited from volunteers.

The sending of such a force would be unique not only in Mexican history but in the entire history of Latin America, says Pearson. None of the 20 American republics ever sent an army overseas to fight, though Brazil during the World War sent naval units to the Mediterranean.

Keeping Home Fires Burning

ACTING as "father" to perhaps a quarter-of-a-million Indian families is just one of the duties of each Civil Liaison Officer, the officials to whom India's fighting men send their worries and problems.

Aware of the anxiety which Indian soldiers on active service feel for loved ones at home, the Indian Army has set up Military Welfare Offices in the Presidencies. In addition to looking after the needs of military families, these offices are responsible for the welfare of the families of Indian sailors and airmen.

Typical of welfare work throughout the country is that carried on by the Military Welfare Office in the Madras Presidency, where the staff consists of a Civil Liaison Officer, a Deputy Military Vice-President and twelve District Military Welfare Officers stationed over the area.

Many and varied are the services these officers render to the families under their care. Educational concessions to children, hospital treatment for the sick, applications for land, and the issue of free passes for cinemas are a few of the most common requests.

The Welfare Office deals with complaints regarding non-receipt of letters or money, delay in payment of family allotments or pensions, and the addresses of serving personnel or prisoners of war. It keeps a close watch on the legal interests of soldiers on active service.

Neither is the fighting man forgotten when, his service concluded, he returns to civilian life. A special department has as its responsibility the care of discharged soldiers, finding employment for them, arranging medical treatment where necessary, and assisting the poorer cases from the Indian Army Benevolent Fund.

The Civil Liaison Officer is constantly in touch with his huge "family" of 270,000, touring the various centres of population, co-ordinating welfare work, and lending a kindly and understanding ear to the complaints and worries of Service families.

America and Greenland:

Foresight of Danish Minister in U.S.A.

(*By* SVEN TILLGE-RASMUSSEN

THE EVENTS of the early summer of 1940, when the fighting in Norway came to an end, and the resistance of France was broken, had a profound moral effect upon the Danish public. Denmark was under the German heel, and in those dark days saw little hope of help and liberation.

The Danish nation serried its ranks to pursue one vital aim, which was the raising of all possible strength on the defensive, to preserve Danish institutions from attempts at Nazification. For upon their preservation depended the very courage and faith which was needed to defend Danish language, culture and spiritual freedom against the worst eventuality, and to save Denmark for the future.

There are few even now in Denmark who realize how far-reaching in its effects has been the stand taken by the Danish Minister in Washington, Mr. Henrik Kauffmann.

KAUFFMANN'S STAND

When he learnt that his country had been invaded, Mr. Kauffmann's first step was to declare himself independent of any orders he might receive from Copenhagen, such as might be inspired by the Germans. The State Department in Washington did not hesitate to acknowledge his declaration, and published a statement that it would continue to recognize Mr. Kauffmann in his full diplomatic capacity as Envoy of the Danish King and Government. Mr. Kauffmann would be regarded as the authoritative spokesman and negotiator on behalf of Danish interests. And, if the Danish Government should, under German pressure, recall him, or disagree with his words and actions, it declared that no other Danish representative should be recognized in Washington, as long as the Danish Government was under duress.

When he thus declared himself unwilling to follow instructions seeming to conform with German orders, Mr. Kauffmann found himself in no disagreement with any other of the Danish Envoys in the free world. The Minister in London declared the same principle: if such orders reached him, he said, he would not carry them out. Mr. Kauffmann's attitude brought him the responsibility of representing true Danish interests in negotiations which ensued concerning the century-old Danish colony of Greenland.

This huge island in the Arctic, in the protection and development of which the Danish people have taken the very greatest pride, belongs geographically and strategically to the Western hemisphere. At the time of the invasion of Denmark, in April 1940, the United States were not involved in war, and not even participating as non-belligerents in the Battle of the Atlantic. Nevertheless, it was important for America that Greenland, with her far-stretched shores and potential bases, should not come under the domination of, nor be used in any way by, the Nazis.

GREENLAND AND BATTLE OF ATLANTIC

Before this had been stressed by official circles in Washington, or pointed out in the American Press, Mr. Kauffmann fully realized the implications of Greenland's strategic position in the North Atlantic, involving the very questions of future Danish sovereignty over the island, and of the position of its Danish population.

By his Declaration to the Washington Government in April 1940, breaking off his own relations with Copenhagen, Mr. Kauffmann wrested from the Nazis their opportunity of bringing pressure to bear on the Danish Government in Copenhagen to obtain concessions regarding Greenland.

DO YOU SPEAK JAPANESE?

Many do.

They repeat wild rumours

Causing unrest and grave distress,

Stock market panics and reckless loss.

They come from Japan, these rumours.

Do not heed them.

Do not pass them on.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

The march he stole over the Nazis by that act has earned him the name of Germany's "Public Enemy No. 1" among the Danes. His stand had the effect, too, of demonstrating to the world how a free Denmark, when in a position to act and defend herself, would always stand. Further, his act prevented the Danish Government from being able to make concessions under duress and to commit itself to undertakings against which Great Britain, Canada or the United States would have to oppose themselves. *He saved Denmark from the possibility of coming into open military conflict with powers towards whom the Danish people were friendly, on behalf of their hated oppressors.*

WHEN U.S.A. TOOK OVER DEFENCE

The full implications of Mr. Kauffmann's policy became clear a year later. From April, 1940, the supervision of Greenland's administration, its supplies and the protection of its civil and cultural life remained under Danish control. But the small population and resources of Greeenland were insufficient for her to undertake the defence of the coastline, fjords and settlements.

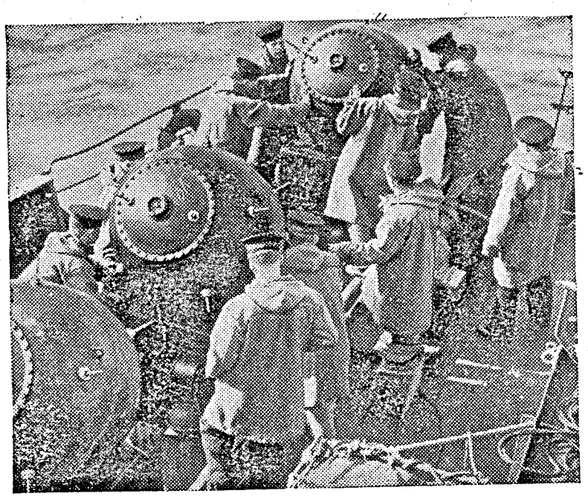
When, therefore, the United States made the important decision that it would secure its own defences by means of a widespread system of bases stretching out into the Atlantic, Mr. Kauffmann, as custodian of Danish interests in the northern part of the Western hemisphere, on the very anniversary of the German occupation of Denmark, 9th April, 1941, signed an agreement on behalf of the Danish King and Government with the United States of Ameria. According to this agreement the United States took over the responsibility for the defence of the Danish Colony of Greeenland, while respecting Danish sovereignty over the island.

KAUFFMANN'S DISMISSAL

Mr. Kauffmann could not, of course, ask for the King's consent before signing the agreement. He knew also that it might be inevitable that the Danish Government should condemn his action, which in fact they did. He was called traitor, his possessions in Denmark were threatened with confiscation, and he was dismissed from the Foreign Service for "gross disobedience."

Such is Mr. Kauffmann's position now in Denmark officially. The Danish Government's reaction was in no way a surprise. It might even be regarded as a discreet move, if not altogether valorous. *To condemn Mr. Kauffmann so strongly and promptly might have had the effect of forestalling more serious political demands from the provoked Nazis. And by condemning their envoy, the Danish Government spared itself the humiliation of having to bend its knee to Germany and denounce the United States.*

What was actually felt in Denmark is fully illustrated by the fact that Mr. Kauffmann became the hero of his people overnight and was praised for his initiative and political foresight not only in hundreds of thousands of Danish homes but also by the very people who were forced publicly to approve the official view—*Free Denmark.*



Among the often unrecognized heroes of the sea are the men of the British Royal Naval minelayers, who slip out night after night, in all weathers and under all conditions, laying minefields round the coasts of Britain and in the approaches to enemy shores. Picture shows: Duffle-coated sailors pushing mines to the stern of the ship ready for laying.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

5th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in the north-west coast of Germany.

Two enemy aircraft dropped bombs at a place on the south-east coast of England.

6th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided Bremen. Soviet raiders bombed Budapest and Koenigsberg.

An air raid alert was sounded in London.

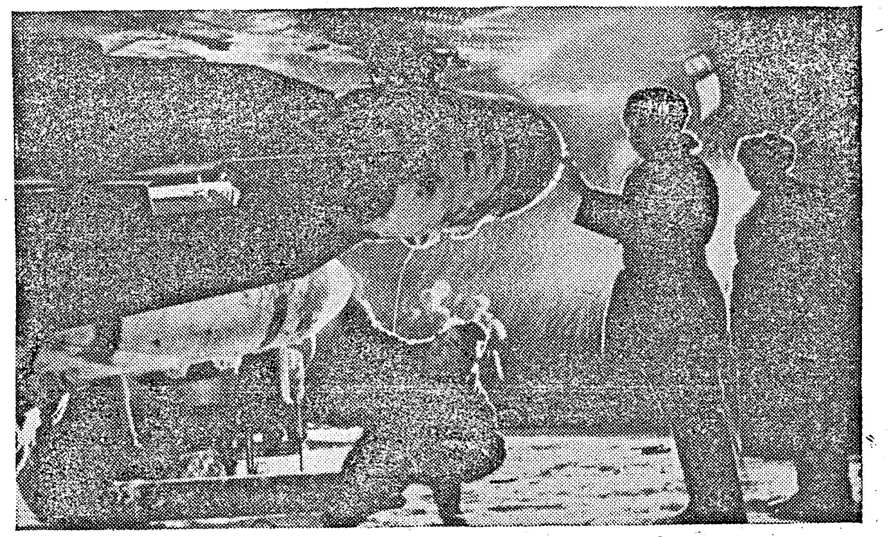
Long-range German guns bombarded across the Channel.

9th Sep.—The Royal Air Force bombed Emden, Bremerhaven and other targets in Western Germany.

Speaking in the Commons, Mr. Churchill said: "I regard the Dieppe assault as an indispensable preliminary to full-scale operations."

An alert was sounded in London. A small number of German aircraft flew over the coastal districts of north-east England.

10th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in the Rhineland, particularly Frankfurt. The docks at Le Havre were bombed.



Both the British and the Soviet air forces are now keeping up a "round the clock" bombing offensive. The Nazis have sustained terrific air losses on the Russian front, and are being forced to divert more and more fighters to face the British attacks in the West. Picture shows bombing up in the glare of searchlights at a Red Air Base, preparatory to plastering enemy troops and fortifications.

7th Sep.—German prisoners in Britain broadcasting on the B.B.C., denounced the Hitler regime and the Nazi atrocities.

8th Sep.—A small number of German aircraft flew over the coastal districts of north-east England.

The International Youth Day Rally in London was attended by more than 60,000 delegates from all countries.

The Royal Air Force raided Duisburg, a German industrial city.

11th Sep.—The Soviet aircraft raided Berlin. A number of eastern German towns were attacked and fires started.

There was a general strike throughout Luxembourg as a result of Nazi announcement that the Grand Duchy had been incorporated in the Reich.

An enemy convoy was attacked off the Dutch coast.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

5th Sep.—Senor Salgaldo Filho, the Brazilian Minister for Air, confirmed the reports that several enemy submarines had been sunk in the South Atlantic waters.

6th Sep.—Major-General Breton Somervell, Commander of the Supply Services, United States Army, told Americans not to take the war lightly.

7th Sep.—One hundred and forty-two enemy aliens were arrested in New York.

8th Sep.—There was an air raid alarm in New York.

There was a German air raid on Iceland.

The State Department announced the signing of a far-reaching military agreement with Cuba, arrived at the prosecution of the war by the two nations.

9th Sep.—President Roosevelt, in a fire side chat, said: "Our aim in the European area is an offensive against Germany. . . You may rest assured that preparations are being made here and in Britain toward this purpose."

10th Sep.—Henry Douglas Temple, son of a German Reichwehr officer, enlisted in the American army. He said: "I want to fight everybody left in Germany—including my father."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

7th Sep.—The Royal Air Force bombed Akyab.

The Commander-in-Chief of Ceylon warned the public against a false sense of security and exhorted them to be ever on guard. He said: "The enemy still has plenty of sting left in his tail."

8th Sep.—The Allied air force raided Akyab. Bombs fell across the barracks near the aerodrome and direct hits were scored on other buildings.

10th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy-occupied port of Akyab.

11th Sep.—The Royal Air Force made a successful attack on an enemy supply ship and its escort in Akyab harbour.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5th Sep.—Allied land forces continued their pressure on the enemy in the area between Himeimat and Ruweisat.

Commenting on the situation in the Western Desert, Mr. Wendell Willkie said: "I think we are going to win fairly soon."

6th Sep.—Rommel's attack was halted by the British whose armour he failed to split.

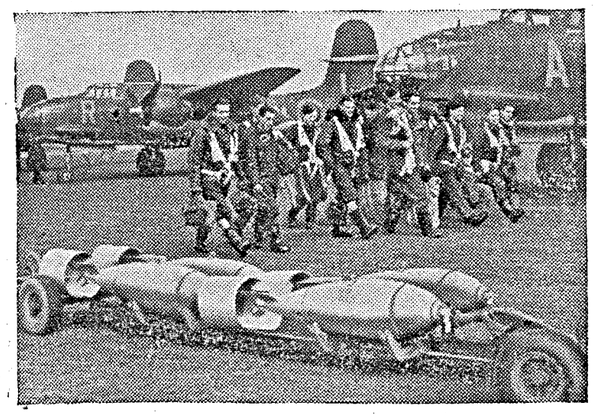
An enemy merchant vessel and probably a destroyer were sunk by the Royal Air Force in the Mediterranean. Shipping in Greek harbour were also bombed.

Three Italian sea planes were shot down into the sea off Alexandria.

7th Sep.—United States bombers attacked enemy shipping facilities and the power station in Candia Bay.

Three enemy aircraft were shot down over Alexandria area by the Royal Air Force.

Pursued without rest by the Eighth Army's mobile columns, Rommel was forced back to the position he started from a week ago.



Picture shows: R.A.F. pilots walking to their "Douglas Boston III" bombers while a train of bombs is brought up for loading in readiness for an attack on German objectives.

8th Sep.—Rommel's initial offensive failed. The Nazis lost a large number of tanks. The Eighth Army won the battle.

General Von Bismarck in command of the 21st Panzer division was reported killed.

An Italian convoy was attacked in the Mediterranean.

9th Sep.—Six enemy aircraft were shot down on the Egyptian front.

10th Sep.—According to an Ankara report, Rommel had been taken ill and was returning to Berlin.

An Axis convoy was attacked by Allied aircraft off the Libyan coast.

Field Marshal Smuts in an address at Pretoria, said: "The most vital theatre of this war is the Mediterranean base, and we cannot win this war without clearing this base."

11th Sep.—Further military operations were launched in Madagascar.

Royal Air Force bombers raided Tobruk.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5th Sep.—Twenty-five divisions and 1,000 German planes were concentrated against Stalingrad. The Nazis drove a wedge near Novorossisk.

6th Sep.—The Nazis advanced in the Caucasus. North-west of Stalingrad, one Soviet unit broke into German defences.

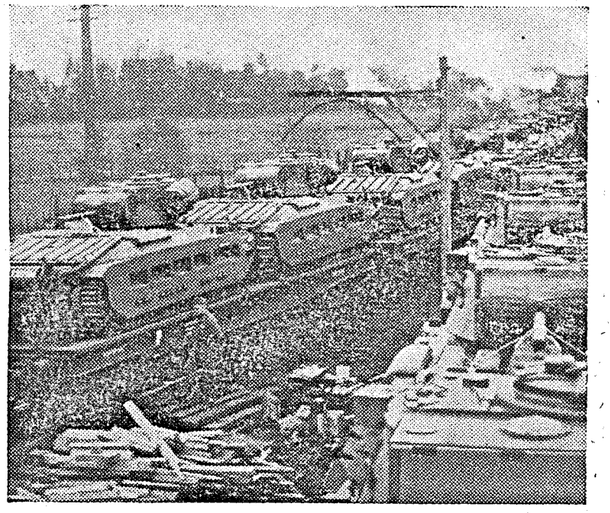
7th Sep.—Russian forces held out at Stalingrad. The Nazis claimed Taman Peninsula.

8th Sep.—Marshal Timoshenko, throwing in powerful reserves at the eleventh hour, stemmed the German onslaught on Stalingrad.

9th Sep.—In the last 24 hours, the Red Army definitely improved its stand before Stalingrad.

According to a Vichy report, all telephone and wireless communications from Stalingrad had ceased. The Russians brought up reserves. The Germans suffered heavy losses.

Hundreds of Russian airmen who had bombed Berlin and other German cities held a meeting at the Russian front to discuss the best methods for further attacks on Germany.



Armaments of every description are now pouring from British factories for use by the British, Imperial and Allied forces in every theatre of war. Photo shows train loads of newly-built British "Valentine" and "Matilda" tanks on a railway siding in Britain.

10th Sep.—Red troops withdrew near Stalingrad. There was fierce fighting in Novorossisk.

11th Sep.—Position around Stalingrad became more critical. There was bitter fighting in Novorossisk.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5th Sep.—The reconstructed Spanish Cabinet held its first meeting. It was expected to follow a more neutral policy.

8th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Ankara.

9th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie told press correspondents at Ankara: "Rommel tried to take Egypt. He used everything he had but he was stopped. He was badly beaten."

10th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie was received by the Turkish Foreign Minister, M. Menemecioglu.

* * * *

ITALY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

8th Sep.—American flying fortresses raided Occupied France and bombed the air field at Abbeville.

10th Sep.—The United States Government rejected the Vichy Government's protest against American bombing of towns in Occupied France.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

5th Sep.—United States submarines sank five Japanese ships.

Several new attempts were made by the Japanese to land and establish troops in the various islands in the Solomons group.

An Allied ship was attacked by a Japanese submarine off Australia.

The Japanese withdrew from Kuntien in China. The Americans bombed Nanchang.

6th Sep.—Vice-Admiral Terajima, Chairman of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, warned Japanese people to be prepared for a long war.

A United States destroyer and auxiliary transport were sunk by the enemy in the Pacific.

7th Sep.—The Chinese advanced in Kiangsi. The Japanese withdrew on Kwangtung front.

8th Sep.—Twenty-six Japanese planes attacked Guadalcanar.

The Japanese suffered heavy casualties in the battle for Kinhwa. Sixty-one Japanese aircraft made an offensive sweep in the provinces of Kwangtung and Hunan.

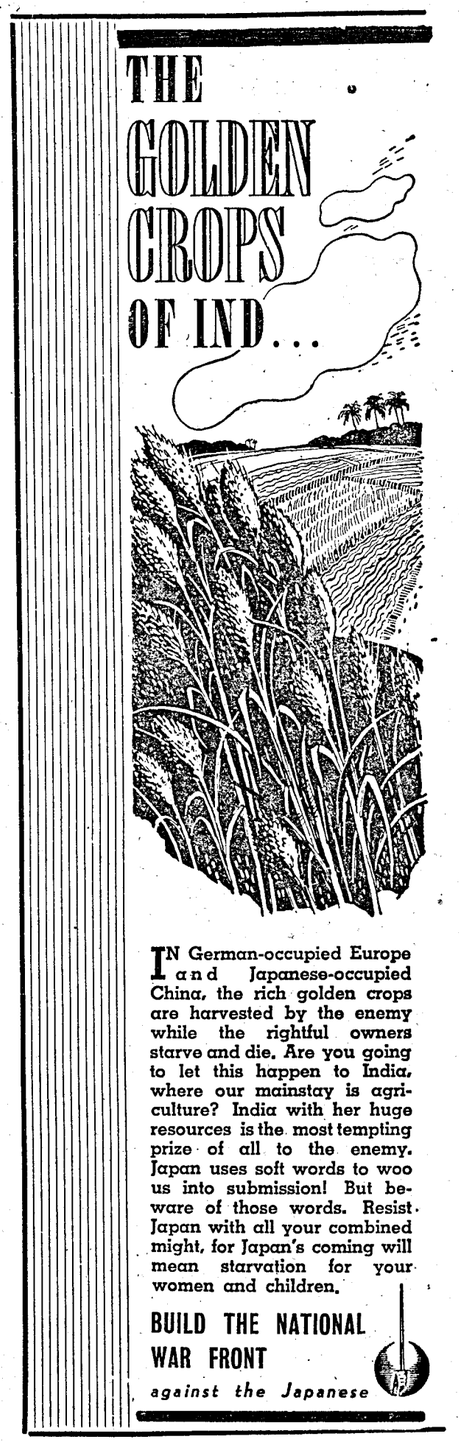
9th Sep.—The Japanese attempted landing at Guadalcanar was smashed. They advanced in Kokoda.

10th Sep.—Sir J. G. Latham, former Australian Minister, declared: "Large-scale successful bombing of Tokyo, Kobe, and Osaka will produce the greatest results in shaking the Japanese supreme self-confidence."

Admiral Shimada, the Japanese Navy Minister and Captain Fritz Wiedemann, former German Consul-General in San Francisco, were severely burned in a derailment caused by terrorists near Tokyo.

The Japanese on the Kokoda front advanced towards Myola. Enemy warships were attacked off Normanby Island.

11th Sep.—The Japanese continued to advance in New Guinea. American aircraft bombed Gizo island.



MADRAS: PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1942 No. 2

TURNED ☆ THE TIDE ☆ OF WAR

SIR CHARLES PORTAL

ON the second anniversary of the climax of the Battle of Britain, Lieutenant-General H. H. Arnold, Commanding General, United States Army Air Forces, sent the following message to Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, Chief of Air Staff:

¶ "On behalf of the fliers of the American Army, I wish to extend our tribute to the fliers of the Royal Air Force on the second anniversary of their brilliant victory in the Battle of Britain

¶ "On September 15, 1940, fliers of the Royal Air Force, seconded by the Royal Navy and the fire of the British ground batteries, brought down 185 enemy planes

¶ "The deeds of your fliers on that day turned the tide of the war, ending for ever the Nazi hope of world conquest, and made possible the final United Nations' victory that is to come

¶ "Free men everywhere will ever observe this day in remembrance of those brave men who gladly gave their lives to secure freedom and victory."

¶ Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal replied: "Your generous tribute will be deeply appreciated. We are proud to welcome to these islands squadrons of the American Army Air Forces. Already they have greatly distinguished themselves in action

¶ "We watch with admiration their growing strength which, joined with our own and that of Russia, will surely overwhelm our enemies and bring about their final destruction."

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
Hand out on the exercises	3
Planning power augments bombing power.	7
Air front against Hitler : A flying epic of all time.	9
Indian searchlight crew's feat	10
R.A.F. offensive on Germany : Does with bomb what Germans do with torpedo.	11
What is a dive bomber ? Its advantages and limitations.	13
U.S. Bombers redesigned	14
India's silent guardians of the skies ..	14
Indian pilot's bombing : Raids over France	15
W.V.S. finds the jobs	16
Production of rice in India : How to attain self sufficiency.	17
India producing parachutes	17
Paper economy drive : War resources Committee tackles problem.	18
New R.I.N. ship launched : Minesweeping and anti-submarine duties.	18
War of Nerves : Germany and Turkey ..	19
Marriage of convenience : Japan and Germany.	20
Japan and "Manchuria gang"	21
Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

Mr. Churchill on India : Declaration Re-affirmed The most important point in Mr. Churchill's statement on India is his reaffirmation of the Cripps Declaration, which was quoted in our last issue. Mr. Churchill made it once again clear that the declaration must be taken as representing the settled policy of the British Crown and Parliament, and this must remove any doubts which might persist on account of enemy propaganda in spite of repeated assurances from Britain. As regards the detention of Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders, Mr. Churchill referred to the "conditions of the highest comfort and consideration in which they were placed." It may be recalled that on August 30th a *communiqué* issued by the Government stated that Mr. Gandhi is in a private house with his wife and certain companions, including his own medical adviser, and is supplied with everything necessary to secure his comfort and the kind of food he requires. The other Congress leaders are also accommodated in suitable quarters and are supplied with all necessary conveniences. An officer of the Indian Medical Service is attending on them. All the leaders are keeping good health and are permitted to correspond with members of their families on personal matters and are provided with newspapers. In his statement, Mr. Churchill paid a well-deserved tribute to India's martial races and said that though there was no compulsory military service in India "upwards of one million Indians have volunteered to serve the cause of the United Nations in this world struggle" and during the last difficult two months over 140,000 new volunteers for the army have come forward. This shows that the country as a whole has not been deflected, by the actions of a certain political section, from its support to the common cause of the United Nations.

Madagascar : Axis Menace and Allied Success The successful operations of the Allied troops in the Madagascar island have resulted in the Vichy Governor-General, M. Annet, suing for "cease fire and opening of negotiations." The Allied troops met with very little resistance from the French forces, the population was very friendly, and most of the officials there collaborated with the British forces. The cause for the reopening of military operations in Madagascar is to be

(*Continued on page* 4.)

FIREARMS IN POSSESSION OF EVACUEES

SOME instances have come to light in which arms brought into India by evacuees from Burma and other places are being kept by them without a proper licence. It is perhaps not realized that firearms cannot be possessed in India without a licence from the Commissioner of Police or the District Magistrate. Any arms, therefore, in the possession of evacuees for which they do not hold a licence valid in India should be at once declared and deposited with the Police authorities. If the arms are Government firearms, details should be furnished at the time of the deposit of the name of the unit to which the arms belonged and a brief account of the circumstances in which the evacuee came into possession of the weapon. Evacuees connected with the Forces may deposit unlicensed weapons with the Station Commander instead of the Police authorities.

Hand out on the Exercises

THE Southern Army held large-scale manœuvres in North Arcot district from September 4 to 14. The area of operations covered about 5,000 square miles and all arms of the Army participated, the strength of the troops engaged being many thousands. The force comprising the enemy was known as the Blue Army.

The scheme of the manœuvres was as follows: One regiment of the Blue Army landed near Ponneri, north of Madras, on September 4. At the same time two Blue Regiments landed near Sadras. Our divisional commander beat the regiment which landed near Ponneri and wiped it out. But by the time he could meet the two regiments which had landed further south, the latter had penetrated inland as far as Ranipet. Our Commander had three brigades and one mobile force at his disposal.

He sent down his mobile force to keep the bridgeheads on the Palar river and deny the Blues a crossing to the north. One of our brigades was sent due west towards Ranipet while the other two were brought to the south-east of the enemy. The mobile force split up into columns and occupied positions astride important roads barring passage to the Blues in all directions from Ranipet except to the south. The first few days were occupied in jockeying for positions and the opposing forces made contact on September 12. On this and the following day tanks, artillery, bren-guns, and infantry were all engaged on both sides. The Blues were encircled. But as their object was only to hold our forces inland and thereby provide a screen for further landings of the Blue Army on the East Coast, the Blue Commander on September 13 decided to withdraw his forces to the Madras-Chingleput sector and draw our forces with him to cover the landings near Sadras.

BLUE REGIMENT WIPED OUT

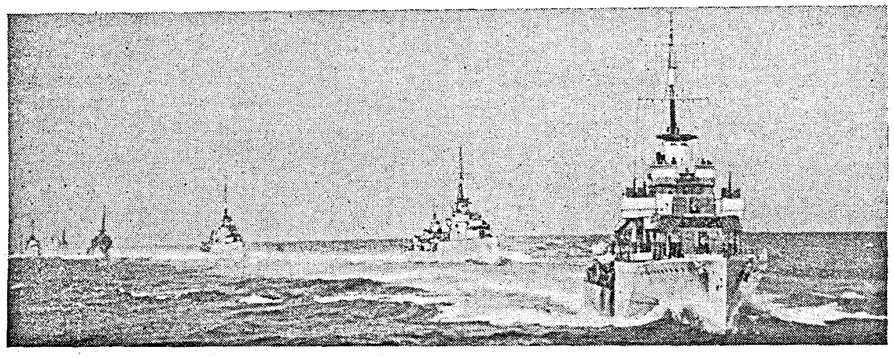
But our forces reached out for the withdrawing Blues near Kalavai and the Ranipet-Arni road and in the resulting engagement one Blue regiment was completely wiped out while the other was badly mauled and lost a third of its effectives. The remnants retreated rapidly making in the direction of Chingleput.

Thus ended the manœuvres.

These manœuvres were very valuable in the practical training they afforded to the troops, the co-ordination of all modern arms of the army, the numerous practical field problems which it helped to solve and the insight it gave to the spectators of the unostentatious but effective preparedness of the Southern Army to meet any threat to South India.

The administrative work of keeping up a regular flow of supplies to units scattered in ever-changing positions over an area of 5,000 square miles was done with clock-work precision.

The Southern Army may not be front-page news everyday. Its training and work may not reach the notice of the average citizen in South India. But in spite of all that—perhaps because of that—it is a great fighting force, capable of withstanding whatever threat South India may be subjected to. That is the main lesson learnt from the manœuvres just concluded.



British destroyers carrying out exercises at sea recently. Photo shows the Flotilla in line ahead.—E.N.P.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page 2.*)

found in the fact that the Vichy Government have been permitting Japanese aircraft to reconnoitre the Vichy part of Madagascar and giving supplies from the island to Japanese submarines. The danger of such a policy to the United Nations is only too obvious. Madagascar lies right across those vital communications that run from Britain or the United States round the Cape of Good Hope to Egypt, to the Persian Gulf and to India. The air fields in the island can be used by enemy planes and the communications through the Indian Ocean can be jeopardised by a hostile fleet. If the Allied communications with North Africa were seriously threatened, there would be no alternative route and there would be little to stop the German drive to Suez and the Middle East. The Allies would be losing one entrance to Russia and the products of the oil fields on the Persian Gulf and, ultimately, South Africa itself would be threatened. Taking account of all these factors the United Nations had no other option but to prevent the penetration or occupation of any part of Madagascar by the Axis powers by occupying the Island themselves. Both the United States and Britain, it has been made clear again, have no territorial designs on Madagascar, which would be restored to France after the war, or at any time before it when it is felt that the occupation of the island is not essential to the common cause of the United Nations.

* * * *

Egypt: Germans Suffer a Rebuff

Speaking at a reception of the American Legation in Baghdad, Mr. Wendell Wilkie, the most influential leader in America's Opposition Party, said: "I am confident about the situation in the Western Desert, where we recently achieved a sound victory." His confidence is particularly borne out by the recent seaborne raid on Tobruk and the present position in Egypt. They are definite indications of the growing strength of the Allies. On the night of September 13, light naval forces and a small army force raided Tobruk in conjunction with air attacks. The British forces landed in the face of strong opposition and after inflicting casualties and damage on the enemy, withdrew. Another light force successfully bombarded enemy lines of communications in the Daba area.

As regards Egypt, the Axis, says a message from El Alamein, is taking much keener interest in sending out night patrols than was the case before Rommel's abortive attack. It is stated that the enemy is now anxious to obtain more exact information as to the Eighth Army's dispositions than is provided by aerial photography, on which he formerly relied. As it is, nothing has been decided yet, and another attack may have to be faced, but says, *The Times*, "there can be little doubt that the Germans have suffered a rebuff." The German advance has been checked and their armoured forces have withdrawn to their previous positions. *The Times* points out that the fact that the whole of the Afrika Korps took part in the incursion into the British flank position makes it almost certain that an assault with all available forces would have been launched had any weak chink been revealed, and that throughout the engagement not one of the British fortified keeps in the main positions was penetrated.

* * * *

Egypt and Russia: A Secondary Front?

The paper compares Egypt with Russia and says that, though Egypt is still a secondary front, it contains potentialities which might render it very far from secondary in the general current of the war. It says:

> "The defence of Egypt becomes a major interest of direct importance not only to the British Empire but also to Russia. Egypt becomes still more significant if considered from the opposite point of view. In this world-wide war, the issues of which depend to so great an extent upon world communications, Egypt is a natural centre of offence. It has been robbed of some of its qualifications by the defection of France and the strength of hostile air power in the Mediterranean. If that situation can be even partially remedied, the possibilities become immense and Russia would assuredly share in the profit."

The Battle for Egypt has well been described by the *Daily Herald's* correspondent with the Eighth Army as "a contest in which each side is striving to hinder the other from starting a fresh offensive while hurrying its own preparations." The correspondent says that British light armoured columns are keeping an aggressive watch on the bruised German forces like dogs snapping at an enemy who has withdrawn to a place of safety. Egyptian newspapers welcome Mr. Churchill's statement on the Egyptian situation and point out that it indicates that those who direct war and high policy deserve to be entrusted and supported with the fullest confidence. *Al-Balagh* a leading Cairo newspaper, says: "We can rest assured of their permanent vigilance and continuous watchfulness, even though they are sometimes compelled to keep silent because of the nature of the grave responsibilities that they bear." The paper gives details of feats of British submarines in chasing and fighting

Rommel's supply vessels in the Mediterranean and says: "These attacks would continue because they are the surest way of clipping the wings of Rommel's forces."

* * * *

Russia: Attempt to Force a Decision

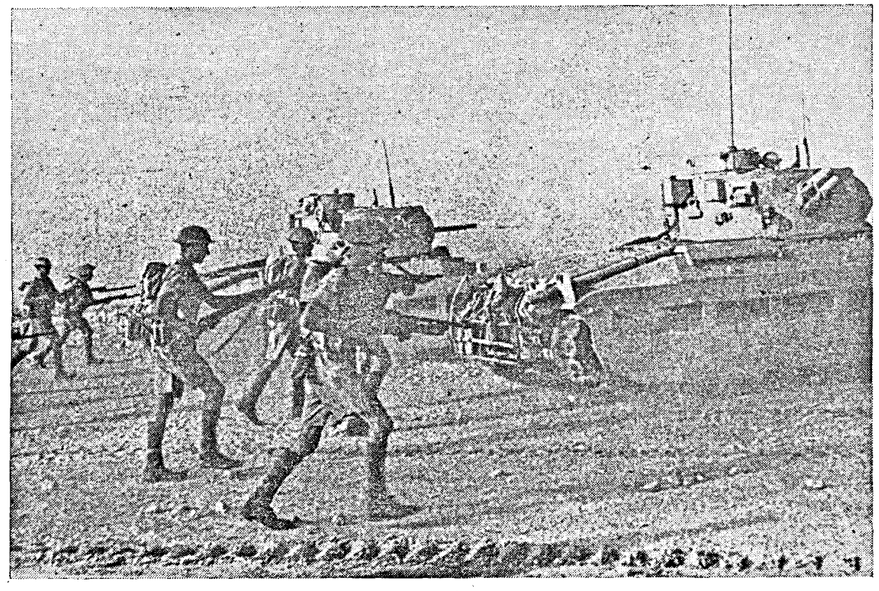
A gigantic struggle is going on before the gates of Stalingrad. The Red Army is fighting with its back to the Volga and resisting the ever-growing number of Axis forces, and what gain the enemy has made has been made at enormous loss. The German, Rumanian and Italian death-roll has increased by about 12,000. The most stubborn resistance is being put up by the Soviet defenders and the Red Army has been ordered not to give up anything as long as one Red soldier is left with a single bullet or grenade. Referring to the losses inflicted on the enemy, a British Military Commentator says,

> "The enemy is suffering more than he expected to suffer, and he is achieving less than the minimum he needs."

There has been heavy strain and drain on the German military machine which is much greater than what it had bargained for. But von Bock is prepared to pay the price, however heavy it may be, for he has no other option. Somehow or other a decision has to be forced—a decision which has eluded the Germans ever since their initial drive in Kharkov. The German High Command had now recognized, said a German military spokesman to a press correspondent from Zurich, that it was impossible to occupy the whole of Russia, and so they would choose as their goal some line marking the extremity of advance which could easily be held against Russian counter-attacks and behind which occupied Russia could be economically exploited without hindrance. He said:

> "Little, however, would be gained if the Russians succeeded in withdrawing their armies intact behind the Volga, nor would the German purpose be achieved unless Soviet military equipment were utterly destroyed and its resuscitation effectually prevented by the occupation or paralysis of Russian war industries and the blockade of the Lease-Lend routes *via* Persia, Murmansk and Archangel."

The German spokesman felt that if the Russians were not smashed and isolated they would be able to organize a winter offensive, as they did last year, which would tie down millions of German soldiers whose release during the winter for munition production was highly necessary.



Scots Guards moving forward under cover of a smoke screen and protected by the Tanks.—E.N.P.

Long-distance Air Raids An important feature of recent Russian operations is the Russian air raids on East Prussia, Poland and Berlin. At a time when the Russian Air Force is grappling with the full strength of the *Luftwaffe* on the Russian front itself, it speaks volumes for the strength and courage of the Russians that they are able to stage these long distance air raids. Russian planes have to fly 800 miles to raid Berlin, 480 miles to Konigsburg in East Prussia and over 500 miles to Warsaw. Such raids may not have the same weight and importance as the British raids on Western Germany, but they form a very useful supplement to the main effort in the west. Germany is thus placed under two fires as in last year. But the fires are now significantly bigger and of more sinister portent to German minds, particularly when it is remembered that the American bombing offensive has not begun.

* * * *

No Decisive Success before Winter Referring to the German offensive on Stalingrad, *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Stockholm says that the situation is more dangerous than before and that it is felt in Moscow that either the colossal German losses will halt them in the next few days or that the City will enter a long period of agony which would only delay its loss. The situation in Russia has been described as "critical" times without number, but the Russians have shown such immense tenacity and power of recovery that confidence is growing in the inability of the Germans to win any *decisive* success before the winter. The Russians have brought up reinforcements on a scale which has surprised the Germans. This is clear from the change in German comments from confident predictions of Stalingrad's imminent fall to complaints at Russian tenacity and surprise at Russian reinforcements. Should Stalingrad fall, it will no doubt be a serious loss, not so much on account of its industrial equipment, which has already been removed, as the interruption that may be caused to the Volga supply route. But it may be stated that this route will not be serviceable for barges and oil transport in winter, because the Volga will be frozen. The one clear fact that emerges from the present situation is that, whatever the fate of Stalingrad, the Russian armies will remain intact and Hitler will face another winter campaign and a Russia in full force in 1943.

* * * *

Enemy Begins to Mention Weather It is worth noting that the enemy has begun to mention the weather. Germans have reported the first shower of rain for eight weeks in the Stalingrad area and say that there is a touch of autumn in the air. Winter conditions in the Caucasus, where the German campaign seems to have been launched essentially as a cover on the right flank for the Stalingrad thrust, begin in mid-October. At about the same time, the autumn rains are due in the west of Russia. The rains are bad for mechanized transport as they produce mud. Frost begins in early November and there is a short period of greater mobility until full winter, the Russian date for which is November 25. The intensity of cold, it may be noted, increases as one goes east, and not as one goes north as the northern climate is tempered by the presence of the sea, while the cold winds come from Siberia.

"OUR BOUNDEN DUTY"

"WE owe a responsibility, not only to the peoples of India, but also to our Allies, the United Nations, who along with us are fighting shoulder to shoulder for the thing we all value most—our freedom. Party and other internal differences have disappeared in all countries which are fighting against the Germans and the Japanese. All questions of internal administration and Government have been pushed into the background by one great danger, the danger to liberty. If the Americans, if the Russians, if the Chinese, if the British, in their part of the world can forget all their internal differences, it is our bounden duty to do the same.

"It is a matter of great regret that there is not the unity of purpose among us which is essential for the fulfilment of our political ambitions. But I have no doubt in my mind that the day is not far off when we, the people of India, will rise above our internal differences and take our rightful place in the great comity of world nations."

—SIR FIROZ KHAN NOON.

LETTERS TO WAR PRISONERS

INFORMATION has been received from the International Red Cross that, whenever possible, letters to Prisoners of War in the hands of the Japanese should be typewritten in English, French or German.

In order to secure prompt transmission of letters, correspondents are advised to make every effort to comply with these suggestions.

Planning Power Augments Bombing Power

BY

OLIVER STEWART

●

MANY things go to make an air offensive possible, and the one that is sometimes forgotten—or at any rate not given proper recognition—is what might be called the office side. The designers of planes are—quite righty—much admired. When the people see a Spitfire flying overhead they think of R. J. Mitchell and his genius for thinking out and putting down on paper the lines and figures from which the Spitfire grew.

But when Rostock is bombed on successive nights with comparatively light losses and with big effect, the planning, the lines and figures on paper, that made the attack possible, are not often considered.

One reason is that we cannot see the attack and we cannot even have full particulars of it. Some of the best and most interesting features of heavy bombing raids have to be kept secret. The special scheme for helping to outwit the defences is sometimes extraordinarily ingenious; but they cannot be given out in the official communiqués for obvious reasons.

All that emerges is that a heavy raid takes place and achieves success with small loss to our raiding force. Then we know that the planning has been sound and that the lines and figures on paper, from which the whole complex operation grew, were well conceived and ingeniously worked out.

A brief review of the amount of staff work which must precede a big night air raid, like those on Lubeck and Rostock, or a big day raid, like those on objectives in Occupied France, will give some faint hint of the size of the job.

SELECTION OF TARGET

First there is the selection of target. That is a thing in which all the departments concerned in waging the war have to play a part and the final decision has to be approved by the War Cabinet as the last stage.

Recent targets have been chosen because of their influence on the war in Russia or the war at sea or the war in the air. The raid on Augsberg was undertaken to interfere with the German U-boat building programme by damaging the factory where the diesel engines for the enemy submarines are made. The Lubeck and Restock raids were for putting a check on the flow of supplies to the German armies engaged in Russia, and for damaging the Heinkel aircraft works. Each target goes up or down in the list of priorities according to the general war situation.

In the past, perhaps, there was too much willingness on the part of the Royal Air Force

BY DAY AND BY NIGHT

"We shall bomb Germany by day as well as by night in ever increasing measure, casting upon them month by month a heavier discharge of bombs and making the German people taste and gulp each month the sharper dose of the miseries they have inflicted upon mankind."

—MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL
in June 1941.

An observer attached to an R.A.F. night-operational fighter squadron.

to change their targets with changing conditions. Now it is recognized that there must be concentration of effort, and that light bombing in many places is less effective than heavy bombing in one place. At any rate, the choice of target must first depend on the war situation. Then there must be a consideration of the defences. Here the intelligence departments produce what is known from reconnaissance and other means. Special attention has to be paid to the enemy's arrangements for laying smoke screens over important objectives and for diverting the attention of the attacking pilots by means of decoys. When our pilots were going regularly over to bomb Brest they sometimes were able to see nothing but a huge carpet of smoke covering the entire harbour area and perhaps dotted here and there with fires. They then had absolutely no means of identifying the warships which—on those occasions—were their target.

It is hardly necessary to say that plans for attacks on many different targets are always ready, and that putting them into operation waits first on priorities and then on the weather.

PLANNING A RAID

Modern aircraft of the large night-bomber type, fitted with numerous special navigating instruments and carrying at least one expert navigator, are not so much influenced by the weather as the old types. During the Rostock raids a strong east wind was blowing. It was strong enough to have cut down drastically the range of the older, earlier bombers with their full speeds of about 150 miles an hour and cruising speeds of about 100. But with cruising speeds of our modern bombers about double that, the effect of a high wind is relatively less. Wind is only one of the weather items that have to be taken into account in planning a raid. Visibility is another, which becomes more important as wind speeds become less important. All these things are preliminary to the planning of the raid itself, and there are many other preliminaries. But finally there is the decision as to the size of force to be used; the groups from which it is to be drawn; the time period during which the attack is to last; and the take-off arrangements.

The Lubeck raid lasted about three hours; the first Rostock one of this recent series only about an hour. In both cases aircraft had to be taken over a relatively small area of ground at the rate of two a minute or more.

A bombing run is not a thing that can be hastily contrived like the plunge of a dive bomber. So the timing of the individual aircraft movements is a matter of supreme importance. And you will notice that Bomber Command is managing to obtain higher concentrations of aircraft over the targets.

In the raid on Renault works near Paris the anti-aircraft defences were light and one of the pilots told me that the only serious risk during the raid was of collision with our own machines, because the concentration was so high. These high concentrations are of value to the attackers for many reasons; but they demand a lot of staff work as well as high flying discipline in the captains and crews.

THE TAKE-OFF PROBLEM

The take-off problem, when large numbers of machines are concerned and the night is dark, has become progressively more difficult. Some of the big four-engined bombers want a long run to get into the air when they have a full load of bombs on board. The marshalling of them and the take-off itself can be successful only when the staff work is good.

The landing is not less difficult to arrange so that everything goes smoothly. If one of these big machines has been damaged by gun fire during the trip and if, on landing, the undercarriage—for instance—gives out, a big part of the aerodrome is blocked and the business of getting all the other machines back safely is complicated.

Sometimes these landing and taking-off difficulties may be added to by enemy attacks. So when you come to look at a bombing operation of this kind the vast amount of staff work involved becomes obvious at first glance.

Sometimes the most ingenious plans go wrong. Then losses go up. Sometimes the Royal Air Force has suffered heavily when making its big night raids. But on many occasions it has done much damage to the enemy with small loss to itself. That is partly because the Royal Air Force staff work is good. With every increase in the complexity of modern aircraft and with every addition to our bomber strength the planning problems become more difficult. These strong forces that have been going out at night to strike at Germany are guided by well-knit plans; their augmented bombing power has been accompanied by improved planning power.—(*Broadcast in the B.B.C.'s Empire and North American Services.*)

THREE GERMAN VIRTUES

TEACHERS in Danish schools are at pains to explain to their pupils the three German virtues: Honesty, Membership of the Nazi Party and Intelligence. It has not as yet, however, been possible to find anyone possessing all three virtues at once. The honest and intelligent cannot be a member of the party. The honest party member is not intelligent. And the intelligent party member cannot be honest!

—"*Frit Danmark.*"

Air Front against Hitler

A flying Epic of all Time

BY

GROUP CAPTAIN W. HELMORE

NOBODY takes any personal pleasure or glory at the devastation of Lubeck and Rostock, but they're standing between the people of Leningrad and their food and arms, and no amount of very natural sentiment will save our gallant Allies and their imprisoned families from a worse devastation if ever they fall under the cultural care of the Hun.

Apart from this bombing by us of centres of strategic importance to the course of war such as Rostock, or the acts of spiteful vandalism by the enemy in bombing places of no strategic importance, such as Bath, Norwich, and York, there is the bombing of perpetual motion being suffered by gallant Malta.

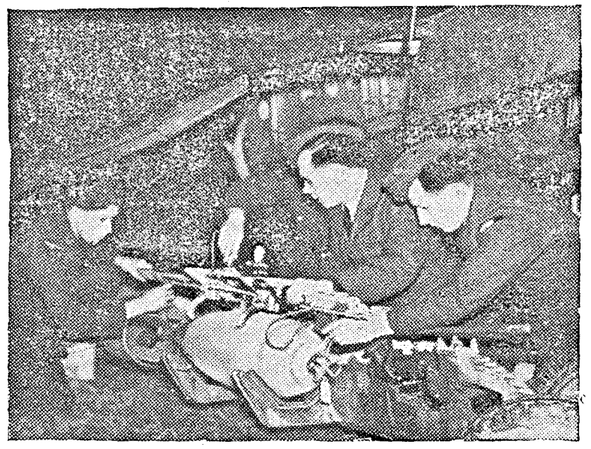
It had been my ambition to tell you the story of the daylight raid on Augsburg in the way it deserves to be told, to weld into words this great flying epic of all time, which will rank—not merely in air history but in war history—more highly as the years go by and its glory takes on the legendary lustre of the great deeds of the past.

As I sat down—a sorry Tennyson with the story of this greater 'Light Brigade of the Air' still dormant in the inkpot—I could see those twelve thirty-ton monsters on which they rode their charge. I had a memoried vision of trees blurring past the leading edge of a wing, of cannon shells rocketing into a little white-washed village, of the tense steely eyes of the pilot looking forward, never more than a field or two ahead, hour after hour.

DEADLY BREEDING GROUND

And then I'm sorry to say, I gave it up: the brush was too shaky, the canvas too small. But I can at any rate try to retell you the story somehow. They were called in for Briefing at twelve o'clock noon on April 17—some eighty-four young men, mostly in their early twenties. They weren't specially picked, trained, or doped with benzedrine on the German model: they were just normally interested to find out what all the excitement was about, and when they were told that they were to take on the sort of job which the *Luftwaffe* had given up two years ago as impossible, they seemed chiefly concerned with the contours of that last wooded hill before Augsburg over which in a few hours' time some of them were to get their first glimpse of the deadly breeding ground of the submarine diesel.

Then, later in the afternoon, the hunt started—a hunt for a thousand miles at fifty feet over hedges and ditches which has made every airman in the world who has ever tree-hopped for half a mile see in imagination a picture of the most fantastic chase that probably the history of pursuit has ever known—a hunt to the tally-ho of roaring engines that would have made Jorrocks turn in his grave.



In constant night raids on enemy aerodromes in Germany and the occupied countries, Britain's R.A.F. Fighter Command have hampered German bombing operations considerably. Picture shows R.A.F. Armourers "bombing up" a D. B. 7 "Havoc" aircraft before a night sweep over German-occupied territory.

Near Paris, thirty Me. 109s pitched into them : not a machine of that first squadron of six Lancasters swerved, but four went down, shot to ribbons. No one will ever know how many of the enemy went with them, for the rear-gunners were taking them one at a time as they came in, with eyes for nothing save each successive swerving shadow down the line of the sights.

Of that first formation of six, two aircraft alone went on from Paris. From above they were invisible—flat camouflaged patches with their bellies to the earth. From the ground they were just a great shadow and a roar of engines, which sent cattle stampeding and troops rushing to telephones, so that one can imagine the anxious ripple of warning running ahead of them like a bow-wave, as worried staffs plotted their course from town to town. Was it Munich, was it Nuremburg, was it madness?

BOMBED IN FLAMES

As Nettleton and his one lone follower pulled up over the ridge and roared practically down the streets of Augsburg at three hundred miles an hour, guns already trained spouted from the buildings in a panic of inaccuracy.

We have his own account of how the delay bombs went up behind him on the target; of how, last seen on fire, his friend also bombed and disappeared; of how as leader and sole survivor of that first squadron he ploughed a lone furrow homewards into the gathering dusk.

The second formation of six, following a few minutes later, reached Augsburg intact, and bombed. Two of them, with fantastic courage which baffles even the understanding, went in and bombed whilst they were already in flames. Then the remainder turned and swept homewards—later to keep an appointment at Buckingham Palace as worthy representatives of those who were already keeping a greater appointment elsewhere.

Perhaps you are asking yourself, what does all this mean—this lavish expenditure of machinery, these heroics, this loss of life? The more practical minded among us will rightly say : ' Where does it get us with the war, and what is the dividend? '

THREE-WORD REASON

It gets us this far—we, Napoleon's ' nation of shopkeepers,' the earth dwellers of an obscure island, which was once the abode of blue-painted savages—it gets us to a place from which we can realize once more the reason for our own evolution; the reason why this little pin-point on the map became the hub around which the civilized world revolved. In brief, it gets us to the three-word reason for our past greatness—attack, initiative, daring.

That's what shakes and has always shaken our enemies; that is what has pushed a hole in the submarine sheds at Augsburg—and an even greater hole in Germany's self-esteem. It has given the German radio the hardest job of its life in explaining to a people long taught to worship air power as a god-why their god has now deserted them and why all the promises of the inviolability of German soil have fallen flat—flatter even than Lubeck and Rostock.

Until the dawning of that happy day when our men set foot on the continent of Europe in force, we still have more than one second front against Hitler. We have our air front, to his lasting shame and confusion, and we have the front of our own boldness and resolution—a front on which, as long as we have men like these, we shall never fail.—*In a B.B.C. talk.*

Indian Searchlight Crew's Feat

NOT content with doing their own job—which was holding enemy aircraft in their lights—an Indian searchlight crew in the Middle East manned a machine-gun and shot down a German raider.

This feat of skill and courage, performed while heavy bombs were exploding all around, has earned the searchlight men a congratulatory message from the Air Officer Commanding, Egypt.

Here is the full story of the action, as told to an Indian Army Observer by a searchlight officer :

Very tired after travelling all day, and having been in action most of the previous night, the searchlight crew arrived at their new rendezvous—an important airfield—at dusk.

By nightfall they had their lights in position, and were ready for trouble. They did not have long to wait A force of German aircraft came over, and having identified the target by dropping flares, began to straddle it with bombs.

One plane was immediately picked up by the searchlights. Trying to drive out of the beams it passed within a few feet of one light. Taking a leaf out of the Ack-Ack gunners' book, searchlight men opened fire with a machine-gun. To their delight the plane—a Ju 88—received a stream of bullets and crashed.

This so disconcerted the pilots of following aircraft that they did not press home their attack on the aircraft, but released their bombs harmlessly eight miles away.

R.A.F. Offensive on Germany

Does with Bomb what Germans do with Torpedo

THERE is a trend in our choice of bombing targets which will be worrying the German High Command, observes the *Manchester Guardian.* For the time being we have slackened in our valuable defensive bombing of submarine works. Instead, we are maintaining a severe bombardment of Germany's railway towns and main lines. To her they are as important as the shipbuilding yards and ocean routes on which we depend. What also supports the mighty thrust in Russia but those railways which Hitler said were so strained in last winter's frosts? By what other road could armies be brought quickly back to meet an invasion in the west? Not only do the German railways carry enormous military traffic (Italy and North Africa too are served by them) but the internal life of Germany is fed by them and her canals and rivers.

RAIL TRANSPORT, THE TARGET

In their attacks on this heavily laden system, the Allies are doing with bomb what the Germans seek to do by torpedo. Our intent was shown when fighters had orders to riddle the boilers of engines working along the lines in Northern France. We have since chosen towns which have important junctions and railway works of one kind or another. Kassel is one of the chief locomotive-building towns and the centre of a knot of lines joining North Germany to the middle Rhine. Osnabruck is where the shortest route from Berlin to Rotterdam crosses the line from Bremen to the Ruhr. Saarbrucken commands a group of railways leading from Germany into the middle of France. Karlsruhe is where the line running from Frankfort to Switzerland and Italy is joined by lines from Saarbrucken and in the east from Stuttgart. Like Kassel, these three towns have important railway workshops as well as warehouses natural to such ports on land.

R.A.F. men making a concrete perimeter road round an airfield in the West of England.—E.N.P.

VALUABLE LONG-TERM POLICY

Wearing down the German railway transport a system by bombing would be a valuable long-term policy. It would hasten that slow deterioration produced by its neglect before the war and its over-use during it. Yet the High Command cannot have an assurance, unpleasant enough in itself, that this is our real intention. Did they see any connexion between these raids and a campaign they must have studied, that planned and directed so brilliantly against France by the great Moltke when he set up his headquarters at

Mainz and kept two army corps there because of its admirable position for moving troops either up or down the Rhine? It is surely noticeable that all these railway towns lie on the main railways which would be used by Germany for any movement of troops to France.

Germany's leaders are much moved by the prospect of invasion, and their inability to drop the subject of Dieppe is one sign. Admiral Lutzow said in a broadcast on August 26 that Dieppe was not an invasion attempt. But five days later someone produced a British "operational order" which was meant to show that Dieppe really was our second front. If one raid can thus excite German strategic imagination, we may wonder what it is making of our concentrated attacks on western railway towns. Are the British, the Germans may ask, hoping to increase our difficulties in supplying the Russian front this winter? But if we were really trying (they may think) to break up or slow down communications across the Rhine, it might reveal a more imminent threat. After all, if we were thinking of landing in Europe next spring, would we be attacking the Rhine crossings now and leaving all winter for them to be repaired? "Can it be, then," they will ask, "that these bombings herald something much closer?"

THE SOVIET SOLDIER

"The Soviet soldier does not give up even when his position is utterly hopeless. When his artillary is silenced, he fires with machine-guns. When his machine-guns are put out of action, he uses his rifle and hand-grenades. There are no trees or bushes to give cover, and the enemy fires from everywhere all the time."

—A Berlin message published in *The Daily Express.*

MADRAS CASUALTIES

We regret to announce the following Madras casualties which occurred on various dates :—

L. No. 112.

Wounded.

Auxiliary Pioneer Corps.

189306	Labr.	Iyyappan.
189305	Labr.	Karappan, K.
189450	Labr.	Sankunny Nair.

Missing, believed "Prisoners of War."

Madras S. & M.

19097	Spr.	Akbar Ali.
60951	Spr.	Allabaksh.
19537	Spr.	Anthony.
60137	L./Nk.	Anthony Savarai.
60995	Spr.	Appalaswami.
61285	Spr.	Appasami.
18655	Spr.	Appavoo Pillai.
19103	Spr.	Arumugham.
19928	Spr.	Arumugham.
14112	Hav.	Balagurusamy Naidu.
19937	Spr.	Balakrishnan.
13968	Spr.	Bangaru.
62322	Spr.	Basha.
19921	Spr.	Basha.
62247	Spr.	Chinna Appadu.
60970	Spr.	Chinna Kolandai.
19090	Spr.	Chinnapa.
63542	Spr.	Chinnapan.
60626	Spr.	Chinnaswami.
2016	Cook I.T.	Chinnasamy.
60914	Spr.	Dass.
60967	Spr.	Devadanam.
60983	Spr.	Dhanapal.
12712	Spr.	Dhanaraj.
1849	Cook I.T.	Doraisami.
60907	Spr.	Duraisami.
62397	Spr.	Ganapathy.
1644	Cook B.T.	Ganni Raju.
19100	Spr.	Gopal.
60986	Spr.	Govindan.
62395	Spr.	Govindan.
60442	Spr.	Govindaraju.
60888	Spr.	Jacob.
62420	Naik.	Jagaraj.
16781	Hav.	Jelly Peter.
62349	Spr.	Karuppasamy.
60401	Spr.	Kotayya.
60184	Spr.	Krishnan.
16181	Naik.	Krishnan.
16715	L./Nk.	Krishnaswami.
60203	Spr.	Kukkala Reddy.
19948	Spr.	Kunjan Pillai.
1599	B/Maker.	Kuppiya.
18979	Spr.	Kuppusami.
60962	Spr.	Kuppuswami Konar.
1651	M/Cook.	Madurai.
12844	Naik.	Madura Muthu.
60965	Spr.	Manuel.
60153	Spr.	Manickham alias Theyyan.
60183	Spr.	Maragata Pandian.
60894	Spr.	Mariappa Chetty.
19003	Spr.	Markandan.
60134	Spr.	Matta Emmaniel.

What is a Dive Bomber?

Its Advantages and Limitations

BY

WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

WHAT is the attitude of the British Air Staff towards dive-bombers? Few questions have been asked more frequently throughout this war. The Air Staff has been accused of pooh-poohing the dive-bomber. It has been accused of "ignoring the lessons of a dozen campaigns." It has had all manner of attacks levelled at it—all because of the dive-bomber.

But what are the facts?

The Air Staff has never at any time pooh-poohed the dive-bomber, never ignored its possibilities as Britain understood them. The Air Staff would in fact have been quite happy to have, as a powerful part of the strength of the Royal Air Force, a strong and numerous fleet of dive-bombers.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

But when war broke out, the Royal Air Force had to build up to the powerful weapon it is today. That was a gradual process, carefully planned to meet the needs of the time. Certain essentials were necessary. A strong fighter force for one thing. The Battle of Britain proved that. Could dive-bombers have resisted the enemy as did the Spitfires and Hurricanes? Then a bombing force had to be built up—a bombing force which could operate far over Germany from Britain. Dive-bombers could have reached Germany from France. But Britain was not operating from France for so very long.

So the Air Staff concentrated for home production on immediate needs. Home production met, and is continuing to meet, those needs. But there was nothing then to spare for anything else.

PRE-WAR EXPERIMENTS

Meanwhile the Air Staff had its eye on the dive-bomber and weighed up just exactly what this new weapon could do. Long before the war Britain had experimented with dive-bombers. The Hart was designed and used experimentally as a dive-bomber. It showed faint possibilities, nothing more. So the Air Staff looked to America and placed orders for dive-bombers.

The "Vultee Vengeance" dive-bomber is rolling off the American assembly lines of the Vultee Aircraft Corporation and the Northup Aviation Corporation. The aircraft—here seen in flight—is being supplied in quantity to the R.A.F.

When was that? A week or two ago? Last year? No; the orders were given in July 1940. It is true that deliveries are only coming through now. There is nothing unusual in that. The Halifax, just off the secret list, was put into commission 19 months ago. Yet the plans were prepared almost five years ago. Three years from blue-prints to production is not bad going for a new-type aeroplane.

All belligerents, then, are going to have dive-bombers—the United Nations as well as the Axis. But what exactly is a dive-bomber? What are its advantages, what its limitations?

ACCURATE BOMBING

The dive-bomber is a specially designed aircraft equipped with diving brakes enabling it to dive at an angle of some 60 degrees at a high rate of speed. The Stuka is generally recognized as the top line in dive-bombers. Perhaps the Royal Air Force already has its answer to these. The sharp angle of attack gives great accuracy to bombing.

Questions why Britain does not have dive-bombers usually come after such reverses as the loss of the aircraft-carrier *Hermes*, the sinking of which was claimed as "another triumph for the dive-bomber." In point of fact the *Hermes* was not sunk by dive-bombers but by waves of high-flying aircraft. It is admitted, however, that it is under just such circumstances that the dive-bomber is at its best. It can operate successfully just so long as it has adequate air superiority. With adequate superiority dive-bombers can attack

a target from all points of the compass in such a manner and at such speed as to give anti-aircraft defences little or no chance of shooting them down in the short period it takes to release the bombs.

ITS DEFECTS

Much has been written about the shattering effect of dive-bombing upon a concentration of troops. Given air superiority, this is a powerful method of attack, but on the other hand it is no more devastating than strafing by the cannon-firing and multi-machine-gun Spitfires and Hurricanes. It has been proved times without number that a modern fighter can shoot a dive-bomber out of the sky. The fantastic figures of the Battle of Britain provide one example. Malta, even where the enemy has substantial air superiority, is another. And, again, a dive-bomber is fairly easily shot down by light anti-aircraft and small arms fire from the ground, always provided that the man on the target takes advantage of the "no allowance" shot offered by the aircraft as it dives "down the barrel of the gun." Then successful use depends on sufficient air superiority—and there have been more occasions than not in the war when the Royal Air Force has won victories against heavy odds.

Now, however, the picture is changing. Future historians may say that Britain got her dive-bombers just when they could be used to the best advantage.

U.S. Bombers Redesigned

"AMERICA'S four-engined bombers—the Flying Fortress, the Liberator, and the B-24—are being redesigned with the particular view to bombing Germany," recently announced Colonel John Jouett, President of the United States Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce.

The present bomb-carrying capacity of these planes will be more than doubled. A bomb-load now is about three and one-half tons. This change will not materially affect the planes' speed or high-altitude performance:

"Only the range of the Flying Fortress, originally and primarily designed for flights of 4,800 to 6,400 kilometers over the Pacific, will be affected, but even if the range is halved, sacrificing fuel for bombs, the plane will still be able to go far into Germany and occupied Europe from British bases and return."

India's Silent Guardians of the Skies

COASTAL and other important towns and cities of India and Ceylon are now protected against possible dive-bombing and low-level attacks by the setting up of balloon barrages. At some centres the balloons have already become familiar objects, and during the next few weeks barrages will be seen floating over other vital spots in India.

Royal Air Force officers and men engaged in the balloon barrages in India come from some of the cream of the balloon Squadrons who have been on duty in the United Kingdom throughout the three years of war. One Squadron is composed of personnel drawn from the London Barrage. In every case the barrages now in being in India are manned by the most highly trained Royal Air Force personnel.

Plans are being developed for the introduction of Indian Army officers and men into the balloon service, and shortly Indian servicemen and Britishers will be working side by side in manning the barrages.

Shipping round the Indian coasts is also being protected by balloons. Merchant Service skippers of North Sea convoys have long appreciated the great value of balloon protection against low-level-attacks, and the system of balloon and gun protection, in which the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force co-operate, is now being extended to Indian coastal shipping.

JAPANESE SURPRISED

It is now generally recognized that the barrage balloon is one of the most successful defensive weapons of air warfare. During the Japanese raid on Trincomalee the barrage proved an unqualified success and all reports suggest that the enemy were uncomfortably surprised.

The main object of the balloon is not to destroy aircraft but to deter the enemy in dive-bombing and low-level attacks. To the pilot of a high speed aircraft the balloon cable is invisible and unless he is prepared to face great risks he is forced to fly so high that accurate bombing is more difficult and ground strafing impossible. The pilot who suddenly finds himself in a balloon barrage meets with the most nerve-wracking of experiences.

Balloon crews are highly trained as ground troops. Should their balloon be in danger of capture they can quickly destroy it by the mere cutting of the cable and they at once become infantrymen, efficient with grenade, machine gun and rifle.

Indian Pilot's Bombing

Raids over France

RECENTLY back from Great Britain, F/O R. S. Shahi, of Lahore, one of the 24 Indian Pilots who volunteered two years ago for service overseas, gives a vivid account of bombing raids he participated in over Brest and Dunkirk.

Giving his impressions of the first daylight raid on Brest and the bombing of the German battleships "Scharnhorst" and "Gneisenau",—nicknamed Salmon and Gluckstein by the Royal Air Force, F/O Shahi, who was co-pilot of his bomber, says:

"We were one of a large force of British planes. As we approached the target we could see Stirlings and Halifaxes already bombing the warships. Our fighter escort was intercepted by German fighters and dog fights broke out all around us.

"The anti-aircraft barrage was said to be the heaviest that had ever been met over this target. But we passed through it, in formation, dropped our bombs at the exact moment pre-arranged for our aircraft and came away, still in formation, from the target. I looked down and could see smoke coming from one of the ships. The photographs which we took showed that our bombs had hit their mark.

"This was my second raid and although I felt a little nervous in my first experience of bombing, on this occasion I felt quite tranquil; in fact, I can only describe it as being rather good fun! I feel proud about this raid, particularly because my Captain won a bar to his D.F.C."

NIGHT RAID

Flying Officer Shahi's first operation was a night raid on the docks at Dunkirk.

"It was a grand night with the moon at the full", he says. "We could see the German searchlights as we crossed the English coast, and great quantities of flak. The searchlights were so brilliant and there was so much light caused by the coloured flak that I thought at first that Dunkirk had no black-out!

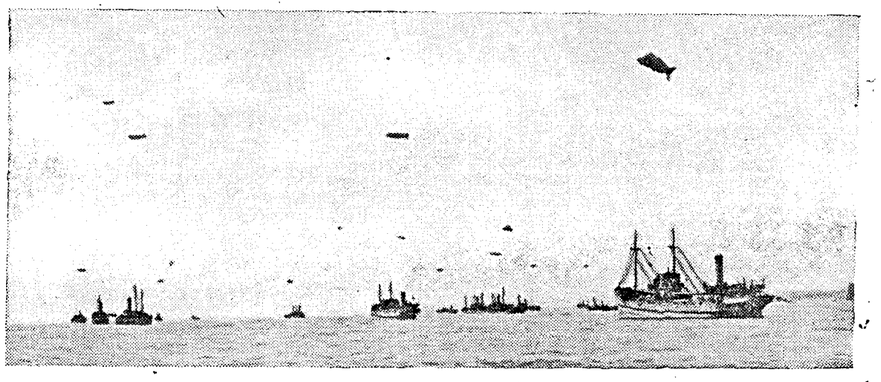
"We were the last aircraft over the target and were caught in a cone of searchlights. Our tail gunner then reported that a fighter was behind us and we took sharp evasive action, diving down and making out to sea. We made a second run in and this time dropped our bombs and got away safely.

"In the Brest raid," says F/O Shahi, "We came back with eleven holes in our fuselage, tail plane and wings and our navigator had a narrow escape. In the Dunkirk raid our aircraft was holed in seven places."

During his 19 months in Great Britain, F/O Shahi, who was formerly with Indian National Airways and an instructor to the North India Flying Club, had experience in flying in the latest types of Royal Air Force bombers including the Lancaster, of which he spoke enthusiastically. The crew of the Lancaster in which he was Captain included a Canadian navigator and a New Zealand air gunner.

KINDNESS IN BRITAIN

Flying Officer Shahi is enthusiastic about the kindness shown to him and the other Indian pilots in Great Britain.



A convoy with its kite balloons.—E.N.P.

"Everywhere we went invitations were showered upon us. One of our outstanding memories is the visit we paid to Windsor Castle where we had tea with Their Majesties, the King and Queen.

"We were so kindly treated at all the Royal Air Force stations and by the many people outside the Service whom we met that we were never allowed to feel that we were so far away from home.

"Twice I was entertained to lunch at the House of Lords and I also visited the House of Commons. There and everywhere we went it was the same, people could not do enough for us.

"Another impression I have brought back to India is the welcome I received in the Royal Air Force Squadrons. I am exceedingly proud to have served with the Straits Settlements Squadron and shall always remember the brotherly feeling among its members, who included Britishers, New Zealanders, Canadians and Australians. I was the only Indian."

One of F/O Shahi's regrets is that he had been recalled to India and was on his way back when his squadron made the famous daylight raid on Augsberg.

Flying Officer Shahi, who joined the Indian Air Force in August 1940, is now with an operational squadron in India.

PLANE TO PLANE, WE ARE SUPERIOR

"There is no reason not to be confident. From our point of view we are just getting in stride. We know we have this tremendous reservoir of production behind us. We know that we have our united people supporting us to their full capacity, we know we can count on the co-ordinated support of all the United Nations. We are confident that plane for plane, and man for man, our forces are superior to those of the enemy. With quantitative as well as qualitative superiority, on behalf of my own Command, the Tenth Air Force, I am happy to say that we are carrying the attack to the enemy, and we shall continue to do that until the enemy has been overwhelmed."

—MAJOR-GENERAL LEWIS HYDE BRERETON
U.S. Army Air Forces in India.

W.V.S. Finds the Jobs

THE Women's Voluntary Service, which has done such noble work in Britain, is growing rapidly in India. It is primarily an association of women who are keen to help in the present emergency and are not waiting for the possibility of active war operations.

Headquarters of the Women's Voluntary Service aim to establish bureaux to give information and assistance in all spheres of women's war service in India. They will be able to find the war job for which a woman is best suited and supply information about opportunities for service in secretarial work, lecturing, Air Raid Precautions, blood transfusion, Air Defence Corps to quote a few of the many activities about which advice will be available. They will also help families of Service personnel and evacuees who need guidance.

'India Needs You Now' is the slogan of the Women's Voluntary Service, particulars of which can be obtained from the General Secretary, Headquarers, Women's Voluntary Service, Simla.

BE A SCEPTIC!

A sceptic is a man who believes nothing

Unless he knows it to be true.

Be a sceptic over rumours.

Most of them are made in Japan

With intent to mislead you.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS
BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Production of Rice in India

How to Attain Self-Sufficiency

THE present food drive in India and the threatened shortage of rice due to the difficulty of replacing supplies formerly obtained from Burma, Indo-China and Thailand invest the publication of an abridged edition of the Agricultural Marketing Department's Report on the marketing of rice with more than ordinary interest. Normally India, though the world's second largest producer of rice, imported considerable quantities of paddy and rice. Of her normal production of 29,530,000 tons of rice in 1937–38, India exported only 250,000 tons, while she imported 1,398,000 tons of paddy and rice so that her net available supplies were 30,678,000 tons valued at Rs. 292 crores.

The Report suggests that as one step towards self-sufficiency, better farming and improved seed can do much to improve the yield per acre. Figures given in the report show that in 1938–39 the average yield of rice per acre in India was 731 lb., a figure which compares very unfavourably with those of the United States, Japan, Egypt and Italy where the yield per acre during the three years 1936–37 to 1938–39 averaged 1,481 lb., 2,307 lb., 2,079 lb. and 3,000 lb. per acre respectively.

The Report stresses that by a proper system of financing and a more direct participation in the marketing of his produce, the grower can secure an increased share of the price paid by the consumer. It observes that co-operative organizations of growers for financing, storing and milling rice are needed.

It also observes that in the interests of the producer a greater degree of standardisation is needed and describes the steps taken to grade rice under the *Agmark* scheme and the success already achieved in that direction.

India Producing Parachutes

TRAINING of parachute troops in India is being greatly facilitated by the bringing into service recently of parachutes manufactured entirely at the Government of India factory established specially for this purpose.

A year ago the manufacture of parachutes in India had not been seriously considered and it was only at the beginning of this year that active steps were taken to set up a factory.

Then Mr. Leslie Irvin, inventor of the well-known parachute used by the Royal Air Force, came out to India and personally supervised the factory organization. Such rapid progress was made following his visit that the first parachute came from the factory for testing within a few months. To-day parachutes are being produced so quickly that there is an ample supply for immediate needs.

Before they are put into service the parachutes are subjected to the severest tests. For instance, a Ghurka parachutist weighs on the average 120 lb. to which must be added the weight of his Tommy gun and other kit. But the parachutes are tested with weights which are three times those they will have to bear.

EXPERTS' PRAISE

Under such tests it is impossible to "break down" the Indian-made parachutes, which have earned the highest approval of experts whose experience extends over 20 years.

Indian pure silk is ready to hand for the making of the canopies and steps are being taken for the extended cultivation of mulberry to secure increased silk production.

The making of parachutes is yet one more wartime enterprise in which India is becoming independent of supplies from Britain.

India, too, is making much of the equipment of paratroops, including arms containers, valises in which arms and ammunition are packed, folding operating tables and folding stretchers and containers used for food dropping.

Paper Economy 'Drive'

War Resources Committee Tackles Problem

A serious shortage of paper is likely to develop unless consumption is drastically reduced in the coming months. Fortunately, however, there is still considerable scope for economy in the use of paper. This conclusion has been reached by the War Resources Committee of the Viceroy's Executive Council who are understood to have under examination the whole question of paper supplies and consumption.

The need for economy affects private individuals, commercial organizations, public and private bodies, homes, Societies, Associations and Departments of Government. The War Resources Committee have decided that the dire need for economy should be brought to the notice of both public and Government users of paper.

In regard to Departments of Government, certain measures are already in force. The War Resources Committee have urged that these measures should be more rigorously applied. They have also suggested reduction in the number of Government publications by the suspension of those which do not appear essential in wartime, or else the substitution of brief summaries. Demands for stationery are to be subject to the most stringent scrutiny. Provincial Governments will be asked to adopt similar measures.

The Committee feel that Chambers of Commerce, business houses, associations and various learned societies can adopt with profit similar measures for economy and it is proposed to address them all with a view to securing the suspension of publications and reports which may not be essential in wartime. Among the measures recommended for both public and private users are the use of economy labels on envelopes, use of small sheets typed on both sides, the omission of forwarding letters or minutes and of formal acknowledgments in all cases where these are not essential. It is hoped by energetic action on the part of all Government servants and co-operation on the part of the public that it will be possible to avoid the drastic restrictions that have been imposed on the use of paper in England.

New R.I.N. Ship Launched

Minesweeping and Anti-Submarine Duties

A new ship for the Royal Indian Navy was recently launched at an Indian port. She will be employed on minesweeping and anti-submarine duties.

The first vessel to be built for the Navy in an Indian yard was H.M.I.S. Travancore, which was followed by H.M.I.S. Baroda. Since then a number of vessels, some named after Indian States and important Indian towns, have left the stocks at regular intervals, while others are under construction. In various parts of India shipyards are working to capacity on orders for naval vessels and smaller craft, a new keel being laid as soon as possible after a launching has taken place. In this way more and still more ships of modern design and with up-to-date equipment are becoming available for the defence of India's long coastline and enormously valuable sea-borne trade.

To provide officers and men for them the Navy's training establishments have been and are being constantly expanded.

The latest methods of hunting and destroying submarines, which will be one of the new ship's main duties, are taught to Royal Indian Navy personnel at a short establishment whose expansion illustrates the Navy's present development. At this school the number of officers and men under training has increased 2½ times in the last six months alone. In its class rooms Royal Indian Navy personnel are able, by the use of ingenious instruments, to practise operations against submarines in conditions as closely resembling those at sea as is possible. Ratings who specialize in this type of work wear a highly prized badge displaying a coil of rope crossed by a harpoon and flash of lightning. So great is the demand on the School's facilities that an entirely new establishment has been planned.

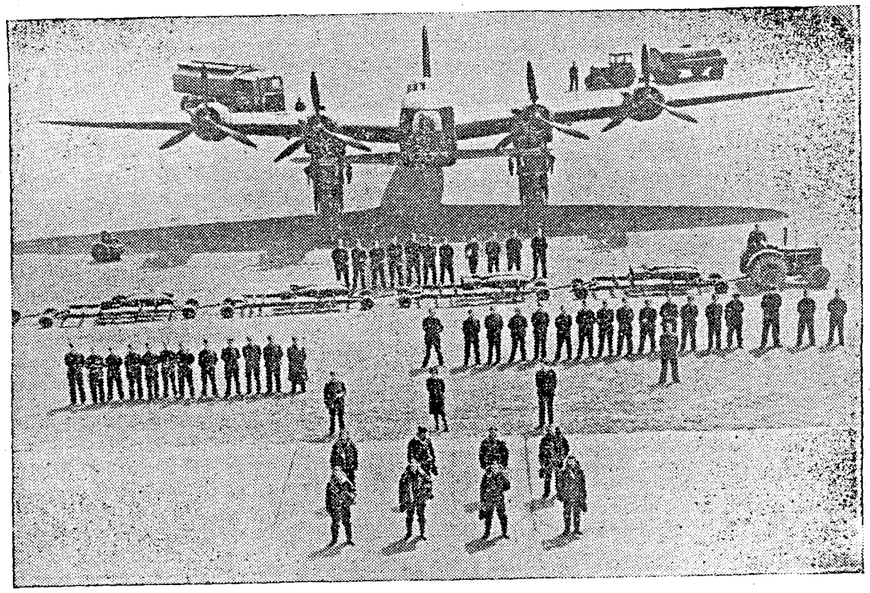
War of Nerves

Germany and Turkey

As had been expected, German propaganda is using the advance of the German forces on the Caucasus as a pretext for intensifying the "war of nerves," says *The Times correspondent* in Ankara. According to these propagandists, the Caucasus will be entirely occupied by the Germans by the end of October, and thus Turkey, after what has happened in Bulgaria, Greek Thrace and the Aegean islands, will find herself in direct contact with the German armies at yet another point. It is not yet openly stated by the Germans what would be the result of such as eventually, but enough is insinuated to make it clear that Turkey may be called upon to reshape her foreign policy. Broadcasting stations of the Axis are trying to represent the visit of M. Sarajoglu, the Prime Minister, to the eastern provinces of Turkey—which was really part of his projected tour of the entire country—as being due to anxiety caused in Ankara by the possible effects of the German approach to the Turkish frontier of the Caucasus.

What lies behind this propaganda can be surmised from some elaborate "indiscretions" committed by von Papen during recent months, in which such phrases as "closer economic collaboration" and "certain transit facilities" were recurring with remarkable ring with remarkable frequency and persistence. In fact, the great efforts which have been made by Germany to promote Turco-German trade exchanges since after June when direct railway communication was resumed, and the offer to Turkey of war material and rolling stock—of which Germany is in sore need herself—are considered part of a plan to acquire at all costs a predominant position in Turkish economy.

Therefore one can well imagine von Papen arriving some day at the Turkish Foreign Office, prim, smug and jaunty as usual and, after repeating some cliche about German friendship for Turkey and his personal love for the Turks, adducing the theory that



A total of 56 personnel is needed to maintain, service and fly a heavy bomber of the Stirling type. In this lay-out the sectional activities are shown. Group in foreground: The Air crew-Captain and 2nd pilot, Air gunner-bomb aimer, Flight engineer, Observer (navigator), Wireless operator and twox Air gunners. On verge of grass: L. to R. Meteorological Officer, W.A.A.F. Parachute Packer Flying Control Officer. Group on left: Flight maintenance numbering 12. Group on right: Ground service numbering 18. Group at back: Bombing up team, numbering 11. To the right: Bomber tractor driver. The little machine middle right, is the starter battery which is operated by the Flight maintenance crew shown left hand group. Top right hand corner, Oil bowzer driver, Top left hand corner, Petrol bowzer driver, a Cpl. with an A.C. 2.—E.N.P.

military developments near the Turkish border have created a new situation which requires a readjustment of Turco-German relations which should take the form of repudiation of the Anglo-Turkish alliance, closer economic co-operation between Germany and Turkey, and some transit facilities to Germany through Turkish territory.

If such a demarche were ever made, what Turkey's interpretation of and reaction to it would be, leaves no room for doubt. The Turks would certainly consider such proposals tantamount to a demand for Turkish adherence to the "New Order," and their answer would decidedly be an emphatic "No". On every occasion since the war began—last year at the opening of the Grand National Assembly and in recent speeches at Smyrna and Samsun—President Inonu has proclaimed his unswerving determination to preserve unconditionally and at all costs Turkish independence and honour from any encroachments; and the new Prime Minister, M. Sarajoglu, said recently that the Turks will fight to the last man if their independence is threatened.

For that reason, having made up their minds what they will do, the Turks maintain an imperturbable calm before the German propagandists' game of intimidation. The Turks' long history is free from any stain of cowardice; there is no possible reason to doubt that, if an emergency arises, they will be true to their national traditions.

THE "YAK"

The Soviet Army's latest and fastest fighter plane, the "Yak", was named after Alexander Yakovliev, Russia's leading fighter designer and now Vice-Commissar for aeroplane construction, cables the *Daily Telegraph's* Moscow correspondent. Comparing his Yak to the latest type of Messerschmitt put into mass production, he claims for it not only higher speed but considerably greater fire power. Messerschmitts, even when in superior force, do not like to take on the Yaks. In anything like an equal fight, their losses are always higher.

Marriage of Convenience

Japan and Germany

"THE Axis relationship between Germany and Japan is merely a 'marriage of convenience' and nothing more," writes Frederick Opper, former Shanghai correspondent of the *Christian Science Monitor*. Elaborating this statement, Mr. Opper declares:

"It is problematical whether Japan distrusts Germany more than Germany detests Japan. In Shanghai, the Germans have not gained a single advantage from the result of the liquidation of American and British concerns there; and the Germans are bitterly disappointed over this.

"Tokyo is determined that Japan should be the sole Power to profit by any gains made available through the Japanese Army or Navy. Germans living in some of the Japanese-occupied areas have been forced to wear armbands. Also, they have been unable to obtain gasolene for their automobiles. In fact, the Germans have been pushed about by the Japanese in a way that makes many wonder if Japan includes Germany on her list of enemy countries.

"The reason for this double-barrelled animosity is simple enough. The Japanese have no intention of giving away any of the fruits of their victories, particularly to a nation that has given evidence of Germany's voracious appetite. Nor does Germany have any desire to see what it considers as a second-rate, inferior people hoard the vast resources of Asia which Berlin eyes greedily. Japan feels quite sure that a victorious Germany would never be satisfied with seeing oil, rubber, and tin from Southern Asia going elsewhere than where Germany wanted them. Equally, the Germans know that the Japanese eradication of American and British concerns from China will not long precede German business in the same areas."

Japan and Manchuria Gang

JAPAN'S "New Order" plans call for the world to be reorganized, first regionally and later on a world-wide basis, into "one household" with Japan at the head, says Otto Tolischus, former Tokyo correspondent of the New York *Times*, who has recently arrived in America with other American newspapermen, diplomats and nationals.

These plans are sponsored by a group called the "Manchuria gang," composed of military-minded Japanese who seized control in 1931 with the "Manchuria incident."

Until 1931, partly as the result of a democratic wave following the last war and partly due to the economic shock of the 1923 earthquake, Japan was undergoing a steady process of democratization, Tolischus says. It was signalized by Japan's participation in the Washington disarmament conference of 1921-22; by the universal suffrage grant of 1925, which awakened the working masses and led to the formation of infant proletarian parties; by the 1928 Paris Pact that 'outlawed' war; and finally by the London Naval Conference of 1933, the results of which were rammed down the throats of the Army and Navy by a democratic Cabinet.

SECRET SOCIETIES

Military influence was waning and military appropriations were cut. Military ultra-nationalist secret societies like the Black Dragon, to which many of the "Manchuria gang" belonged, viewed with alarm the trend that threatened to introduce liberalism among the masses and make them conscious of their own power, and to wean the masses from the ancient tradition of docile obedience to the divine order personified in the Emperor.

"The Manchuria incident" put Japan at war and the military in the driver's seat. All who tried to check the headlong plung were themselves checked by assassins' bullets. Between Premier Hamaguchi and Prince Konoye nearly a score of Japanese statesmen, including Premiers and Cabinet members and various other moderates, were killed.

No nation has seen so many of its statesmen killed by traitors and assassins as Japan, with the result that presumption of treachery has become the basis of the Japanese warrior code and assassination has become the recognized instrument of politics against which public opinion no longer recoils. So completely have this system and its ideas become entrenched in Japanese politics, that, as one Japanese liberal said, only a political, religious and ideological revolution could overthrow it.

IRAQ WITH UNITED NATIONS

"The Premier (General Nuri Pasha) declared that Iraq will declare war on the Fascists if they transgress its boundaries . . . We know the world is divided into two camps, a camp fighting for truth, freedom, human civilization and the honour of nations, and a camp knowing nothing of the meaning of life except violence, aggression and tyranny. Iraq can do nothing but walk on the side of the nations seeking after truth, goodness, security and all-inclusive human liberty."

AL ZAMAN (Baghdad),
in an editorial.

Members of Britain's A.T.S. Anti-aircraft units stand watch during the long dark nights ready to go into action side by side with the army gunners. A larger number of girls take over the fire control instruments on gun sites of A.A. Command. A British girl on a range-finder accepting the signal from the Command spot.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

12th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided Dusseldorf, centre of German steel industry.

13th Sep.—There was slight enemy activity over the south and south-east of England. Bombs were dropped at two places.

15th Sep.—British bombers attacked the north-west German coastal area. High explosive and incendiary bombs caused material damage.

16th Sep.—Bremen was heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force.

Soviet bombers raided Koenigsberg in Germany and Bucharest and other Rumanian towns. Ploesti was in flames.

British bombers attacked a harbour town in northern Germany.

According to reports received in Washington, German merchant sailors on the North Sea and Baltic Sea coasts had mutinied and attacked their officers.

17th Sep.—The Royal Air Force swept over the channel. The docks at Cherbourg were bombed. Districts in Bulgaria were also bombed.

18th Sep.—The Royal Air Force bombed objectives in Ruhr and swept over France.

The Minister of Production, Captain Oliver Lyttelton, declared: "Nineteen or twenty days remain and at the end of that time the war definitely begins to enter a new phase."

A few enemy aircraft flew over parts of East Anglia.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

13th Sep.—Speaking at Beirut, Mr. Wendell Willkie told a press conference that Allied monthly losses, at half a million tons, were being replaced by a monthly production of 600,000 tons.

14th Sep.—Mr. Stimson, Secretary of War, announced the formation of an experimental unit of women pilots to be known as the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron.

15th Sep.—The President of the Indian League of America, New York, stated that he was sure that Japan was almost ready for an attack on India and that it would take place within three or four weeks.

16th Sep.—Mr. Attlee arrived in Newfoundland on his way to Ottawa.

17th Sep.—Rear Admiral W. H. B. Blandy, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, said: "I think we are in a position to hold the Japanese in the Pacific."

President Vargas of Brazil signed a decree ordering general mobilization throughout the country.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

14th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked Mandalay.

17th Sep.—According to a New York message, the Grady Report proposed great expenditure of money and materials to assist India to enlarge the productive capacity, particularly of war materials.

18th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided Mandalay and Myitkyina.

TREMENDOUS AIR DEVELOPMENTS

"In the very near future the tremendous air developments growing out of this war will result in passenger aircraft flying to Europe in 12 to 15 hours—not only everyday but probably every hour. Gliders are the freight cars of the air. It is possible to visualize a locomotive plane towing a train of six gliders in the very near future. By the use of the glider system the cargo capacity will be doubled. By dividing the load it would be practical to unhitch a glider at Philadelphia, another at Washington, another at Richmond, another at Charleston as the plane flies over each city without a slowdown."

—MR. GROVER LOENING,
U.S. Aeronautical Engineer—in a recent speech at New York.

A Metal Air Umbrella

"Anti-aircraft batteries will become more automatic. The ultimate will be a self-aiming, self-loading battery which, at the press of a button, will throw an automatic umbrella of metal into the air."

—MR. PAUL SCHUBERT,
U.S. Naval and Military Expert.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12th Sep.—Three important places were captured in Madagascar.

13th Sep.—Field Marshal Rommel issued instructions to his troops that there should be no withdrawals.

British troops occupied Majunga and Nosi Be in Madagascar. There was heavy fighting along Betsiboka river.

Tobruk was bombed.

14th Sep.—Tobruk, Rommel's main supply base, was attacked in force by allied bombers.

15th Sep.—Ambanja, on the west coast of Madagascar, was taken by the British.

16th Sep.—Enemy lines of communications in the Daba area were successfully bombarded.

17th Sep.—Allied patrols were active in all the sectors. Docks in Crete were bombed.

The Governor-General of Madagascar, M. Annet, sued to cease fire. Peace envoys were sent to British Commander.

18th Sep.—Tobruk was again raided.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12th Sep.—The German threw in more divisions in the attack on Stalingrad. Street fighting occurred in Novorossisk.

13th Sep.—The situation round Stalingrad remained tense and heavy fighting took place for an important height. The Germans were unable to break through the Soviet positions. A fierce attack was launched on Nazis near Razev. The Red Army evacuated Novorossisk.

Winter set in in the Caucasus mountains.

14th Sep.—General Merezhkov, developing a new offensive east of Leningrad, reached a point about 15 miles from the city. A fierce battle raged on the Neva river.

15th Sep.—A battle of annihilation was fought before Stalingrad. The enemy withdrew in Caucasus. German hopes of taking Stalingrad faded.

16th Sep.—Berlin was troubled by Stalingrad's stand. Hitler himself, it was reported, was "appalled at the sacrifice of manpower."

Soviet marines carried out a landing somewhere on the Barents Seacoast.

17th Sep.—Soviet troops continued to advance in the central sector. At some points in two sectors west of Stalingrad, the Germans succeeded in driving wedges. Stalingrad continued to resist German attacks.

A British Flight-Commander at the controls of his "Beaufighter" aircraft, about to take off on a daylight "sweep" over enemy-occupied territory, with the R.A.F. Coastal Command.

18th Sep.—Fighting took place in the north-west outskirts of Stalingrad. Soviet grip on Rzhev tightened. Red Army captured more points.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie left Turkey.

13th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Baghdad.

15th Sep.—Mr. Hammond Namazi, a prominent Persian businessman, on his return to Teheran from Tokyo said that the Japanese people, as a whole, had lost all enthusiasm for the war.

17th Sep.—The majority of the members of the Chamber of Foreign Relations Committee approved a resolution, urging the Argentine to break off relations with the Axis countries.

* * * *

SHIPPING

13th Sep.—Successes were scored in a series of actions against a German convoy off Holland.

16th Sep.—One hundred officers and men were lost from four United States merchant-ships off the east coast of America.

17th Sep.—His Majesty's ships **Sikh** and Zulu were lost in a recent operation off Tobruk.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

12th Sep.—The Japanese thrust towards Moresby was checked.

A huge Japanese battleship and a heavy cruiser were damaged.

13th Sep.—Japanese advance was stemmed in south-west Pacific. Allied bombers attacked enemy objectives in Normandy island, Buna and Teon island.

14th Sep.—The Japanese fell back in China. The Chinese forces recaptured Kufang.

The Koreans revolted against the Japanese.

15th Sep.—The Japanese raided Guadalcanar.

16th Sep.—The Japanese withdrew from Hopei. Their positions in Chaoan were raided.

The Japanese reorganized their forces for another big battle in the Pacific.

According to the diplomatic circles in Chungking, the Japanese were waiting for the fall of Stalingrad to strike against the Russians in Siberia.

17th Sep.—The Japanese succeeded in landing in a fresh attempt to recapture Solomon islands. They made further progress towards Port Moresby.

The Japanese lost in the latest actions at Guadalcanar 5 bombers, 13 fighters and 3 seaplanes raising to 165 the total losses in the Solomons since August 7.

Japanese troops in Manchuria were increased to 20 divisions, besides the 20 mixed brigades of Chinese "puppet" troops.

The Chinese troops reached the suburbs of Tanki, Chekiang Province.

18th Sep.—The United States marines held Guadalcanar and Japanese attacks were repulsed.

There were heavy United States attacks on Kiska. Ten Japanese ships were sunk and six planes destroyed.

ARE YOU

SPREADING

INFECTION?

There is a dread disease in the land. It poisons man's mind and robs him of his courage.

The disease is RUMOUR. It was started by the common enemy, Japan. Don't help to spread it by infecting your friends.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

MADRAS: PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1942 No. 3

SURE OF VICTORY

Red Army men defending their homes

¶ The Red Army has buried once and for all the legend of German invincibility. . . We have all the conditions necessary for victory. We have sustained great losses, but the Germans are being bled white Our people are sure of their strength and sure of victory

—M. YAROSLAVSKY, *from Moscow Radio, on September 24*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
Madagascar action: Preventing another Indo-China.	7
Britain's Exertions and Example	8
Great Air War over Britain Impending? ..	8
In spite of blackout and blitz: Work of British yards.	9
Soviet's New Four-Engined Bomber	9
In the Western Desert: Race for Time ..	10
Germany and Turkey	11
Russia's "Second Baku"	11
Turkey's "Broad" Nationalism	12
Germans Unpopular in Japan	13
Drive on Port Moresby: Japan's Object ..	14
Jap High-handedness in Indo-China ..	14
Japan's Confidence Shaken	15
Increased pay for R.I.N. Officers: Benefits Under Revised Regulations.	16
An Air "Ace" from China	16
Diary of the War	21

Running Commentary

Cripps Proposals Mean Swaraj

Speaking in the Central Legislative Assembly on Friday last (September 18), the Hon'ble Sir Syed Sultan Ahmed, Law Member to the Government of India, replied to the criticism, that the British Government had not produced any constructive programme of reforms to deal with the situation in India. He said that he was surprised that such a demand was made at the present time when rebellion had still not been completely quelled and when the barbarities and excesses committed by the rebels had not fully subsided. He felt that it was exceedingly unreasonable to expect that under such circumstances Government would sit down to consider constructive measures, whatever the meaning of the phrase might be. He said:

"Apart from that, the Cripps proposals were, and to-day remain, the constructive proposals put forward by His Majesty's Government. That unfortunately has been spurned. Let me frankly tell the House that the acceptance of those proposals, in my opinion, would have resulted in the 'swaraj' for which India had been longing. But they were rejected on the ostensible ground of Viceroy's veto and so on. Has it ever been realized that the convention which the Congress demanded would have come in as a matter of course, once the sanction of the representatives of the people is present. Conventions would not be conventions if they were put on the statute, or for which there was an express agreement. Conventions grow up, as all customary rules do, in sensible gradations. Some small deviation from the precedent itself becomes a precedent; so the constitution broadens down."

Constitution and Growth of Conventions

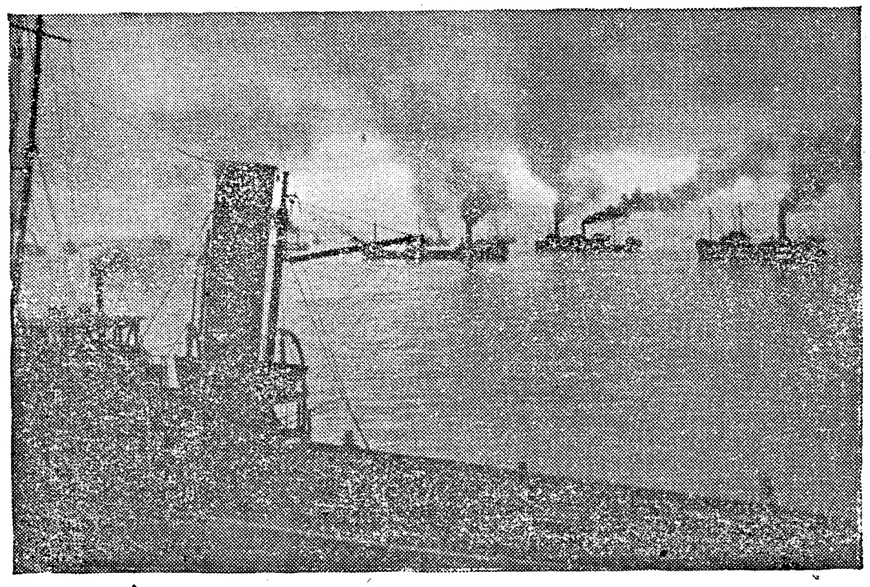
Sir Sultan Ahmed pointed out that in England the greatest changes in the Constitution were not brought about by legislative enactments, but by the growth of a purely unwritten and conventional code. Neither the Prime Minister nor the Cabinet was known to law, and yet the whole system of Parliamentary Government hinged on the working of the Cabinet or on the collective responsibility of certain members of the Executive to Parliament and to the nation for the conduct of public affairs. The Cripps Declaration, it may be pointed out, provided for the establishment of a Constitution around which will grow healthy conventions, which will make the administrative machinery function always in the general interests of the mass of the people. The British Government and the British people were, and are, solidly behind the Cripps Declaration and Britain's offer to India of a Constitution of her own devising, after victory is gained, is a genuine offer which remains open.

DEPENDANTS OF HONGKONG GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The Colonial Office have decided that dependants in India of employees of the Hongkong Government, who are now presumed to be in enemy hands and who were unable to make provision for their families will be granted maintenance allowances on the same terms and conditions as is being given to Hongkong Police employees who remained in the island at the time of the Japanese occupation. Such persons are, therefore, advised to apply with full particulars regarding the length of service of the employee, his pay in Hongkong, particulars of other assistance (if any) received, relationship to the employee in Hongkong, particulars of remittances (if any) previously received from him, etc., to the Government of the Province in which they are resident through the district authorities.

House of Commons on April 28th whether he would give an assurance guaranteeing British commercial interests in India. Replying categorically to the question, he said:

"The British Government has made it clear in connexion with the recent offer that a guarantee of special protection for British commercial interests in India would not be a condition for the acceptance of whatever constitution Indians might evolve after the war, and that any such provisions could more appropriately be a matter for negotiations with the future Government of India."



As dawn breaks over a British port, ships of a coastal convoy, with steam up, prepare to leave. Guarded by naval escort ships and an R.A.F. "umbrella", they will also have the additional protection of barrage balloons which may be seen through smoke. These kite balloons give the ships immunity from dive-bombing attacks, and have been responsible for the end of several attackers.

European Group and Britain's Pledge

The attitude of the European community in India was explained by Sir Henry Richardson, Leader of the European Group in the Central Legislative Assembly. In his speech in the Assembly on September 15th, he emphasized the fact that freedom had been promised to India by Britain and that they (Europeans)

"as a community, would exert themselves to assist in every way the implementing of the promise given."

It may be recalled that Britain renounced any guarantee of her commercial interests as a condition for settlement. Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, was asked in the

It will thus be seen that the statement of the Leader of the European Group in the Central Assembly, in spite of the absence of guarantee of European commercial interests, gives added emphasis and support to Britain's pledge to grant the fullest freedom to India after the war.

* * * *

The Battle for Stalingrad

A message from Moscow says that the defenders of Stalingrad are showing increasing aggressiveness over the battle area as a whole and have made advances in some sectors. Every room in every house in Stalingrad has become a battle-field, says The Moscow Radio. Staircases are strewn with German corpses. Hand-to-hand fighting

is going on in the streets. In a recent broadcast from Stockholm Mr. David Anderson gives the following description of the city's defences :—

"Every house and building in Stalingrad has been turned into a fortress. On the outskirts of the city, cement bunkers, iron turrets with revolving towers, tank traps, minefields and artillery positions, besides the usual barbed-wire entanglements, guard the entrances to the city. Inside these defences stand a Russian force determined to die rather than surrender. This may sound like Russian propaganda, but in fact this is what Berlin says to-day."

The *Red Star*, the organ of the Red Army, says, "Civil life may be paralysed but possibilities of defence remain. In ruins impregnable defences can be organized."

Press reports of the battle tend to alternate between gloomy prophecies of immediate collapse and reassuring news about Russian defence. The explanation for this lies in the fact that the Germans attack a narrow front with a tremendous concentration of men and equipment, which is followed by a lull to bring up supplies and repair losses, during which period the Russians, whenever possible deliver counter-attacks.

* * * *

Miles and Yards: Russian Resistance

While a week ago the Germans were gaining miles, they are now only gaining in yards. The Russian defenders are, no doubt, in a very tight corner, but it is worth recalling that when the Russian defence reaches the present stage, it does not suddenly collapse. The ultimate result may be a success as at Moscow, or a defeat as at Sebastopol, but resistance would continue until it becomes humanly impossible to go on fighting. The fate of Stalingrad, it may be said, will be decided away from the city itself, and not inside it. According to a Swedish military expert, the main Russian force is not inside the Stalingrad defences, but to the north of the northern panzer wedge to the Volga. If this is correct, the issue of the struggle will depend on the ability of the defenders inside the city to hold out long enough for Timoshenko to bring up reserves, and then strike south against von Bock's left flank between the Don and the Volga. The Germans are already giving indications that they are uneasy about their long and exposed left flank. How long Stalingrad can hold out to enable such a counterstroke to be developed depends upon two things—physical endurance and reduction of the supremacy of the Germans in the air. If Stalingrad stands, the German plan for 1942–43 falls to the ground. If Stalingrad falls, a large part of von Bock's army of a million men and between 2,000 to 3,000 tanks and as many aeroplanes will be released for action elsewhere.

Later news indicates that Soviet reinforcements have reached Stalingrad and that the Red Army is advancing in the north-western sector.

* * * *

The Battle for the Caucasus

The capture of Stalingrad is important to Germans, because it would give them sufficient control of the northern exit of the Caucasus. They have first struck in the region of Northern Caucasia with a view to getting a grip between the Don, Volga, Terek and Kuban rivers. Their drive has brought them to the Black Sea naval base of Novorossisk which, if it falls into German hands, will ease their problem of communications by opening a direct sea route from Constanza, but before this can be done the Russian Black-Sea Fleet should be put out of action. Even if Novorossisk goes, Russian war ships still have the harbours of Tuapse, Sukhum, Poti and the roadstead of Batum at their disposal. The question is, will the Germans be able to force the passage over the western extremity of the Caucasus range and then push down the road which follows the Black Sea coast southwards? There are many tunnels and cliffs, steep gradients and hairpin bends in this highway, and it is extremely difficult, but not impossible, for an Axis drive to proceed along the coast to Batum, the capture of which would be the prelude to a seaborne invasion of Trans-Caucasia. But the Germans would meet strong Russian forces supported by British Indian troops of the reinforced Ninth Army.

The other major thrust of the Axis follows the oil pipeline and railway from Rostov to the Grozny oilfields and thence to Makhach

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF SOUTH AFRICAN INDIANS

In August 1940, the Government of the Union of South Africa agreed to extend the validity of the travel documents of South African Indians who were on visits to India and who could not return to South Africa within the period of the validity of their identity certificates, owing to shipping difficulties. The Union Government have now decided to extend this concession to South African Indians who came to India on temporary visits before May 1, 1942, and who have not been able to return as a result of causes arising out of the war situation. Applications for extension of permits, stating the reasons in full, should as hitherto continue to be made to the Provincial Governments concerned before the expiry of the period of validity of the indentity certificates.

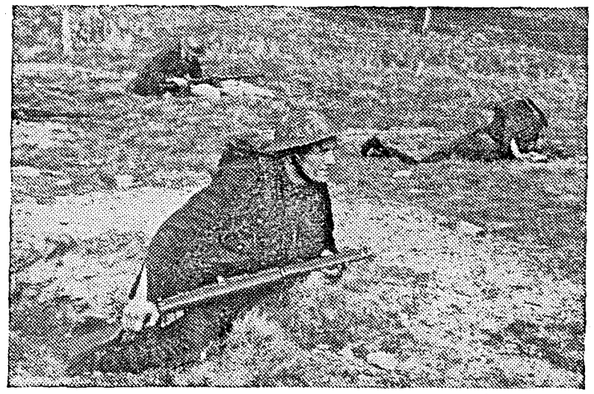
on the Caspian Sea. Bitter fighting may be expected in this region. Given adequate and timely supplies of equipment, the defence of the triangle, Grozny-Kisliar-Makhach, which covers the last line link between Trans Caucasia and the west of the Soviet Union, should be stubborn. It is difficult to believe that a serious invasion of Trans Caucasia can be undertaken across the mountains. Looking at the picture as a whole, it seems the Germans want to prevent serious incursions against the 500-mile flank in the Caucasian plains in the Black Sea and the Caspian by capturing the northern exits of the Caucasus, after which they want to interrupt the main oil supplies of the Soviet Union from Baku to Ashtrakhan both by land and sea. But the entire plan falls to the ground unless Stalingrad can be captured. The German objective in undertaking the one-hundred mile journey of blood from Kharkov to the gates of Stalingrad is really the same thing that they sought on their trail to Moscow last year, namely, the annihilation of the Red Army, says the *Daily Express*. But what the Russians seek in their turn is the bleeding to death of the German Army. The paper says the Battle for Stalingrad should be viewed not as an end in itself but as a mighty incident in a duel that has lasted for 15 months between the Russian and German armies and will continue to the death. The *Express* adds:

"Dangers that have appeared suddenly to our eyes have been plain to Russian leaders all this year. They have not quailed in their plan. They do not flinch now. Timoshenko's armies have fought for time. With their lives they have gained, and are still gaining, time until winter comes again to help Russia destroy the invaders."

* * * *

R.A.F. Achievements: A Review

Sunday, September 20th, was observed as the Royal Air Force Sunday, and a special service for officers and airmen was held that evening at the Church of the Redemption, New Delhi. Many tributes have till now been paid to the great work and the valuable services of the Royal Air Force, but none has expressed in so few and eloquent words the freedom-loving world's gratitude to the Royal Air Force as Mr. Churchill. The British Premier, it may be recalled, said that never in the history of the world did so many owe so much to so few. Among all the glorious achievements of the Royal Air Force, one stands out very clearly against the background of the war as a whole. On September 15, 1940, it scored the most brilliant victory in the Battle of Britain by bringing down 185 enemy planes. In a message to the British Air Chief, Sir Charles Portal, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the celebration of this magnificent achievement, Lieut.-Col. H. H. Arnold, Commanding-General of the United States Army Air Force, said: "The deeds of your fliers on that day turned the tide of the war ending for ever the Nazi hope of world conquest, and made possible the final United everywhere will ever observe this day in remembrance of those brave men who gladly gave their life to secure freedom and victory." It is of interest to review a few of the achievements of the Royal Air Force in its great fight for freedom and victory. During the first 15 days of this month (September) ten major offensive operations were carried out by Royal Air Force bombers against targets in Germany, apart from other activities over the occupied territory and over the sea. These ten incursions cost the Royal Air Force 91 bombers. Two years ago when the Battle of Britain was reaching its climax, the *Luftwaffe* lost 696 aircraft over Britain in the first 15 days of September 1940. In the first half of this month (September 1942), the *Luftwaffe* was over Britain on only one day in every three and on every other night and flew mostly in ones, twos and fours. On the night of September 8-9, the peak was reached when 12 enemy aircraft were reported over East Anglia. In the course of these 15 days, 10 aircraft were shot



British "Commando" troops, such as those who took part in the daring and successful raids on the French and Norwegian coasts, go through a realistic school of training. Photo shows: "At the ready." Commandos waiting in small dug-out holes for the order to attack. Live ammunition is used to make the men "tough."

down over Britain. All these figures show that the Battle of Britain has been superseded by the Battle of Germany.

* * * *

Decline in Enemy Air Activity The decline in enemy air activity over Britain can be further seen from the number of civilian casualties. The average monthly toll of British civilians killed in German air raids is as follows :—

1940	3,869
1941	1,647
1942	325

In September 1940, 6,955 civilians were killed, whereas last month the number killed was only 403.

The figures of comparative losses during the three years 1939–1942 tell their own story. The figures compiled from official Air Ministry records are as follows :—

	Axis.	R.A.F.
1939–40	1,549	383
1940–41	2,080	501
1941–42	286	7
	3,915	891

In June 1941, the main bomber force of the *Luftwaffe* turned east against Russia and south to the Mediterranean theatre, and since then, enemy air activity over Britain has been comparatively slight as can be gathered from the fact that in a whole year the defenders have lost only 7 planes. Side by side with the decline of enemy offensive activity in the West, the Royal Air Force was gathering momentum for offensive action. The British raid of 1939–40 seemed mere offensive reconnaissances as compared with the average British raid of 1942.

Offensive operations entail heavier losses than defensive operations. In 1939–40, the Royal Air Force loss, however, was only two-thirds as large as the German. The bombing of Germany began in right earnest after the fall of France and British losses in 1940–41 were almost double the enemy losses. In the third year of the war the losses trebled. The following are the official figures for losses over Western Europe :—

	Axis.	R.A.F.
1939–40	1,082	671
1940–41	662	1,173
1941–42	744	1,993
	2,488	3,837

In 1941–42 a minimum of 40,000 sorties were flown by the Royal Air Force against Hitler's Europe, and during the same period, at a conservative estimate, not more than 4,000 sorties were flown against Britain.

* * * *

Growing Advantage in Air War Britain, in the fourth year of the war, enjoys growing advantage in the air war. Flying Fortresses of the United States in Britain are carrying out frequent daylight attacks on targets in occupied territory dropping bomb-loads of about 100 tons in an average attack. These represent only the vanguard of the American Air Force which will occupy 150 aerodromes in Britain. Canadian bombers made their first raid on Germany this month on September 8th and subsequent raids were carried out on September 13th and 14th. It is expected that eventually 40 Canadian Air Force Squadrons will be based in Britain.

American and British factories are now turning out about 7,500 aircraft every month, which means that close on 5,000 planes of operational types are being added to the Anglo-American strength every month. This marks a steady increase in the offensive air strength for use against Germany and German-occupied Europe.

A WARTIME PROBLEM

How can an infant be best brought up on fresh milk when breast feeding becomes impossible ?

An attempt to answer that question for the general public is made in a pamphlet prepared by a committee of experts appointed by the Indian Research Fund Association which has just been published. An important question at all times, it is of particular importance in wartime when supplies of dried milk must be conserved and the anxiety of those who would normally depend on such infant foods must be allayed.

The pamphlet tells how to select, purify and prepare the different types of milk available—cow's, goat's and buffalo's—during the first six months of a baby's life. Copies may be had of the Nutrition Research Laboratories, Coonoor, or the Meternity and Child Welfare Bureau of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi.

Madagascar Action

●

Preventing Another Indo-China

NO surprise will be felt at the news from Madagascar, unless it be over the four months of patience that have been allowed to pass before the clearing-up now set in motion, observes *The Times*. An enemy controlling or using Madagascar would be in a position to disrupt, with grave—even decisive—consequences to our strategic plans, our dispositions which stretch from the Western Desert to beyond the Eastern Ghats. The seaway round the Cape ranks only second in importance to the Atlantic lanes. Its safeguarding is in the strictest sense an inescapable factor in the strategy of the United Nations. What was so well begun in May—and then followed by prolonged diplomatic interlude and abortive talks —will now be brought to completion and all danger eliminated from an area where tardiness cannot be tolerated if we are not merely to contain the enemy but to strike back at him.

The new operations are under the general direction of Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Platt, whose fine record in Abyssinia is a guarantee that they will be carried through with speed and decision. So far little opposition has been encountered and casualties have been light. Madagascar, however, is a large island—a little larger than pre-war France—and roads and communications are sparse. Political considerations rather than any hard resistance are likely to limit the speed at which the operation can be completed.

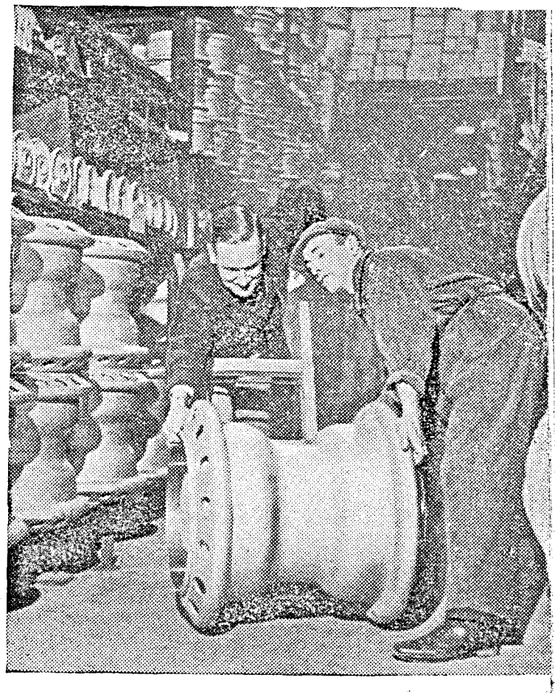
IN TRUSTEESHIP

Britain and South Africa are providing the means. The mandate under which they are acting derives from all the United Nations. Tokyo speaks of British " piracy " ; Vichy of " unspeakable aggression " ; and Berlin—as always touchingly jealous of others' rights—of violated sovereignty. These thin laments will not impress. The supposed neutrality of Madagascar under Vichy has been regularly abused by the Japanese both before and since our occupation of Diego Suarez, and German agents have been active there. All evidence and every assumption pointed to a repetition of the shameful procedure in Indo-China. Vichy has shown that it has not the will to defend the honour of France either at home or oversea. Even if it had the will, it has not the power. Britain and South Africa will hold Madagascar in trusteeship for freed France. Their military action will not be misunderstood, nor will their pledge be underrated, by those millions of French men and women in the homeland who suffer under the yoke but do not despair.

They will crack again

" The Germans are truculent, bullying and domineering when on the crest of the wave, but are demoralized in defeat. They cracked in 1918, and I believe when the tide of battle turns against them, as assuredly it will turn, they will crack again."

—MR. JOSEPH GREW,
former United States Ambassador in Tokyo, in a speech on 18th September.



One of the most important branches of the R.A.F. is the Maintenance Command. Photo shows : Rolling out a Stirling wheelhub at a Maintenance Command depot.

Britain's Exertions and Example

MR. Walter Lippmann, the American columnist who is visiting London, said that the Americans realized that the people of Britain had "once again saved the world", reports the *Daily Telegraph*.

"I have not been in England since the late winter of 1940", Mr. Lippmann said. "Measured by what has happened, that is a very long time indeed. The meaning of these years is understood in my country by all those who are capable of understanding it. They know that once again the people of this island have stood fast, that once again they have saved themselves by their exertions and the world by their example; that once again they have shown how, in a good cause and with an honest conscience, men can dare to stand alone as solitary defenders of right—yet never doubting that at long last there would arise about them a grand alliance of nations. This is what men will remember because it will now fix the course of the war and will determine its results and will shape the world."

Mr. Lippmann said that the American people were irrevocably committed to the war. He added: "The shortest estimate that I can give of the American war effort is that it is already much better than sober judgment would have deemed possible and that every one is complaining that it is not very much better."

Speaking of Anglo-American relations, Mr. Lippmann said: "They are now so numerous and complicated that it is meaningless today to ask whether they are good or bad. To make the association flourish, we are going to have to learn to widen our minds, soften our pride, improve our manners and, if I may say so, hold fast to the idea that together we are engaged in reshaping a world that can never be restored to what it was."

Great Air War over Britain Impending?

SEPTEMBER 15: Two years ago this day the British people were fighting their Battle of Stalingrad. September 15 was the day they shot 185 German planes out of their skies and won the battle. We did not know it at the time. But, because of what happened on September 15, 1940, the Germans there and then abandoned the vast preparations they had made to invade Britain. They turned from an all-out air war to their plans for an all-out land war against Russia.

For 12 months alone Russia has had to face the full might of Germany on land. For 12 months alone Britain faced the full might of Germany by air.

At Stalingrad we have come to a new turning point. This battle affects every home in Britain as well as every home in Russia. For its conclusion, successful or not from the German point of view, will release bomber strength to be hurled once more at Britain.

Raiding Britain will be costly for Germany, but every day the German public are given the assurance that it will be attempted. High-flying raiders which come in daylight at 40,000 feet are proof of Germany's intentions. She has nothing as good as the Lancaster, nor has she the aircraft factory capacity of the Allies.

But the British people must get ready to win another great battle in the skies over their own land. It may never happen, but the prospects are that it will. Two things can help to keep it away; still greater support for Russia, where German air power is locked up now; still better preparations inside Britain to meet air war. Both demand harder work from the British people—The *Daily Express*.

BRITISH GIRL WORKER'S RECORD

Evelyn Duncan, 22-year-old Capstan lathe operator in a Birmingham factory, is in the news again. A year ago she created a world record by turning out 6,150 shell components in a week, and received a letter of congratulation from the Prime Minister. Now she has easily broken the record production for a single shift by turning out 1,700 components in a night.

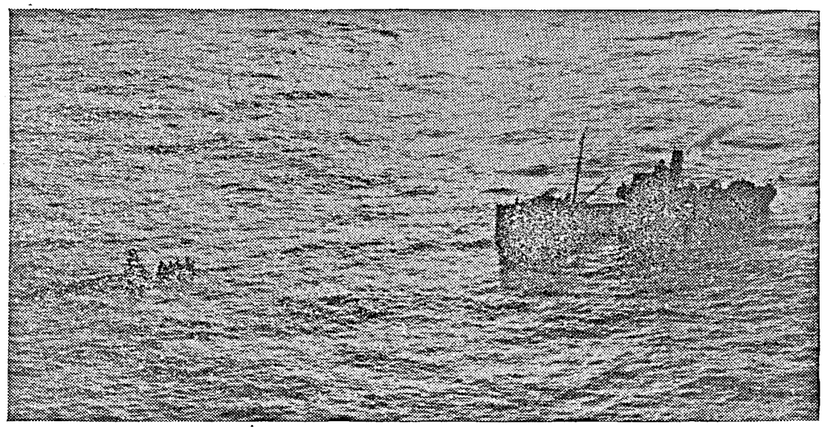
She says that she made up this number by "putting on a spurt" when she found that she had done 1,650 shortly before knocking-off time.

And this is what an official at the factory said about her effort: "Evelyn has just 'played skittles' with all pre-conceived ideas of what a girl could possibly do on a Capstan lathe."—The *Daily Herald*.

In Spite of Blackout and Blitz

Work of British Yards

MERCHANT ships have been launched from British yards in three months and completed in four and the cost is half of what it would be in the United States. Fast patrol boats have been built all over the world from parts produced in Britain.



Trawler saves British air crew in North Sea. A boat from a trawler picking up the crew of a Wellington still floating in the North Sea.

These facts about the British shipbuilding effort were disclosed by Vice-Admiral W. F. Wakewalker, the Third Sea Lord, in a broadcast to America:

"Nearly half the shipbuilding labour of the country is employed on repair work," he said. "More than 23,000 warship repairs and refits have been needed, while 140,000,000 gross tons of merchant shipping, or 35,000 vessels, have been put back into service. Because of the cramped nature of the building slips on the Tyne and the Clyde, and inability, owing to insufficient time and labour, to lay out new shipyards elsewhere, we have had to build in the yards we had. Yet in spite of this, blackout and blitz, our achievement has been one to marvel at."

Soviet's New Four-Engined Bomber

THE bomber command of the Red air force appears to be steadily extending its operations. This increase in bombing of enemy territory has been made possible by placing in service the TB-7 long-range heavy bomber, observes the *Manchester Guardian's* aeronautical correspondent. It is a 120-foot-span, four-engined monoplane capable of carrying about four tons of bombs over long distances, and has a high service ceiling. It is also very well armed with gun turrets in the nose, middle fuselage and tail, and movable guns mounted in the wings and operated by a remote-control system. Like the short Stirling, the TB-7 has a single fin and rudder and 1,300-H.P. liquid-cooled engines.

This new Soviet bomber was designed by A. N. Tupolev, who came into prominence in 1929 when he designed the first U.S.S.R. all-metal three-engined aeroplane, Antnine. This monoplane was built in four and a half months, and afterwards it was flown on a demonstration tour throughout Europe. The machine was built entirely of a special alloy evolved by Soviet scientists.

The efficiency of the new bomber is the result of 13 years of study and experience with large long-range multi-engined aeroplanes.

In the Western Desert: Race for Time

TOBRUK is gradually earning the distinction of being one of the most-bombed towns in the world. During the eight months of our occupation, enemy aeroplanes seemed to come over daily, but they relied mainly on dive-bombing and did not drop anything like the weight of bombs which Allied airmen have rained on Tobruk during the past two months. But, until our raids can reach the much larger scale to which they seem to be working up now that heavy British and American bombers are being used, it is nearly impossible to make the harbour entirely unusable writes *The Times* Cairo correspondent. Jetties, warehouses and harbour installations may be smashed—as they are—but they can be repaired, or makeshifts can be improvised to enable cargoes to be landed.

Thus, although very heavy toll has been taken of Rommel's supplies both in Tobruk and on their way there, he is still able to get in enough to build up his Afrika Korps—even though the process is extremely costly—and he is able to make Tobruk his administrative centre.

BUILDING-UP PROCESS

This process of building-up is going on at top speed on both sides of the Alamein line. Recent experiences, both of the enemy and ours, have shown that on a restricted line such as that which is being held at present, and one provided with excellent natural defensive positions, an attack to succeed needs almost overwhelming superiority in armaments. It also needs massing of enough supplies in the front line to enable the attacking force to be self-sufficient long enough to press home its attack methodically and slowly. The enemy is far better situated in this respect than we are, for his supplies have a far shorter distance to come.

On the other hand, while Rommel's convoys are small but many, ours are few but large; moreover, ours nearly always have arrived intact.

It is certain that the lulls in the past two months have enabled General Alexander to build up a formidable force which is further strengthened by the appreciable American assistance which has now arrived in the form not only of aeroplanes, tanks and other weapons of war but also of men.

NOT INVINCIBLE AFTER ALL

Another important point is that Rommel's reputation as an invincible General is now shattered, for he has suffered two major defeats. The first of these was at the beginning of July when the enemy announced to the world that the Eighth Army had been beaten and that Axis forces were preparing to march into Cairo; and the second was at the beginning of this month when again the Afrika Korps was set in motion for a triumphal entry into the Nile Valley. That neither advance occurred was a definite and serious but unfortunately an unspectacular defeat for Germany's crack African General. This has had an appreciable effect on the enemy's previously high spirit. While the Germans' spirit is now said to be "sound but without its previous elan," that of the Italians is definitely poor.

On our side, spirits have rarely been higher. There was tremendous encouragement for our troops in the fine generalship which our new commanders showed in beating off the recent all-out attack by the Afrika Korps. The Eighth Army is in grand form and is waiting only for a chance to settle accounts with the Afrika Korps. It is impossible to forecast events in the Western Desert. The lull may last for weeks, or may be borken at a moment's notice. What is going on now is a race against time as each army strives desperately to be the first to be in positions to attack. Meanwhile our air arm rules the Libyan skies and, with the invaluable assistance of the navy, is dislocating—even if it cannot entirely break up—Rommel's supply arrangements.

NO LONGER ALONE

"Eleven years ago today, the Japanese militarists instigated the so-called Mukden incident, thereby starting a chain of aggression which has finally involved the whole world. At that time, China was facing the ruthless aggressor alone, fighting courageously what she knew was not only her own battle. Today China still confronts the same ruthless aggressor, but she is no longer alone."

—GENERAL WU TECHEN,

Secretary-General of the Central Kuomintang, in a speech at Chungking on September 19th, on the occasion of the commemoration of the Mukden incident.

Germany and Turkey

THE German capture of Novorossisk, which robbed the Russians of their last efficient naval base on the Black Sea, and the German delay in reaching the mountains have together led to an intensification of Axis propaganda in Turkey, writes Vernon Bartlett in the *News Chronicle*. On the one hand Hitler must be sure that the Russian Black Sea Fleet has no opportunity, if things become worse, of passing through the Dardanelles. On the other hand, he must prepare an advance on the oilfields of Baku by passing to the south of this formidable mountain range.

The possibility of a German demand to land troops at Trebizond, on the south-eastern shore of the Black Sea, has long been a source of worry to those Turks who did not seek to persuade themselves that Hitler would show any more respect for their neutrality than he has done for that of any other people that happened to stand in the way of his ambitions.

Turkey's military situation has been complicated by the fact that at the beginning of the war France rather than Britain agreed to supply material for the strengthening of her defences. Since the collapse of France, not only Turks but the British themselves have been short of military supplies. Recently the Germans rushed in with pressing, generous offers of armaments of every kind, but it is understood that they have not fulfilled their promises.

(*Continued on page* 12.)

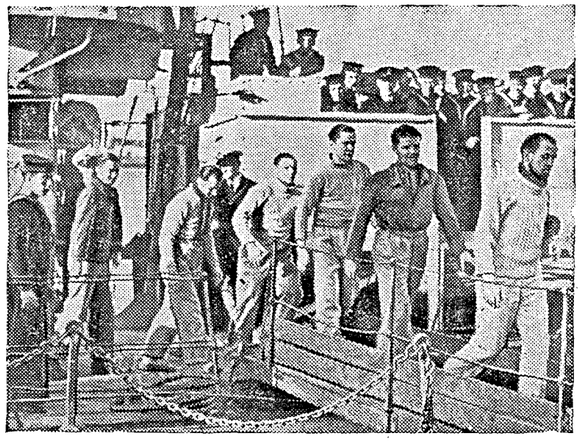
Russia's "Second Baku"

IT is naturally impossible to estimate with any accuracy the effect on Russia's war economy of the interruption of waterborne oil from Trans-Caucasia. For, the most important factor is Russia's oil reserves; these are secret, though it is reasonable to assume that they are very large. But, apart from what is hidden away, the Soviet Union has important alternative sources of supply and refining centres, says *The Times* Moscow correspondent.

There have been substantial increases in oil production in regions other than the Caucasus since 1939, when the more recently developed centres began to figure appreciably in the production tables. Although total production has increased remarkably—seven years ago it was 25,000,000 tons; in 1938 it topped 30,000,000; and two years later Russia was producing oil at the rate of 35,000,000 tons, aiming at almost 50,000,000 tons a year in 1942—an interesting feature of these increases is that, whereas until 1938, they were due mainly to greater production in the older Caucasian areas, since that year they have been largely caused by the rapid development of other fields.

In what is known as a "second Baku", oil deposits are believed to be at least as great as those in Trans-Caucasia. Although this district, the main wells of which are at Ishimbaevo, Kuibishev, Perm, Buguruslan and on

(*Continued on page* 12.)



Although no regular lists are issued of Allied destruction of Axis submarines, it is known that the toll has been steadily mounting. Photo shows: U-boat survivors en route for a prisoner-of war camp leaving a British destroyer, which sank their U-boat and picked up 36 survivors.

Turkey's "Broad" Nationalism

THE German advance on the Caucasus provides the occasion for a German propagandist attempt to impress Turkish opinion with Axis successes as opposed to Allied impotence. Turkish commonsense, however, remains unperturbed, as is proved by the following remark the like of which is often heard these days: "Two years ago the great question was whether the Germans were going to invade the British Isles and, if so, when and how; now the question is being put about an Allied invasion of the Continent."

This reflection sums up the entire situation at the third anniversary of the outbreak of the war, says *The Times Istanbul* correspondent.

An instance of the unscrupulous methods of German propaganda is the misrepresentation of one sentence of the speech made by M. Sarajoglu when he presented his Government to the Grand National Assembly. The Turkish Prime Minister, defining Turkish nationalism, said that it should be taken in a broad and not a narrow sense. This has been interpreted by German propagandists and sympathizers as meaning that the Turkish Government was tending to adhere to the Nazi racial theories and was encouraging pan-Turanism.

M. Almet Emin Yalman, one of the Turkish journalists who is on a visit to Britain, in his newspaper *Vatan* refuted this false construction put upon M. Sarajoglu's statement, and said that what the Turkish Prime Minister had meant was that the qualification of "Turk" within the borders of Turkey should not only apply to those of pure Turkish stock but should embrace all those who, whether of Albanian, Bosnian or Georgian origin, had acquired Turkish culture and Turkish national consciousness. Thus, M. Sarajoglu, who in another passage of the same speech had stated that Turkey did not pursue a policy of territorial aggrandizement, far from expressing sympathy for theories fostering racial prejudice, had on the contrary contrived to give a broad hint that these theories were not suitable for republican Turkey.

THE BRITISH MOOD

"The British mood has changed. It is no longer 'we can take it.' We feel that when Hitler starts again, our night fighters and anti-aircraft guns will be able to take a bigger toll. I found the recognition that while capacity to take punishment might avert defeat, only capacity to hand it out would bring victory."

—LORD HALIFAX,
British Ambassador in U.S.A., in a broadcast on September 20th.

GERMANY AND TURKEY

(*Continued from page* 11.)

The visit of a party of Turkish editors to Britain takes place at a very suitable time, since these editors have been able to see with their own eyes the extent of British and American preparations. Members of their Government at home have also received encouraging details from Mr. Wendell Willkie. There is in consequence no indication that the German propaganda blitzkrieg is having much effect upon the Turks.

RUSSIA'S "SECOND BAKU"

(*Continued from page* 11.)

the borders of the Tatar and Bashkir Republics, was a little slow in getting under way, development during the past three years has been rapid. The biggest trust, Bashneft, increased its output by one-half in 1939 and others have increased their output by as much as 60 per cent. The 1940 plan for the "second Baku" envisaged the sinking of 600 new wells.

War has speeded up all these plans, and it would be surprising if the "second Baku" has no more than beaten the task set to it to produce 14 per cent of the total Soviet supplies this year.

Germans Unpopular in Japan

THE *Daily Mail* publishes an account by an Englishman recently out of Tokyo on the Japanese attitude to their fellow partners of the Axis:

"There is a very strong—and growing—anti-German feeling throughout Japan. It dates from the time Hitler began pouring Germans into the country, and it did not take the Japanese long to realize that every one of these Nazis was a fifth columnist," says the Englishman. "In the gaols of Japan to-day, there are more Germans probably than any other nationals awaiting trial or under sentence for espionage. They are of course there as the result of the secret police system which functions so earnestly and ruthlessly for the security of the Japanese empire.

"Japanese intellectuals know every expurgated passage of *Mein Kampf* in which Hitler has lumped them in his categories of sub-men, and a Japanese officer once said to me that if Hitler won this war, every man in Japan knew that they would have to fight the Germans to retain their empire. Japan did not enter this war at Hitler's behest, but it was a significant fact—which has contributed largely to the deterioration of German-Japanese relations—that the very day they did enter it, Hitler stopped advancing on the Russian front. The inference that Hitler was trying to work a double-cross on them is ineradicable from their minds.

"Of course, the typical Nazi arrogance has only served to inflame the relations further. Japan always had plenty of foreign advisers. She is willing to be advised, but she will not tolerate dictation, which is the attitude that the Nazis are always assuming. The Nazis are spending an enormous amount of money in Japan and entertaining lavishly, but they have made so few friends that the unhappy German Ambassador, Major-General Ott, was once heard to remark, 'If Germany loses this war, I would rather be a rat on a sinking ship than German Ambassador in Tokyo.'"

Like A Precious Stone

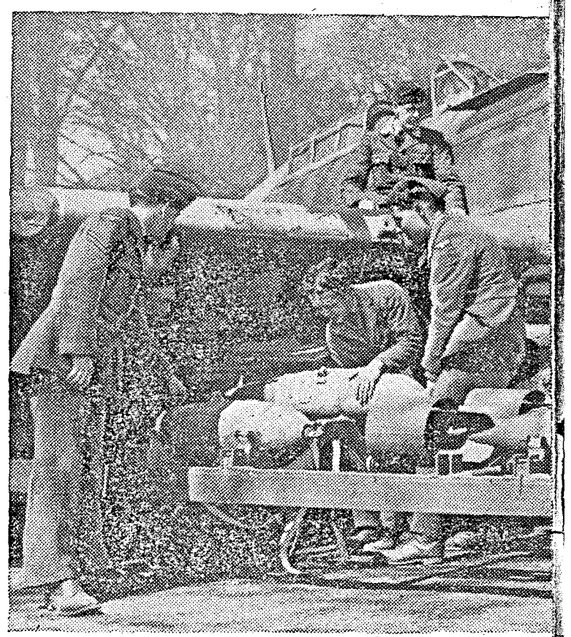
"After three years of war, Britain's prestige shines as a precious stone does after grinding."

—*THE SHANG WU JIH PAO,*
(Chungking).

FIGHT TO THE FINISH

"I found grim confidence in the ultimate outcome—in victory and the destruction of the Nazi invaders. The Russians are determined to fight to the finish—they ask and give no compromise."

—Mr. AVERELL HARRIMAN.



Britain's Hurricane-bombers which beside their guns carry t 250 lb. bombs, are taking a large part in the R.A.F 24-hours-a-day offensive against the enemy. Photo shows: R.A. ground-staff preparing Hurricane-bombers for such a sweep.

Drive on Port Moresby

Japan's Object

IT is the view of an American admiral who has returned to Washington from a tour of the Western Pacific that the United Nations now hold the balance of striking power in that vast theatre of war. Certainly for some time the Japanese have not extended their area of conquest except in New Guinea, where they are clearly making a bold effort to strike at Port Moresby. But even there (thinks the *Scotsman*) the enemy's concern may be mainly defensive—to prevent Port Moresby from being used as a base for an Allied counter-offensive, as much as he has made repeated attempts to recover islands in the Solomons which may serve the United Nations for the same purpose.

After the fall of Burma it looked as if the Japanese intended to concentrate upon eliminating China, then almost entirely cut off from outside assistance. But although the Japanese did drive the Chinese armies further inland for a time, the latter have come back and have now recovered a great part of the provinces of Chekiang and Kiangsi which provide the bases from which Japan herself can be bombed. When the American air squadrons in China have been sufficiently strengthened, such an air offensive may become practicable.

CONSOLIDATION OF ILL-GOTTEN GAINS.

For a time also it appeared that Japan was preparing to stab Russia in the back in Siberia, but the season is now so far advanced that such a development seems less probable. An offensive against India would be a drain on Japanese resources. These resources are probably now no more than equal to maintaining and consolidating the Japs' farspread territorial acquisitions.

Indeed, the defence of her ill-gotten gains may henceforth be Japan's main preoccupation. No doubt they will be tenaciously held and it will be a tough job to eject her from them. A beginning has been made in the Solomons in recovering the bases that she has established in the Pacific, but that advantage would be offset if the Allied foothold on New Guinea were lost. General Blamey, who now commands the Allied land forces in Australia, has returned from a visit to New Guinea with an impression of confidence of the Allied forces there from commanders to men, that the enemy will be prevented from taking Port Moresby. By means of infiltration tactics the Japanese have succeeded in crossing the Owen Stanley range, but it may be that when they come to more open country, they will be at a disadvantage unless they can contrive to get artillery support. But further landings in conjunction with naval attack may threaten Port Moresby from sea as well as land. However, the air supremacy over the island which the Allies at present possess may hold any enterprise of the kind in check.

Jap High-handedness in Indo-China

THE Japanese campaign to win the allegiance of the people of French Indo-China has failed, and the anti-Japanese spirit is common among the people, according to information reaching American Government officials.

For short period after the Japanese troops arrived, there were indications that the newcomers were not unwelcome to the people. The Japanese made overtures to the Annamite circles with separatist tendencies, and played up to the people by paying double rickshaw fares and distributing free cigarettes.

However, the early impression of Japan was nullified as additional troops arrived. Large numbers of people were subjected to partial conscription. The Japanese allowed them only a minimum wage for double work. Trainloads of men were moved from north to south without any consideration for family ties. People were inadequately housed and jammed into military trucks and carried to points where the Japanese wished work to be done.

On one occasion at Haiphong, the Japanese, unable to get more than half a trainload of volunteer labour, sent out a military band to play popular airs. Soon a crowd of listeners gathered around the band. Then the Japanese formed a cordon around the crowd and allowed the people out one by one. Those who could not prove they were regularly employed were marched off under guard to the train. A high French official stopped the train before it reached Hanoi, and after a lengthy argument, the Japanese took the train back to Haiphong and released the prisoners.

Japan's Confidence Shaken

"THE Chinese have in latter months done much to shake Japan's confidence in eventual victory," observes an editorial in the New York *Herald-Tribune*. The article continues:

"They have done so much to deflate the confidence of the Japanese army that their successes seem incredible to those who read of the reckless fury of the Japanese soldiery elsewhere. Yet it does not make sense to assume that the Japanese sent 170,000 men through Chekiang and Kiangsi on a sightseeing jaunt, or have given the all-weather airfield at Shushsien—wherefrom they still suspect the Doolittle raid was launched—back to the Chinese because all they wanted was to have a look at it.

"Also, Japanese reports to their own people about their position in Chekiang and Kiangsi are grotesque lies. They have lost nearly 150 miles of strategic railroad and a score of cities, and three airfields wherefrom Tokyo can be bombed. Yet they claim to be holding everything they went after.

"The only reasonable explanation is that the Chinese are elated by the work of the American fliers, and have turned on the Japanese and have got the arrogant little savages on the run. The Chinese are entitled to some token of appreciation from their allies, and there can be no doubt of any kind about the form it should take—planes and more planes."

British Naval Strength

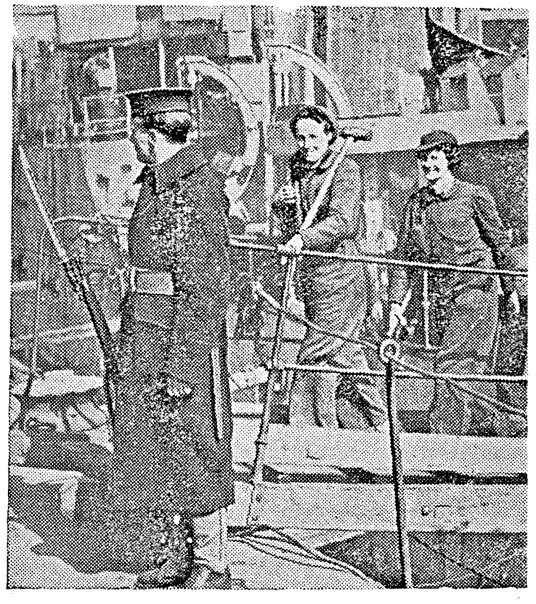
If Britain had saved herself by her exertions and the world by her example, it would also be found when the history of the war was written that in the days of the deepest disaster, the Navy had once again saved the situation. The Navy's strength had grown and grown to an extent which the people would never think possible.

—MR. A. V. ALEXANDER,
the first Lord of Admiralty,
in a speech at Sheffield on September 20th.

"I heard it from a man who was actually there"

Was he? Are you certain?
Don't pass on idle rumours.
They cause uncertainty, unhappiness and loss.
They are started by the enemy
who rely on gullible people to pass them on.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS
BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE



British women dockyard workers coming ashore from a destr which has put into a home port for refitting and refuelling. They proving quick and capable in taking over certain duties from men.

Increased pay for R.I.N. Officers

Benefits Under Revised Regulations

CHANGES in regulations governing their pay and allowances will, from October 1 next, confer considerable benefits on commissioned and warrant officers of the Royal Indian Navy. Ratings in all branches have already received a substantial increase of pay under the scales that came into force earlier in the year.

The main benefits accruing to all commissioned officers may be enumerated under three headings.

Officers will be housed by Government on payment of rent amounting to 5 or 10 per cent of their pay according to whether they are single or married.

Provision is made for an allowance on the lines of overseas pay to be drawn by all officers serving outside their country of domicile.

Under the present regulations officers serving ashore draw, in addition to their pay, a shore allowance not received by officers afloat. This distinction is now to be abolished. From next month all officers may elect to receive the new scales of pay which abolish the necessity for a shore allowance, and to that extent are assured of an income that does not fluctuate according to whether they are serving ashore or afloat.

For all officers serving afloat this means a net increase of pay. A Sub-Lieutenant, for instance, will draw not less than Rs. 455 if he is single and not less than Rs. 515 if he is married. The increase in the pay of a Lieutenant means that he will draw not less than Rs. 530 if he is single and not less than Rs. 590 if he is married.

Such officers will, in certain circumstances, be eligible for separation and messing allowances.

There will in future be no distinction in pay based on service in a particular branch. That is to say, Engineer Officers and Officers of all other branches will be brought into line.

The status of Warrant Officers of all branches has been established as equivalent to that of warrant officers in the Royal Navy, and their pay will be substantially increased. For instance, a warrant officer on appointment, now drawing Rs. 130 a month, will receive a minimum of Rs. 300, and corresponding increases go with seniority in service. Important benefits are also conferred in regard to housing, marriage, messing and separation allowances.

The revised regulations apply to all officers, both commissioned and warrant, Regular and Reserve, in their respective scales. All officers naturally have the right to elect to remain on the existing rates of pay if they so desire.

An Air "Ace" from China

THE other day I met a fighter "ace" from China—Major John Pun Yung-hwang—who after five years of active service against the Japanese has been sent to London as Air Attache at the Chinese Embassy. Here is a hero for you, writes the *Daily Mail's* aeronautical correspondent.

Most of his battles took place under conditions in which individual tallies had to be forgotten, but he has nine "certified" victories to his credit—and a row of ribbons on his breast.

It would do good if this Chinese airman could be persuaded to talk to British factory workers. No man knows better the bitterness and hopelessness that is the lot of the soldier who fights with inferior and insufficient weapons. No man has a clearer understanding of the immensity of the task that lies ahead of the Allies.

Major Hwang is a young man grown old rather sooner than is just. Five years is a very long career for a fighter pilot who has never had a truly top-rank plane in which to fight. He has been at war since he left school, and now he is a man with an important post, a wife and a child. He is a lucky man. Of the other youths with whom he entered the Chinese air force, only one or two are alive today.

Major Hwang says that the Chinese actually had air superiority for the first fortnight of the war, and if they could have held it, the whole course of the struggle might have been changed. But, when the Chinese lost planes, there were no replacements. While the Government scoured the world for replacements, surviving pilots formed themselves into salvage gangs. They gathered up pieces of wrecked planes, and from these they fashioned the fighters with which to continue the battle.

Major Hwang believes that there is now an opportunity to weight the scales against Japan. Japan, he says, is at the cross-roads. She must attack either Russia or India. In both cases her flank would be exposed to aerial attack from China.

MADRAS CASUALTIES

We regret to announce the following Madras casualties which occurred on various dates :—

16645	Hav.	Mohd. Abdul Rawoof.
17070	Spr.	Mohd. Salar Khan.
61264	Spr.	Munisami.
1562	Cook I.T.	Muniswami.
1834	W/C.	Munisami.
1598	B/Maker.	Munisami.
60890	Spr. 8	Narasimhalu.
19922	Spr.	Narasimhan.
62346	Spr.	Narayana.
13136	Spr.	Narayanasami.
60196	L/Nk.	Narasimha Reddy.
16427	Hav.	Nasariah.
17405	Spr.	Natarajan.
15551	Spr.	Natesan.
19220	L/Nk.	Parasuraman.
60515	Spr.	Periaswami.
62370	Spr.	Perumal Pillai.
19943	Spr.	Ponnuswami.
60631	Spr.	Ponnuswami.
62323	Spr.	Ponnuswami.
19764	Spr.	Pooraswamy.
60142	Spr.	Pushpanathan.
19061	Spr.	Raghavan.
60978	Spr.	Rajagopal.
62305	Spr.	Raju.
60928	Spr.	Ramachandran.
60175	Spr.	Ramakrishnan.
62209	Spr.	Ramakrishnan.
62207	Spr.	Rama Reddy.
60899	Spr.	Ramu.
1693	Dhoby	Rangasam.
16534	Naik	Rangasamy.
19059	Spr.	Sampangi.
60909	Spr.	Sangeetha Rao.
60876	Spr.	Santhappan.
18971	Spr.	Sanyasi.
60537	Spr.	Sathianathan.
17865	L/Nk.	Sheik Ahmed.
16867	Hav.	Sheik Fakeer.
60918	Spr.	Sowrimuthu.
60190	Spr.	Subbaraju.
62266	Spr.	Subbiah.
1606	Cook I.T.	Subramanian.
60938	Spr.	Swamikannu.
19941	Spr.	Thangappa Nair.
60171	Spr.	Thimmarayan.
62337	Spr.	Thirunnavukkarasu.
63520	Spr.	Thomas.
1568	Swpr.	Tukra.
19924	Spr.	Venu.
65991	Spr.	Yelliah.

I.H.C.

63117	Cook B.T.	Arokaswamy.
188794	M/Cook.	Arokiaswamy.
H/85624	A/Sep.	Chinna Kolandai.
H/90589	A/Sep.	Chura Mani.

I.H.C.—cont.

85622	A/Sep.	Kannan.
85618	A/Sep.	Kolandai.
H/85621	A/Sep.	Kutta Perumal.
H/93023	A/Sep.	Malliah.
H/90567	A/Sep.	Padma.
H/40359	N/Sep.	Santhanam.
H/85567	A/Sep.	Satyanarain Murthi, M.

Missing.

Auxiliary Pioneer Corps.

189237	Labr.	Adayya, G.
189477	Labr.	Andy.
189252	Labr.	Asarayya, P.
191295	Labr.	Chinnapaiyan.
189403	Labr.	Chinnaswami.
191135	Labr.	Daveedu, B.
191208	Labr.	Govindan.
189243	Labr.	Kannayya, K.
189211	Labr.	Kottayya, G.
189112	Labr.	Kuppan.
189174	Labr.	Kuttan Pillai, K.
189208	Labr.	Lachayya, Y.
191400	Cook, I.T.	Manickam.
191445	Labr.	Nagabhooshanam, V.
189387	Labr.	Nandan.
191322	Labr.	Nanoo Pillai, P. K.
191166	Labr.	Paramasivan.
191297	Labr.	Periasami.
189187	Labr.	Pichakaran.
191438	Labr.	Pitchayya.
191440	Labr.	Pothu Raju, P.
189441	Labr.	Prakasam, V.
191124	Labr.	Raghavalu, K.
189342	Labr.	Raghavayya, E.
191286	Labr.	Rajagopal.
191477	Labr.	Raju.
191228	Labr.	Ramalu, K.
191158	Labr.	Ramayya, A.
189372	Labr.	Rukmangada Rao, M.
191020	A/Ganger.	Samba Moorthy, A.
189271	Labr.	Samuel, T.
191316	Labr.	Sankaran.
189360	Labr.	Satyam, S.
189430	Labr.	Sundara Rao, T.
189377	Labr.	Talupulu.
191170	Labr.	Thangayya Thevar.
191027	Cook I.T.	Thangavelu.
191142	Labr.	Viraswami, M.
189476	Labr.	Venkanna, M.
189254	Labr.	Venkatesuralu, T.
191259	Labr.	Voyyuru, M.
189230	Labr.	Yellayya, M.
189266	Labr.	Yesuratnam, K.

Died.

I.S.C.

A.7822	Sigm.	Kanda Samy.

I.H.C.

210007	A/Sep.	Kali.
88254	A/Sep.	Raman, M.

No. 113.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Wounded.

I.A.O.C.

0/121185	Hav. Clerk III(s).	Dason, M.

Missing, believed "Prisoners of War."

I.A.O.C.

0/109517	S/Elect.	Arul Dass, D.
0/122800	Hav. Clerk (s) III.	Bhaskaran, N.
0/ 71548	Sep. Dr.	Chinnadurai.
MT/500675	Fitter.	Dev Raj.
0/ 72634	Sep. Dvr.	Devadanam, B.
0/ 74559	Sep. Dvr.	Devdass, M.
0/ 71202	Sep. Dvr.	Govinda Samy.
0/ 31811	Sep. Ftr.	Govindu, G.
MT/500936	Turner.	Hanmanthu.
MT/500953	Turner.	Lachman Dass.
0/ 75384	Sep. Dvr.	Margasagayam.
0/ 70880	Sep. Dvr.	Naidu, M. V.
0/ 70903	Sep. Dr.	Pillay, S. M.
0/ 32441	Electn.	Prakasan, S. N. S.
0/134194	Fitter/P/A/L/Nk.	Puniya Koti, K.
ONC/ 1047	Lascar.	Rama Krishnan, T. K.
MT/504471	Fitter.	Ramayya.
0/ 31820	S/Ftr	Satyanarayana, K.
0/ 31675	Ftr./Naik.	Selva Raj, A.
0/123041	Hav. Clerk II.	Srinivasan, M. R.
0/122825	Hav. Clerk II.	Subrahmanyan, C. V.
0/ 71561	Sep. Dvr.	Tiru Malay Naidu.
0/ 71622	Sep. Dvr.	Veluchamy.
MT/504276	Electn.	Xavier, Anthony.

No. 114.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Killed.

I.S.C.

A 3884	U/L/Nk.	Madhavariar.
A 5249	Sgn.	Sadhanadan, T.
A 5085	P/L/Nk.	Venkat Sami.

Wounded.

I.S.C.

05119	M/Waiter.	Arokia Samy.
26130	Sgn.	Krishna Samy, S.

R.I.A.S.C.

MT/948960	Sepoy.	Guru Nathan, P.

Missing, believed "Prisoners of War."

I.S.C.

03833	S/Maker.	Ambear Govind Sami.
A. 2755	P/A/Nk.	Balakrishnan Nair.
A. 5762	Sgn.	Harikrishnulu, M.
15057	Sgn.	Jayaram Naidu.
03960	I.T.C.	Kuppu Swami.
A. 5146	Sgn.	Murukonda Subbarao.
25047	Sgn.	Narayanan Nair, V. K.
A. 5090	Sgn.	Peria Sami.
A. 3782	Sgn.	Raja.
A. 6261	Sgn.	Sivnarayan Ram.
A. 2341	Sgn.	Visvanathan Nayar, K.

R.I.A.S.C.

SR/776803	L/Nk.	Chela Pathi Naidu, P.
SR/174542	Hav/Clerk.	Kumarankutty Nair, K. P.
MT/954326	Sep.	Jivaratnam, P.
SR/776789	L/Nk.	Subbanna, K. V.
SR/765074	L/Nk.	Venkatarangam, P.

No. 115.

OFFICERS.

Missing, believed killed.

I.M.S.

—	Captain	Sarangapany, N.E.

Previously reported "Missing, believed Prisoners of War"—Now confirmed "Prisoners of War."

I.M.S.

MZ/23503	Captain	Jegaroyan, M.

VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Previously reported "Missing, believed Prisoners of War"—Now rejoined.

Indian Engineers.

E/112832	Jem.	Rao, G. S.

INDIAN, OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Killed.

Indian Artillery.

102487	Gnr.	Ramanna, P.
100615	L/Hav.	Veera Swami.

I.A.O.C.

0/74159	Sep/Dvr.	Dorai Swami.

Wounded.

R.I.A.S.C.

MT/985476	Sep.	Mani Ram.

Missing, believed "Prisoner of War." and Wounded.

Indian Artillery.

101190	U/L/Nk.	Krishnan Nambiar.

Missing, believed "Prisoners of War."

Indian Artillery.

101429	Gnr.	Balakrishna Naidu.
F/551	W/Wtr. III	Dorai Kannu.
F/500	W/Wtr. I	Gopal.
106880	Gnr.	Gopal, K.
101115	Dvr.	Govindaswami.
F/552	W/Wtr.	M. Madurai.
101041	P/A/Nk. (Ftr.)	Raju, I.
101425	Hav. Clk. Gde. II.	Savarimuthu.

Madras S. & M.

15467	Hav.	Abdul Khudus.
17980	Nk.	Arokiaswami.
16021	Spr.	Arumugam.
60860	Apr.	Ayyakonar.
16501	Nk.	Chelliah.
15503	Spr.	Chinakolandai.
17832	L/Nk.	David.
18525	Spr.	Gopala Achari.
65450	Spr.	Govindasami.
16669	L/Nk.	Govindsami.
13758	Spr.	Guruva.
19008	Spr.	Jaju.
17968	Spr.	Joseph.
60778	Spr.	Kanakyya.
66216	Spr.	Kandaswami.
17896	Spr.	Kannan.
13934	L/Nk.	Kothandapani.
19075	Spr.	Kullan.
16502	Spr.	Lakshmanan.
18925	Hav. III	G. C. Lingaswamy.
13962	Spr.	Mahadevan.
60162	Spr.	Manickam Pillai.
65184	Spr.	Mohideen.
60797	Spr.	Munikrishnan.
11937	L/Nk.	Munisami.
13117	L/Nk.	Munisamy.
18509	Spr.	Musaliah.
19020	Spr.	Nagamiah.
65801	Spr.	Narasimhan.
16492	Spr.	Oolaganada.
16101	Spr.	Perumal.
18581	Spr.	Rajamanickam.
19084	Spr.	Raju.
17504	Spr.	Ramasami.
65459	Spr.	Ramaswamy.
16998	Ag/Nk.	Rangasami.

Madras S. & M.—cont.

60632	Spr.	Rathnam.
13290	Spr.	Sabusahib.
16186	Spr.	Sathiyanada.
18663	Spr.	Shaik Bachalal.
18582	Spr.	Shaik Maboob.
66045	Spr.	Sigireddi Adinarayana.
17922	Spr.	Sree Ramalu.
65269	Spr.	Subramani.
14221	Spr.	Thanthoni.
60002	Spr.	Vedamanickam.
13716	Spr.	Velai.
16886	Spr.	Vellayan.
60782	Spr.	Venkataraman.
17290	Spr.	Yellaiah.
60636	Spr.	Annamalai.
18966	Spr.	Arulappan.
60832	Spr	Arunachalam.
17019	Hav.	Chandrapragas.
60868	Spr.	Chengalrayudu.
60810	Spr.	Chinnasami.
17973	L/Nk.	Duraisamy.
13901	Spr.	Govinda Raju.
17946	L/Nk.	Govindaswami.
16014	Hav.	Gurumuthi.
17118	Spr.	Jaganathan.
60119	Spr.	Janikiram.
17975	Spr.	Joseph.
18520	Spr.	Kandasami.
16536	L/Nk.	Kannan.
67343	Spr.	Kannan Nayr.
60794	Spr.	Krishna Muthi.
14862	Spr.	Kuppusami.
17836	Spr.	Lakshmayyah.
18271	Spr.	Loordunaden.
66120	Spr.	Manickam.
18863	Spr.	Mogal Kasim Sahib.
14766	Spr.	Muniappan.
15405	Spr.	Munirathnam.
14948	L/Nk.	Muniswami.
60859	Spr.	Muniswamy.
17876	Spr.	Muthuswami.
13667	Spr.	Narasimen.
17011	Spr.	Natesan.
17953	A/Nk.	Parthasarathi.
17997	L/Nk.	Rahimulla Shariff.
15462	Spr.	Raju.
60806	Spr.	Raju.
14262	Spr.	Ramaswamy Reddiar.
16879	Spr.	Ramian.
17860	Spr.	Rangaswami.
16691	Hav. III, G.C.	Renugopal.
15125	Spr.	Sankaraiah.
17110	L/Hav.	Selvaraju.
60802	Spr.	Shaik jamal.
18955	Spr.	Shaik Malik Ahmed.
14263	Spr.	Subbaroyan.
17278	Nk.	Subramaniyan.
65166	Spr.	Vedachalam.

Madras S. & M.—cont.

60475	Spr.	Veeraswamy.
60789	Spr.	Velankanni.
16329	L/Nk.	Venkatachalam.
18445	Spr.	Venkateswaralu.

Died.

I.A.O.C.

O/107688	Sep. Ftr.	Abdul Ghafur.
N.Y.A.	Tailor.	Mohd. Zaman.
O/103654	S/Ftr.	Raju Naidu, T.N.
O/76483	S/Dr.	Velukutty, C.
O/119266	Sep. (Ins. Mec.)	Thomas Decosta.
13368	Sep.	Shahdad Khan.

L. No. 116.

VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Missing, believed Prisoner of War.

R.I.A.S.C.

SR-120269	Jem. Clerk	Ramakrishnan, T. S.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

10th Baluch Regiment.

20134	Sep.	Jaga Nath.
18477	Sep.	Shatrughan.

R.I.A.S.C.

F-768153	Butcher	Anumappah.
SR-733376	P/A/Nk.	(ASM) Perumana Raghava Kurup.
SR-776808	P/L/Nk.	(ASM) Ranga Ram, N.

I.G.S.C.

GSF/1422	Cook	B. T. Arul Dass.
GSF/174	Swpr.	Babu.
GSF/19122	Dhobi	Gangiyah.
GSF/7077	Cook Mess 111.	Gopia.
GSF/5373	Masalchi	Kanan.
GSF/17529	Dhobi	Manickam.
GSF/5374	Masalchi	Pavaday.
GSF/14230	Tailor	Raghuvan, A. K.
GSF/17528	Dhobi	Ramaswami.
GSF/8098	Masalchi	Shunmugam.

Previously reported "Missing, believed Prisoner of War"—Now rejoined.

I.H.C.

190809	Dhobi	Narain.

Died.

I.S.C.

17887	Sign.	Koshy, T.M.
55328	Sign.	Pakir Meeran.

No. 122.

VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

I.M.D. **Wounded.**

ME/289	Jem.	Shastri, K.S.J.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Previously reported "Prisoners of War"—Now reported "Killed".

Madras Sappers and Miners.

16375	Spr.	Anthonimuthu.
17575	Spr.	Appa Lasami.
16215	Hav.	Arokiaswami.
18316	Spr.	Arokiaswami.
18150	Spr.	Batcha.
18586	Spr.	Chinnappan.
18529	Spr.	Daniel, R.
17297	Nk.	Doraiswami.
1000	Swpr.	Elligadu.
13900	Spr.	Ganesh, V. S.
18012	Spr.	Gnanaprakasam.
18523	Spr.	Krishna Pillai.
13552	Spr.	Manikkam.
16050	Spr.	Muniswami.
14796	Spr.	Muthuswami.
18296	Spr.	Ommi Ellayya.
15014	Spr.	Panjali.
14644	Spr.	Ponnuswami.
14741	Spr.	Raju.
16918	Spr.	Royappan.
16108	Nk.	Subramani.
15192	Spr.	Subramanian.

I.S.C.

9351	Sgn.	Abdul Aziz.
A. 3850	Sgn.	Abdul Hafiz.
A. 1430	Sgn.	Abdul Hafiz Khan.
9726	Sgn.	Gopalaswami, N.
O/2580	Cook.	Govindan.
A. 2670	Sgn.	Kariappa, G. N.
A. 1764	P/L/Nk.	Kesava Rao, G.
A. 3887	Sgn.	Kistnan.
A. 1624	Nk.	Perumal, R.
O/2412	Swpr.	Pusin.
A. 2681	Sgn.	Sankunni Nayar.
A. 2671	U/L/Nk.	Subramoniam, T.C.

I.H.C.

H/185084	Cook B.T.	Babu.
93330	A/Sep.	Gopal, K. A.
63006	W/Svt.	Magmi Dass.
H/186256	2/G/Swpr.	Muniappa.
H/185250	Dhobi.	Palande Kandappa

I.A.O.C.

O/31971	Ftr. Sep. 1	Babu Naidu, C. M.

I.G.S.C.

GSF/18100	Masalchi.	Doraiswami, G.

16th Punjab Regiment.

7301	Sep.	Kali Dass.

Died.

Indian Engineers.

50124	Pnr.	Andi.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

19th Sep.—The Royal Air Force hit with torpedoes a large Axis supply ship off Egersund, south Norway. Enemy supply ships were attacked off the Norwegian coast by the Coastal Command aircraft.

An enemy bomber was destroyed over England.

A large contingent of American troops arrived in England.

20th Sep.—It was revealed that United States parachutists were in the British Isles.

The Coastal Command aircraft made an attack on enemy supply ships off the Norwegian coast.

21st Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided Munich and started large fires. Shipping were attacked off Dutch coast.

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, announced: "The battleships, aircraft carriers and cruisers of the Royal Navy lost in the last two and a quarter years have been replaced."

22nd Sep.—Bigger raids on Germany and the occupied territory by Flying Fortresses were forecast by one of the leading United States Army Air Force officers now in Britain.

23rd Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked industrial objectives in the Lille-Lens area. Power stations at Mazingarbe and Port Vendin were among the targets hit. The iron and steel works at Ijmuiden were also attacked.

There was slight enemy activity over the south-east coast of England.

25th Sep.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in north and north-west Germany, including submarine yards at Flensburg. An enemy convoy was attacked off Dutch Coast.

The Duke of Norfolk, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, speaking at Cardiff, said: "We may have to meet a fifth or sixth year of war."

According to unimpeachable sources, Marshal Rommel was seen in Frendenstadt in south Germany. He was believed to be suffering from throat trouble.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

19th Sep.—Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling, United Press Naval Analyst, suggested the possibility of the east coast having to face German bombers in winter.

20th Sep.—Mr. Joseph Grew, the former United States Ambassador to Tokyo, said: "The Japanese will not crack morally, psychologically or economically even when eventual defeat stares them in the face. . . They will fight to the bitter end."

The War Production Board announced that orders had been placed for three giant experimental cargo-carrying planes costing 18 million dollars.

23rd Sep.—Major-General Hershey, Selective Service Director for the United States Army, stated that more than 10 million Americans would be under arms by the end of 1943.

25th Sep.—One hundred and eleven enemy aliens were arrested in New York by the police.

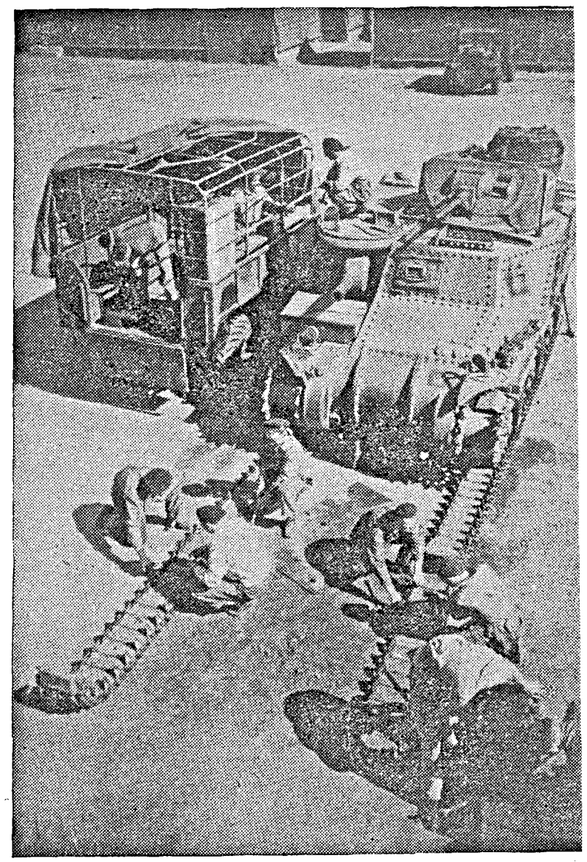
Ten days after laying the keel, a 10,500-ton Liberty freighter was launched at an American west coast port.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

23rd Sep.—The United States Air Force bombed enemy installations in Burma and Yunnan.

24th Sep.—The Japanese Radio announced the death in action of Major-General Tateo in Akyab on the Burmese coast.



The 8th Princess Louise (New Brunswick) Hussars, a famous Canad cavalry regiment, are now training in England as a mechanized unit, a fight in American-built "General Lee" and "General Stewart" tan New tracks are seen being fitted to a "General Lee" tank.—E.N.P.

News of extensive plots to assassinate high Japanese personalities in Malaya was disclosed by the Tokyo Radio.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19th Sep.—Allied patrols and artillery dispersed enemy working parties in northern sector. Enemy landing grounds between Mersa Matruh and Fuka were bombed.

A German fighter was destroyed over Malta.

British terms for an armistice in Madagascar were rejected by Mr. Annet, the Governor-General, and French resistance was continued.

20th Sep.—Tobruk was again raided and harbour jetties were attacked.

The British forces advanced towards the capital of Madagascar.

21st Sep.—Tobruk was subjected to yet another raid.

Axis shipping were attacked in central and eastern Mediterranean. Many hits were scored.

The British occupied Ankazob in Madagascar.

22nd Sep.—British forces were 37 miles from Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar.

On the Egyptian front, there were artillery exchanges in the southern sector.

Bardia and Tobruk were attacked by Allied bombers.

23rd Sep.—Allied columns in Madagascar continued their advance on the capital.

There was patrol activity in the Western Desert.

Two United States merchantmen were lost in the Mediterranean.

24th Sep.—British troops occupied Antamanarivo, capital of Madagascar.

Air Vice-Marshal Wilfred Ashton McClaughry succeeded Air Vice-Marshal K. Rodney Park as Air Officer Commanding, Egypt.

A force of United States heavy bombers attacked shipping in Benghazi harbour.

Military Awards

The following military awards to personnel of the Indian Army in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East have been announced:

D.S.O.

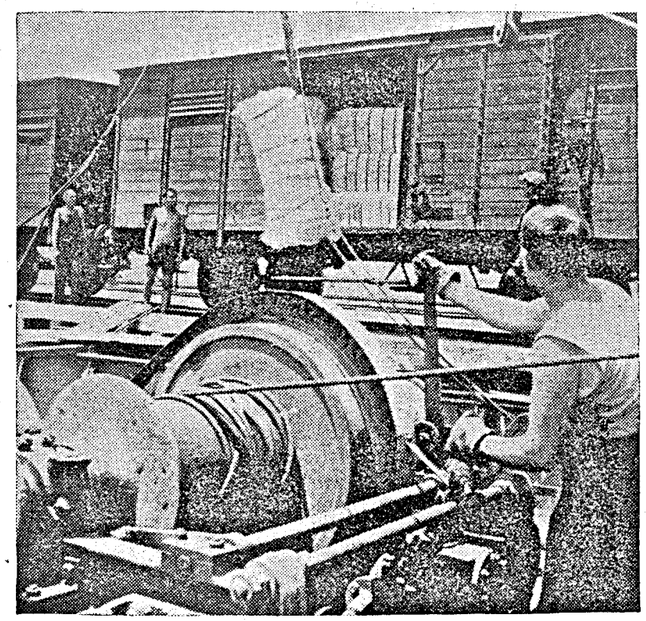
MAJOR KUMARAMANGALAM.

M.C.

CAPT. VEDANTHA RANGACHARI, M.B., B.S. I.M.S.

I.D.S.M.

15342 NAIK GOVINDAN, Madras S. & M.



Russian goods sent in exchange for supplies from Britain being unloaded.

25th Sep.—Enemy landing grounds between Daba and Matruh were bombed.

* * * *

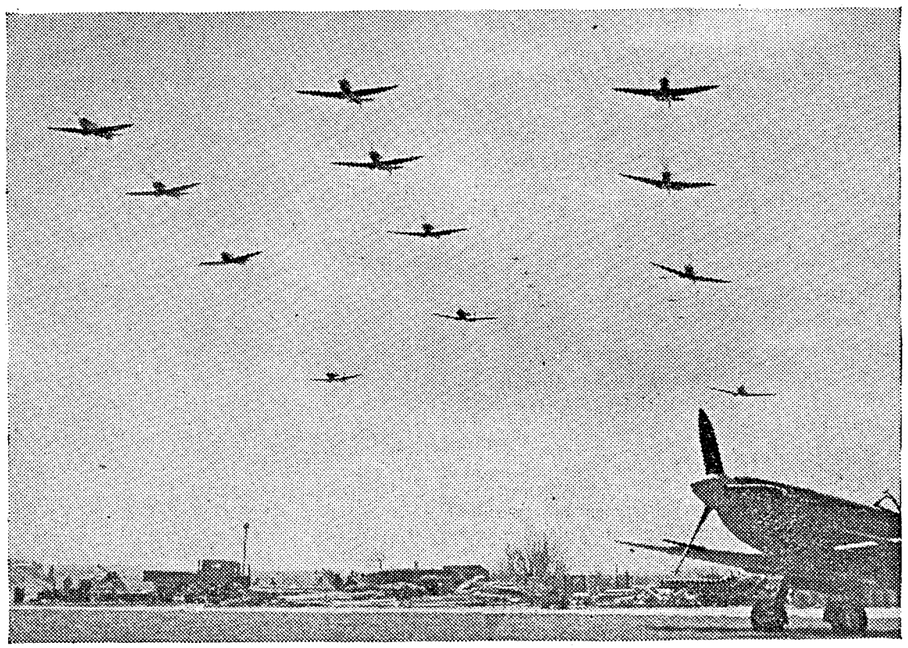
RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19th Sep.—There was hand-to-hand fighting between the opposing armies in the streets of Stalingrad. The Soviet army launched a successful offensive in the Mozdok area.

20th Sep.—Street fighting continued in the suburbs of Stalingrad.

Fierce fighting continued in Sinyavino area.

Soviet forces landed in Motovski Bay on the Murmansk front.



Day after day, British aircraft swarm over the enemy-occupied coastline, attacking and impeding war activities. Photo shows: "Spitfires" setting out on a daylight sweep. H.M. King George was at this fighter station at the time, and talked with the pilots before they set out and after their return.

21st Sep.—General von Kleist, reported a Soviet communiqué, was killed in the Mozdok area. He was Hitler's second best tank expert after Guderian and General von Bock's right hand man. The Germans denied the report.

Stalingrad still stood, bloody but unbowed, after four weeks of the most terrific onslaught in history.

Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Moscow from Kuibishev.

22nd Sep.—Mr. Willkie was received by M. Molotov.

Literally, yard by yard, the German army arc, from south-west to north-west of Stalingrad, closed in. Battles raged in several sectors all round the city. Two Nazi regiments were annihilated. Street fighting had been going on four days.

The Red Army continued to maintain heavy pressure along the whole Voronezh front.

23rd Sep.—The Germans in the past 24 hours did not make any progress in Stalingrad. Enemy thrusts were repelled. There was street fighting in an unnamed town near Voronezh and an important German position captured.

Nazi positions were pierced at Rzhev.

24th Sep.—The Red Army, fighting on Stalingrad's north-western approaches, slowly gained ground. Thousands of Germans were wiped out. In the last 48 hours, belief had grown in Russia that Stalingrad would not fall.

According to a Swedish newspaper, Von Bock was dismissed service a week ago.

Frequent falls of snow were reported from the Arctic front.

Mr. Wendell Willkie visited the Red Army Staff College in Moscow.

A big Anglo-American convoy reached Archangel.

25th Sep.—Italian fighters were shot down over the Leningrad front.

Fighting inside and outside Stalingrad reached greater intensity.

SHIPPING

22nd Sep.—The Canadian destroyer *Ottawa* was sunk by an enemy torpedo.

The U-boat which torpedoed a British ship off Cape Espichel in Portugal was itself sunk by the aircraft escorting the vessel.

23rd Sep.—An enemy flak ship was set on fire off the Dutch coast.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

20th Sep.—The Germans shot 20 hostages from the Croat village of Bugo Selo as a reprisal for ambushing and killing two German soldiers.

Herr Stuelpnagel, Commanding German military forces in Paris, announced that 116 "communist terrorists" were shot for complicity in attacks on German troops.

22nd Sep.—An attempt was made on the life of the Slovak President, Dr. Tiso.

23rd Sep.—According to the figures compiled by the Inter-Allied Information Committee, the total number of persons executed in Occupied Europe up to September 21 was, 207,373.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

19th Sep.—The Allies raided Buna. Fifteen Japanese barges were sunk.

Japanese attack on Lanchi was repulsed.

20th Sep.—Fighting in the Owen Stanley area was reduced to patrol activity. A Japanese patrol was wiped out.

The Chinese advanced on Kinhwa.

21st Sep.—The American Navy Department announced that Flying Fortresses hit two Japanese battleships north-east of Tulagi in the Solomons.

Opinion generally held in China was that the Japanese wouldn't dare to attack Siberia so long as the Russians held Stalingrad.

The Japanese diplomat to Russia was recalled.

22nd Sep.—Milne Bay was cleared of the Japanese. Enemy advance in New Guinea slowed down. Allied aircraft attacked enemy supply installations in Kokoda, Lae and Buna.

23rd Sep.—United States planes bombed Japanese bases at Rekata Bay and Cizo Island in the Solomons, hitting another Japanese cruiser.

The Japanese fleet withdrew.

24th Sep.—United States Army heavy bombers bombed Gizo Island and strafed shore installations at Rekata. Th Japanese suffered heavy air losses in the Owen Stanley area.

25th Sep.—Allied forces kept up heavy pressure on Japanese bases and supply routes in New Guinea.

Japanese planes were worsted in air battles over the Solomons.

LOCAL INHABITANTS *need not apply!*

In occupied China the Japanese have ousted the Chinese from every decent job from the top to the bottom of the business world. There are no Chinese industrialists any more, no Chinese shopkeepers, no Chinese professional men or stenographers or clerks, not even Chinese street-vendors. These jobs are for the Japanese, the rewards of conquest. This is what happens when the Japanese come. Do not stand by and see this happen in India! The energies of every man and woman are needed to make our defences sure.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT
against the Japanese

MADRAS: PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1942 No. 4

Spirit and staying power will win

GENERAL WAVELL

I don't think it is going to be easy for the Germans to come down the Caucasus now, or next spring, and capture the oil supplies in Persia. This is of interest to me, as it is the western flank of India

I am satisfied with the situation here. Though the disturbances while they lasted, had a certain effect on the war effort, the important thing is that 70,000 recruits continue to come in every month, and there has been no sign whatever of trouble in the Army

I have no doubt about the final result of this war. Spirit and staying power will win. America, ourselves, Russia and China are going to fight to the end

—GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL, *Commander-in-Chief, India, at a dinner in Delhi, on September 28*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
Battle for Stalingrad: Race between two armies.	7
War miscellany	8
Battle of Britain: Whole trend of War changed.	9
Fight for control of the Channel	11
Quality of Allied planes	12
Anglo-American co-operation in the air ..	13
Chinese students in wartime	15
South Seas and Japan	18
Wartime Hawaii	18
War and India's finances: Astonishing accumulation of assets.	19
Drive against corruption	20
Diary of the War	21

Running Commentary

General Wavell on Importance of Burma

Speaking at a dinner given in his honour by British and American correspondents in New Delhi, General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, referred to the importance of Burma in the scheme of counter-attack against Japan. His Excellency said, "Ever since the loss of Burma, I have been planning its re-occupation, because, strategically, it is one of the most important areas in the war with Japan. It is necessary for re-establishing contact with the Chinese, and we want a base for attack on Japan itself." The question of re-occupation of Burma has been occupying the attention of military authorities now since the situation has improved and India is getting the equipment she wants. The advance of Rommel towards Egypt and the German threat to the Caucasus necessitated the sending of supplies and reinforcements which postponed the adequate consideration of Burma as a base for the counter-attack. To the question what Japan would do next, General Wavell compared Japan to the boa constrictor which has swallowed a large animal it cannot easily digest, and said. "I don't fancy that they want to take on anything big at the moment like the invasion of Australia or India." Japan's weakest point is her air force, and she has got to consider, firstly, the home front, secondly, Manchuria, and thirdly, the South-West Pacific, in each of which she has to keep a fairly large air force. In order to realize her dream of becoming a great power in Asia, said the Commander-in-Chief, Japan must first try and take into account the Russian menace and then try to settle the war with China. "The heart of the problem is Russia, and it is a question affecting India." General Wavell pointed out that Germany's hope was to put the Russian army out of business this summer as she did in 1917, and she would probably try a pincer movement in the Middle East next year, but she would not achieve her objective so long as the Russian army was intact in the north and the Caucasus intact in the south. Even if Stalingrad is lost, the situation would not be altered a great deal, as the line of the Volga in the lower reaches would be frozen towards the end of the year and the southern passes of the Caucasus were getting snow even now. "I don't think," said General Wavell, "that it is going to be easy for the Germans to come down the Caucasus now or next spring, and capture the oil supplies in Persia." He added, "This is of interest to me, as it is the western flank of India." His Excellency expressed his satisfaction with the situation in India now. Though recent civil disorders in the country had a certain effect on the war effort, he pointed out, that it was important to note that 70,000 recruits continued to come in every month and there has been no sign whatever of trouble in the army.

MADRASI LANCE-NAIK AWARDED I.D.S.M.

LANCE-NAIK CHOCKALINGAM, of the 9th Indian Infantry Brigade signal section, a Hindu Tamilian from Melmangalam village, Periyakulam taluk, Madura district, is awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal for his acts of heroism in recent fighting in the Western Desert.

In the course of his speech, General Wavell pointed out that "the biggest fight of the war is the fight for shipping." This important question was referred to by Mr. Churchill. In a message to the American people he said that one of the most remarkable examples of courage, resourcefulness and industry was the American ship-building programme. It is almost unbelievable, he said, that nearly 500 large ocean-going cargo vessels were completed in the short space of the past twelve months since the launching of "Patrick Henry," the first Liberty ship. Mr. Churchill exclaimed, "It is a record beyond compare. It is an achievement beyond the most optimistic hopes and expectations." During the last one year, America has placed in service in intense sea battle a total of nearly 5,300,000 dead-weight tons of shipping. This added tonnage meant a very great deal to the armed forces of the United States and the enslaved peoples of Europe who were depending on those armed forces to free them from the yoke of Nazi tyranny. Great strides have been made in shipping, and the rate of production counterbalances to a great degree the shipping losses and portends the ultimate doom of the Axis Powers.

* * * *

Second Front and "Strategy of Victory"

In an editorial article entitled "The Strategy of Victory," *The Times* refers to Mr. Wendell Willkie's visit to the Middle East and Moscow "as a most timely service to all the United Nations," and says that he has given the general argument for a Second Front the weight and point of a disinterested testimony and that he is evidently convinced that time is better treated as an enemy than as an ally. The paper observes that the call for a Second Front may at times be "uninformed and misleading, and even mischievous," but says that it is based on sound and essential notions.

"It is certain," adds our contemporary, "that before victory can be won, Germany must be brought to battle on two fronts, or more, and German soldiers defeated on the field by British and American soldiers as in 1918."

Red Army tank men pushing forward on captured German tanks after they had been repaired for their own use.

Opinion in America has generally opposed Mr. Willkie's suggestion "for public prodding" of the military. *The New York Times* says in an editorial on Tuesday:

"From Moscow, through London, to New York there is only one ground for difference of opinion on the Second Front—when and where it ought to be and whether the decision shall be partly political or wholly strategic."

The paper points out that a United Nations disaster in Europe would not aid the common cause and that commonsense would soon justify us in hitting Russia's enemy and hitting him hard where hitting will hurt him

most. Emphasizing the need for a Second Front at the proper time, it says:

"We know by the ruins of Stalingrad and by the men who have died and are dying there that the Russian people will never be conquered. Britain and America may not be able to raise the siege of Stalingrad, but in the spirit which has defended that City, they can and must lift the siege of Russia."

* * * *

Anglo-Soviet Understanding Discussion and speculation with regard to the Second Front has thus come into the forefront again. There are several reasons for this. It may be recalled that, at the time of the signing of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty last June, a *communiqué* was issued by the British Foreign Office which contained the statement that "a full understanding" had been reached between Britain, United States and Russia "with regard to the urgent tasks of creating a Second Front in Europe in 1942." It may be pointed out that this statement did not promise a Second Front in 1942, but only recognized its urgent desirability. But many have regarded it as a definite promise of such a front this year. Subsequent to the treaty, there have occurred in succession the Anglo-American Military Conference of July and the visits of Mr. Churchill and Mr. Wendell Willkie to Moscow. It was even supposed in some quarters that Mr. Churchill actually went to Moscow to fix the exact date of the Second Front with M. Stalin.

* * * *

Aid to Russia: Paramount Principle Two questions are being asked. If the Second Front is to be opened at all this year, ought it not to be opened almost immediately? And if it is not opened at all, will not Russia be let down? The heroic and magnificent defence of Stalingrad has added an extra sense of urgency to such arguments. It is universally recognized that an offensive in Egypt or the air offensive over Germany, however valuable they may be, are not complete substitutes for a Second Front in Europe. Why then is not the Second Front in Europe opened immediately? The question is to be judged strictly from one point of view, and that is the basis for the demand, which is that Russia should be helped. It is obvious that a Second Front which failed would injure Russia in the long run far more deeply than it would help her for the time that it actually existed. The losses that may take place would require to be replaced, and this means another prolonged period during which Russia would be exposed to the full weight of the German war machine. But if Russia endures for a little time longer, it will be possible for the Allies not only to open, but also to *maintain* a Second Front, which will sound the death-knell of Nazism. In other words, the question of a Second Front must be decided solely from the military standpoint.

Six essential conditions Six essential conditions are necessary for a Second Front, and they are as follows:—

(1) There must be air mastery to establish a solid bridgehead.

(2) There must be sufficient shipping to transport and supply permanently a force sufficient to compel the enemy to transfer his principal strength from east to west.

(3) The equipment of that force must be equal in quantity to anything which the enemy can bring to bear against it.

Is British Business A Bogey?

"Special protection for British commercial interests in India would not be a condition of acceptance of any constitution, such a provision would properly be a matter of negotiation in the future with the Government of India. In India we have passed from the conception of tutelage to that of free and frank partnership."

—DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, *in the House of Commons, on July 30.*

INDIA AFFIRMS

"The whole of the European community stands behind the promise (of His Majesty's Government). To the best of our ability we will help in implementing it. If by any chance the Government goes back upon that promise I will be the first to lead a movement against the Government."

—Mr. P. J. GRIFFITHS, *Deputy Leader of the European Group, in the Assembly Debate in Delhi on September 17.*

(4) We must be sure that the opening of a Second Front in Europe would not disastrously affect the defence of Egypt and India.

(5) We must be certain of our ability to reinforce the new front from Britain and America.

(6) We require the power to harass and interrupt enemy communications.

It is thus clear that an unsuccessful Second Front will be much worse than no Second Front at all. But a Second Front will come, and it will come as soon as there is a reasonable chance of success and the means of maintaining it. We have to remember that it is not merely a question of effecting a landing in France, but of advancing into the interior of Germany. A Second Front cannot stand still—it must go forward, or else it will go back. It requires enormous and careful preparation and that is why only military considerations can enter into the final decision. Only the inner ring of leaders who have all the facts and figures before them can forecast the day and the hour when a Second Front to help Russia can be opened, and it should be left at that.

First news that "Combined Operations" in which the Army, Navy and Air Force take part are being held in India is contained in this photograph of soldiers learning the technique of beach landings at a Training Centre situated on a lake several thousands of feet above the sea. Instructors are Commandos who took part in the Madagascar raid.

* * * *

Axis Propaganda and India Japan and her Axis partners have been continuing their nefarious radio propaganda with a view to misleading the Indian people. They profess sympathy for India and Indian "Independence" and talk of "India for Indians" and India's "Golden Opportunity." But they really want chaos and disruption in India and are trying their best to engineer, prolong and intensify internal disorders and sabotage in this country by over a dozen transmitters in Europe and East Asia. They deride all efforts to bring about a compromise or settlement and want to encourage unrest and confusion. For instance, the *Azad Hind*, which is Germany's stooge radio operating from Hamburg, advises Indians on September 10th to "bring war production to a standstill." The *Indian National Congress*, another German radio station, in a broadcast in Hindustani on September 11th, ridiculed the attempts of "a handful of admirers of the British Government and obscure men who are striving to bring about a compromise between the British and Indians." Now that Berlin approves of the Congress attitude, this so-called *Congress Radio* says, "Our saviour, Mahatma Gandhi, has given his blessing to the course of action we have decided upon." In an Urdu broadcast, Tokyo said on September 10th, "We would like to tell you that Japan never had, nor will have, any evil designs on India." But the real purpose underlying Japan's hypocritical advocacy of Indian independence has been revealed by their own statements. "*The conquest of India and Australia,*" says the Japanese newspaper *Tariko Shimpo*, "*is an indispensable condition for the setting up of the New Order in Asia.*" This point has been clarified in an article by Admiral Hiraide in the March issue of the paper *Fujin Keren*. The Japanese Admiral says, "*We must bring India and Australia completely under our control.*" It may also be recalled that a Japanese Lieutenant wrote in his diary "*Indians are a cowardly people, fit only to be slaves.*" Can there still be any doubt about the real attitude of Japan towards India?

* * * *

The Technique of Axis Propaganda It is of interest to examine the technique of Japanese radio propaganda. Their methods are threefold, viz., (1) to spread confusion and work for civil

war, (2) to prevent a settlement at all costs, and (3) to sow seeds of dissension between India and her friends. The *Azad Hind* is not deterred by the fact that Indian recruiting figures are increasing in spite of, perhaps because of, Axis hate-propaganda, which has been at full blast during the last few months. There have been about 70,000 recruits coming in every month, as pointed out by General Wavell, but this German station asks, "Can any sane and self-respecting man think of joining the British army? Is it not an insult to yourself and your nation?" Confusion is sought to be spread by fantastic stories. *Rome Radio* says, for instance, on September 8th, "Further troops have arrived from the United States. These include coloured detachments. So India's old civilization is to be outraged by the presence of these barbarians." The German *Indian National Congress Radio* says that the scheme of sabotage and arson in India is exactly as the Congress wanted it to be. Muslim tribesmen in North-west India were asked, last spring, by Rome's fake station, the *Himalayan Radio*, to take up their swords and "make war on the Hindus."

* * * *

Congress Programme and Axis Plans

An important part of the Axis game is to see to it that there is no settlement between Britain and the Indian parties. Those who work for such a settlement come in for a good deal of abuse. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Dr. Jayakar, and lately Dr. Mukerjee, have had their share of this abuse. Now that the Congress programme seems to fit in with the Axis plans, there is nothing but praise for Congress leaders. But it may be recalled that the same leaders were roundly abused by the Axis radio a few months ago. In a Hindustani broadcast on July 5, 1942, the *Rome Radio* declared, "Gandhi and some other Congress men are pleading for aid to Britain against the so-called aggressors. . . Are they not ashamed of talking in this manner? Thousands of Mahatma Gandhis can be sacrificed." In a Berlin broadcast on February 4, 1942, Dr. Farooqi, a German agent, referring to Pandit Jawharlal Nehru said, "He will be a mere tool of British machination, because he was brought up and educated in England and his ideas have been strongly influenced by the British environment."

When the British Government's proposals for a settlement were about to succeed, the *Tokyo Radio* said on April 6, 1942, simultaneously with the bombing of Vizagapatam and Cocanada: "Japan is anxiously waiting for your decision this way or that, she cannot afford to lose time." On April 13th, the *Helsinki Radio* said, "Cripps' disappointment in India is as great a success to the Tripartite powers as a major military victory."

* * * *

Jap attempt to create split between China and India

The third method of Axis propaganda has been used in a subtle and cunning manner. Japan wants to divide India not merely from Britain and America but also from China. On July 20, 1942, the Chunkging paper, *Ta Kung Pao*, is deliberately misrepresented by Tokyo as saying: "Britain will do well to give only nominal independence to India." This supposed disagreement between Chungking and London has been enlarged by the *Berlin Radio* which said in a broadcast to the Germans, "What leading Chungking circles thought about British colonial policy is clearly proved by the 'leader' of the influential paper *Ta Kung Pao* which advocates India's independence."

The main object behind all these varied methods of propaganda is the subjugation and enslavement of India. Saigon may say "Refuse to co-operate with the Government in any way," and Singapore may shout "Follow your Movement," but India knows who are her friends and who are interested in making her a slave of Nazism.

LABOUR IN EMERGENCIES

Military Commanders have been empowered to require persons to assist in doing work which in their opinion is necessary to meet an attack, or to repair or reduce the damage resulting therefrom, or to facilitate offensive and defensive operations against the enemy. In such circumstances, the success of military operations might depend on the immediate carrying out of work for which labour could not in the time available be obtained through the normal channels. Military Commanders have therefore been empowered to call upon any local labour forces which may be available to do vitally important work. Any labour so employed will receive full remuneration.

Battle for Stalingrad

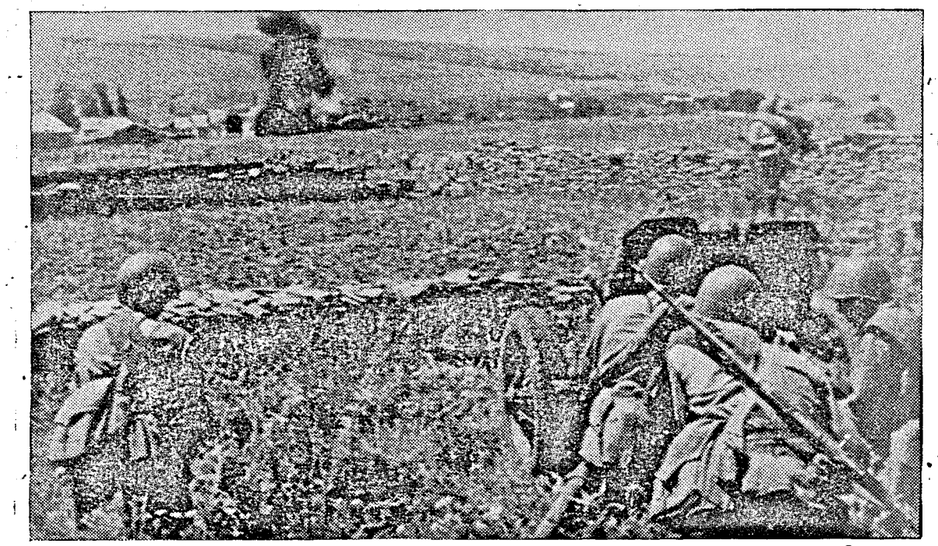
Race between Two Armies

TO-DAY (Oct. 2), the Battle for Stalingrad enters on its thirty-sixth day. A terrific struggle is going on, and the Russians are repelling the panzer and aircraft attacks of the Germans, with a ferocious courage and tenacity which are unparalleled in the history of human warfare. Marshal Timoshenko's forces coming from the north are reported to have broken through the strong German defence lines erected by the Germans after their crossing the Don elbow over a month ago. The question that is being asked is: "Will the Russians be able to cut off the communication along which German reserves reach Stalingrad before the Germans reach the Volga in a wide front?" And the answer is, if Marshal Timoshenko can continue his advance along the eastern bank of the Don, the supply line of the German left flank may be cut, exposing the entire flank to being rolled up from the rear. In other words, the Battle for Stalingrad has developed into a race between the Russian relieving force and the German armies which are trying to break the city garrison's resistance, before they are compelled to abandon their venture. The situation has no doubt improved during the last few days, but this is only a matter for gratification, and not for premature jubilation. Marshal Timoshenko's forces north of Stalingrad are playing the part of Blucher to Stalingrad's Wellington, but it is as yet too early to say anything definite. The Russians are fighting with the exaltation that possessed the defenders of Sebastopol, but the Crimean fortress was isolated at the end of a peninsula, whereas Stalingrad can receive supplies and reinforcements across the steppes beyond the Volga.

KEY TO THE SITUATION

The opinion of military experts in more than one neutral country is that the Battle for Stalingrad has already prevented the Germans from carrying out their planned conquest of Trans-Caucasia this summer. The importance of Stalingrad's stand will be more clear if we visualise the consequences of its fall a month or even three weeks ago. If such a disaster had fallen at about that time, the Germans would have mounted a concentric attack on Moscow from the west and the south, and would have had a chance of knocking Russia out of the war as a major factor before winter set in. As the Stalingrad situation stands at present, the Germans may on may not win a tactical victory, which now can be no more than Pyrrhic, but the major strategical triumph, which they had planned has already escaped them.

The key to the present situation lies in the line of the Don from Kletskaya to Voronezh, which the Red Army is holding. If winter finds the Russians still holding the strategical position along the German left flank, the



Red Army artillerymen covering an advancing infantry unit during the fighting for a German-occupied village on the Southern Front.

chances are that they will win the Battle of the Volga, even though they may have lost the Battle for Stalingrad itself.

CAUCASUS DEFENCE STRENGTHENED

One important result of the continuing Battle for Stalingrad is that the defence of the Caucasus region, which was at one time disquietingly weak, has been granted precious time.

Now that the situation is like this, what will the Germans do? The possibilities are that, finding Stalingrad too costly to take but still being strong enough to take the offensive, they may divert their efforts elsewhere. German hints that Stalingrad is not worth taking, reported from Switzerland, may be an indication of this attitude. The most probable direction in which German effort may be diverted is, of course, the Caucasus, where lie the much-wanted oilfields that lured Germany to take a step which would prove her ultimate undoing. Or the Germans might launch a direct attack on Moscow from the west with the object of taking it before full winter comes in late November.

DOMINATING FEATURES

The two dominating features of the war in Russia, however, remain as before—Russia's heroic resistance and the great help of the Allies. Recently a large convoy has reached Northern Russia, after eight days of continuous attacks by the enemy in the Arctic. Now that the worst season of Arctic convoys has passed with the Equinox and the season of perpetual daylight has given place to lengthening darkness in the Arctic, dangers from enemy aircraft will be much less. Germany knows this, and that is why she wanted to convince her people that a heavy toll of this convoy was taken, though she formerly pretended that the route was closed altogether. Such pretences cannot overcome facts, neither can they influence or affect the spirit and staying power of the great Russian people.

Passed the Period

"I personally think that we have passed a serious and dangerous period, not without credit, but also not without hardship and disappointment."

—Lt. Gen. N. M. S. IRWIN, *in a broadcast to troops of the Eastern Army from Calcutta, on September 27.*

War Miscellany

BRITAIN'S WOMEN FIGHT HITLER

A new welding machine recently sent to Britain from the United States is being used with great success in training the women who are to-day helping to build ships for the Battle of the Oceans.

The women become good electric welders after a brief training. A growing number of them are now working alongside their menfolk in the yards of the Tees, Tyne, Wear, Mersey and Clyde.

They are taking over the lighter jobs such as painting a ship's structure; every week more and more of them are to be seen high up on the staging.

Heavier work like riveting is not quite their line, but they make excellent rivet heaters. They are to be found on repetition work in the machine shops. They make piston rings. They assemble valves. In oil engine works on the Clyde theirs is the chief labour used in building oil coolers.

Women are even taking over work as fitters on the lower parts of heavy marine engines which can be reached from the floor or the first staging.

And everyone is agreed that they are a success: the Government, the employers, the trade unions, and—the women themselves.

* * * *

BRITISH ARMY'S BOOTS

The British Army is on the march in boots which weigh 1 lb. less than in 1918. Their average weight in the last war was 5 lb. a pair; their average weight to-day is 3 lb. 13 oz.

The achievement is the total result of a number of tiny reductions. Material is a little less thick. In 1914–1918 when the Army got its first machine-made boot uppers had a thickness of 2 millimetres. To-day it may be $1\frac{3}{4}$ millimetres.

There are still toe-caps, with a reinforcement of cement under them; but the old toe-case has gone; and that was in solid grain leather of not less than one-tenth of an inch. Outsoles, too, are not so heavy. There are fewer metal studs and the metal for heel tips and toe plates is also lighter.

Finally there was the new design for the Army boot of this war, incorporating the ideas of a famous orthopaedic surgeon who is also a knight. The new boot grips where it ought to and gives room where room is needed. And the result, almost accidentally, is yet another reduction in weight.

The sum total is a boot which is not only less heavy and more comfortable, that is to say, less tiring to the man on the march, but one which wears longer than its clumsier predecessor.

Battle of Britain

Whole Trend of War Changed

THE importance of the Battle of Britain was not fully realized when it was fought. What it meant to the course of the war has only been revealed with the passing of time. In 1940 it was perhaps chiefly thought of as an extensive and prolonged air victory in which the losses of the victors were remarkably small compared with those of the vanquished.

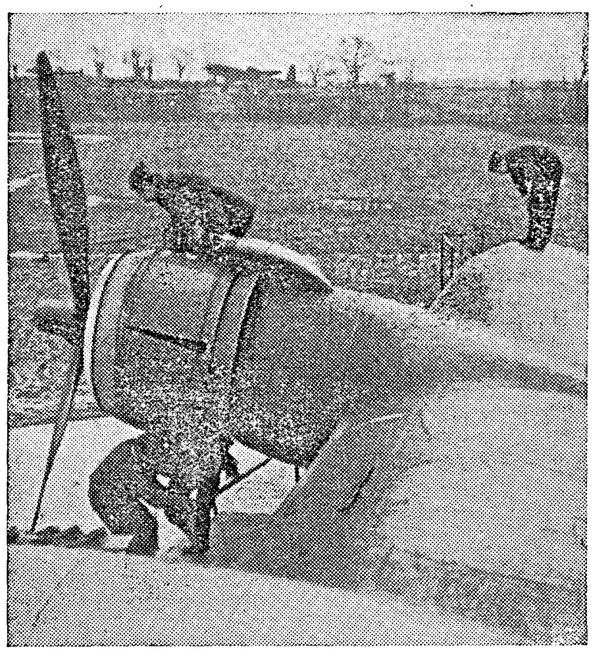
The Battle of Britain was in fact the defeat of the third attempted invasion of these islands. It therefore ranks with Drake's action against the Armada and Nelson's fight at Trafalgar. The only difference was that the Battle of Britain was fought in a new element. In essence all three achieved the same result in the same manner. That is to say, by denying the use of the Channel, they prevented the transportation of a large armed force from the Continent, which armed force in all three cases, if it had made its bridgehead, was sufficient to conquer and hold this country.

A NEW FEATURE

There was, however, one new feature. Drake and Nelson were able to win in a matter of hours. The Battle of Britain was prolonged. The Luftwaffe which in six weeks had subjugated the whole of Western Europe was held for three months, and, in the end, was shattered.

There is no doubt that invasion was prepared. Evidence is conclusive. For many months reconnaissance aircraft watched the whole of the Channel coast, and their reports showed, from the time of the fall of France, a steady assembly in every suitable port and river of necessary transport and equipment with a tonnage sufficient to carry decisive forces. Accumulation continued until late autumn, and then began to decline, the ships going back to what had become very urgent commercial and military transport duties. This dispersal was decisive proof that the Battle of Britain had brought the whole design to nought.

The consequences of what happened in the autumn of 1940 have been insufficiently appreciated. The destruction of over 2,000 German aircraft, though it did not affect the productive capacity of Germany, kept her net operative force on a low level in 1941. The same result has been achieved by the Russian air force in 1942. It has been made impossible for the graph line of German air power to rise.



Britain's sub-stratosphere "Stirling" bomber, the largest four-engined bomber in the world, has figured prominently in raids over Germany and the occupied countries. It has a speed of 300 m.p.h. and a range of 2,000 miles and is very heavily armoured, its defensive armament including 3 gun turrets. Dimensions: Length over 87 ft., wing span 99 ft., height 22 ft. 9 ins.

TIME GIVEN FOR PRODUCTION

Further, the Battle of Britain protected the productive capacity of this country, and but for the victory, the programme for the construction of "heavies" which are now being aimed effectively at the sources of German supply, could never have proceeded. In a word, the immediate material result of the Battle of Britain was that it cleared the way for that race of output in which the superior power of the Allies is calculated to be the decisive factor on which our hopes of victory are chiefly based. For the first time in the war, the will to victory of Great Britain was improved by positive and successful action, and the myth of German invincibility was shaken.

To-day it is difficult to recall the feelings of June 1940. The world believed that final German victory was imminent and would be complete. Britain was thought quite unable to prevent it. Mr. Churchill quoted a remark made at this time by French Generals and the French Prime Minister: "In three weeks, England will have her neck wrung like a chicken."

The first recovery was due to a speech of the Prime Minister. In the midst of these disasters, speaking in the House of Commons he said: "Now it has come to us to stand alone in the breach and face the worst that the tyrant's might and enmity can do. Bearing ourselves humbly before God, but conscious that we serve His unfolding purpose, we are ready to defend our native land against the invasion by which it is threatened. We are fighting by ourselves alone, but we are not fighting for ourselves alone."

EFFECT ON NATIONS

But these fine words demanded deeds. The Battle of Britain provided them. It took time, of course, for the implications of this victory to affect what little was left of independence among European Governments and to sink into the minds of the subjugated peoples. In the summer of 1940, opinion was very divided in the United States, and there was certainly no majority for entry into the war at the side of Great Britain. President Roosevelt, who had to carry the burden of responsibility for a third term, was clearly strengthened by the outcome of the Battle, and especially by a timely report by General Strong, who had left England on September 18, and had actually witnessed the fight on September 15. Fifty destroyers had been transferred on September 3, and on November 5, Roosevelt became War President.

A final word as to Eastern Europe. The Soviet Government had always proclaimed to its people that they would inevitably be called upon one day to defend the Union. The non-aggression pact with the Germans was a time-saver. The Germans exploited Russian fears in order to extract raw materials of which they were greatly in need. But nothing ran smoothly and the visit to Berlin reluctantly paid on November 12 by M. Molotov did little to relieve the situation. On October 17 the *Red Star* paid a glowing tribute to Britain's air effort.

NO MORE "EACH FOR HIMSELF"

It looked perhaps as if Russia was beginning to see that some collective action was desirable; the encouragement given to the Yugoslavs, culminating in the patronage extended to the Belgrade coup d'etat in the spring of 1941, which delayed for many weeks the attack which even then was projected against Russia, confirmed this view.

In general, this can be safely said: The hopes stimulated by the speeches of the Prime Minister and the Battle of Britain began to reverse the fundamental principle of international policy, which had been "each for himself." The ground was clear for a grand alliance of Britain, America, Russia and China, in which lies the present augury of victory.—*The Sunday Times.*

WE SHALL STILL BE IN DEBT—

"With our growing ship production we must build a bridge of supplies to Russia. We can help by sending food here this winter. If we don't, millions may go hungry. A hungry man even though he has the heart of a lion cannot go on fighting. We can help by sending medical supplies to ease pain and suffering among the Russian people. We can help by going all out immediately with giant bombing raids on Nazi cities. If we, in America, do all these things to the limit of our strength and ability, we shall still be in debt to the Russian people for what they have done and are doing to stamp out Hitlerism."

—Mr. WENDELL WILLKIE, *in a statement to the Foreign Press, on September 26.*

Fight for Control of the Channel

FOUR times in the last thousand years a great army has been assembled opposite our southern shores confident in its ability to conquer this island provided only that it could achieve even temporary control of the narrow seas. The first time, a divided England faced with war on two fronts went down in defeat. That disaster has never been allowed to be repeated. In 1588 Howard and Drake maintained mastery of the Channel by a battle in the Channel itself. From 1803 to 1805 Nelson held it by operations ranging from Toulon to the West Indies and finally prevented the fulfilment of the threat by destroying the hostile fleet at Trafalgar.

In 1940 a battle for the control of the same narrow waters was fought out in a new element, with the same immediate result. The greatness of the victory then achieved was understood by very few at the time. It had been shown that short-range fighter squadrons flying over their own territory—provided the inferiority of numbers was compensated by high technical skill and heroic endurance and devotion—could maintain mastery of the air against an assault of large and strongly escorted bombing forces, and inflict crippling losses on them. But subsequent military history has shown that more was decided than that.

BENEFIT OF VICTORY

The benefit of the victory has accrued not only to the people whose homes it saved but to all nations then and since arrayed against oppression. Every month that increases the muster of Allied forces on British soil enhances the significance of that which was accomplished by those few airmen who kept inviolate this one stronghold off the shores of ravaged Europe within which power to strike finally back against the enemy can be built up.

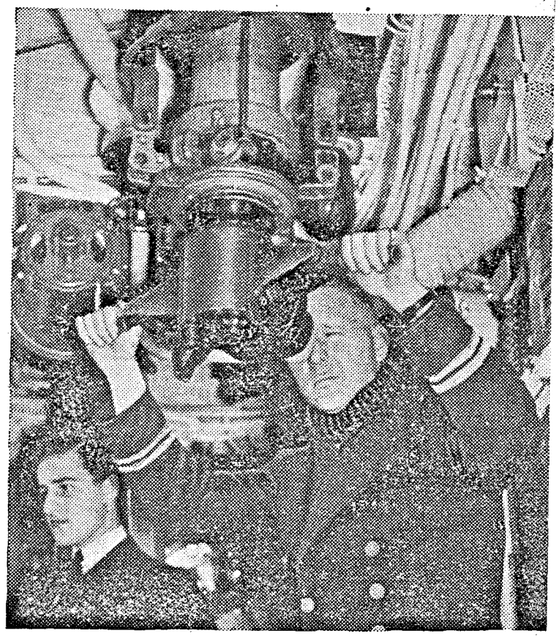
To repeat the victories of heroic times, however, is no longer our objective. Then we were alone, fighting for bare survival; now that we hold the central stronghold of world-wide fellowship, we need strategy to attack.

In an hour of peril air power alone acting in its own element saved an island, but it cannot deliver a continent. The value of our raids to the Allied cause depends on their capacity, by disorganizing German supply, to contribute now or soon to the defence of the Volga route to the Caucasus. That defence in its turn will give no return for the blood that our Allies have shed unless the respite it has gained be used to the full in massing the strength of the western Powers to carry out a concerted offensive plan conceived and executed in the three elements. Therefore the fight for control of the Channel—or any other waters that it may be expedient to cross—may soon have to be fought out afresh with a reversal of the roles of attack and defence. It will take new forms, and the Dieppe raid is more likely to provide the model than the Battle of Britain. The part of the R.A.F.—whose achievement in that raid was exceptionally brilliant—will again be indispensable and not less glorious because this time it cannot be separable from a concerted plan of all Services.—*The Times.*

Taking Definite Form

"British and American plans for the counter-offensive are beginning to take a more definite form. The real developments of the war will be seen in the future."

—GENERAL TOJO,
The Japanese Prime Minister, in a speech in Tokyo on September 26.



British submarines—most silent ships in a silent service—take he toll of enemy shipping during their ceaseless and far-reaching oc patrols. Photo shows a British submarine officer looking through periscope of a British submarine during a patrol.

Quality of Allied Planes

THE Germans lost the Battle of Britain because their fighters and bombers were inferior to our defenders and because our whole defensive organization was superior, writes *The Sunday Times*. It adds:

The same fine qualities in our machines, now turning to attack, can win the battle of Germany. A maintained superiority in the quality of our fighters and bombers must go with a supremacy in numbers.

Recent air-operations in all the parts of the world emphasize these facts. On all fronts at last the United Nations are beginning to have available enough aircraft of high quality to remove the worst inequalities of the days when they were forced to fight on the defensive.

How much difference a high technical quality can make was illustrated vividly recently in Malta, where the arrival of Spitfires transformed the scene. It is illustrated equally well over Germany where night raids have begun to have telling effect now that a higher proportion of the forces taking part consists of four-motor heavy bombers.

The output of operational aeroplanes by the United Nations is now well ahead of that of the Axis. The great thing is to keep our production flexible enough despite its size so that new machines can be introduced rapidly as occasion demands.

TECHNICAL POSITION FAVOURABLE

Fortunately the United Nations stand in a favourable position as regards technical quality. Of a dozen principal categories of military aircraft, Great Britain or America can claim supremacy in all but two. The enemy are alive to these facts and are likely to press forward with those of their types which might gain an advantage.

A clear idea of how wide is the qualitative superiority of the United Nations will be obtained by examining aeroplanes now in active service. Based on publishable information and figures, the following would appear a representative list of the best all-round military aircraft in the world in 12 categories that matter:

(1) Single-seat fighter—Super-marine Spitfire (British), (2) Long range night fighter—Bristol Beaufighter (British), (3) Heavy bomber—Avro Lancaster (British), (4) Medium bomber—Dornier Do-217-E-2 (German), (5) Land-based torpedo bomber—Savoia Marchetti (Italian), (6) Army coop Scout—North American Mustang (United States of America), (7) Long range patrol boat—Consolidated Coronado (United States of America), (8) Transport land-plane—Douglas C-54 (DC-4) (United States of America), (9) Transport seaplane—Boeing Clipper (United States of America), (10) Naval fighter—Vought Sikorsky Corsair (United States of America), (11) Naval torpedo bomber—Grumman Avenger (United States of America), (12) Naval dive bomber—Curtis Hell-diver (United States of America).

WORLD'S BEST PLANE

Of the twelve types, the United States are building the world's best aeroplanes in seven categories, Great Britain, three and Germany and Italy, one each. The most important among these is the single-seat fighter. In addition to the Spitfire we have both Hawker Typhoon (British) and Republic Thunderbolt (United States of America) coming into service with high hopes for great success as fighters.

In the heavy bomber class, the new American Boeing B-29, a super-Fortress, should prove a very fine machine. An interesting point is that in two most important types, fighter and heavy bomber, the Royal Air Force has the best equipment.

This survey is perhaps not strictly fair to the British equipment as a whole because there can be no doubt that in general in all categories the Royal Air Force is the best equipped service in the world. Stirlings, Halifaxes, Beauforts, Sunderlands, Sea-Hurricanes and the vitally important trainers, Tigers, Moths, Oxfords, Ansons, Magisters and the like are giving magnificent service everyday with little attention or publicity.

In each and every category, the heart of an aeroplane is its engine. The aero-engine development is as vital as that of new airframes. Fortunately the United Nations are well served in this respect.

Shining brightest of all is Rolls Royce Merlin which saved the world in the Battle of Britain two years ago and to-day an improved form is being built both in Britain and the United States of America. New and unmentionable types of aeroplanes and aero-engines now on the stocks and even in action give a reasonable hope of success in consolidating and even enhancing our present superiority.

SALVAGING IN U.S.

The United States War Production Board announces that used tin cans salvaged from kitchens throughout the United States are expected to yield more than 3,000 tons of pure tin and 297,000 tons of steel scrap annually.

* * * *

The United States Navy has authorized the commissioning of civilian pilots between the ages of 19 and 32, who previously were ineligible because of age, marital status, or minor physical defects, for probable assignments as instructors and ferrying pilots.

Anglo-American Co-operation in the Air

BY

WING COMMANDER L. V. FRAZER

BRIGADIER-GENERAL Ira C. Eaker, Commander-in-Chief, the American Bomber Command in Great Britain, has been living in the same house with Air Marshal Sir Arthur T. Harris, Commander-in-Chief, Britain's Bomber Command; this in itself shows the closeness and harmony of the air relationships between the two countries.

Canada is now producing every type of equipment needed by the Allied fighting services. Photo shows: Canadian sailors on board an ammunition supply-ship at a British port.

As soon as Brigadier-General Eaker arrived in Britain and began working with Air Marshal Harris, it was found that it would be a great convenience, in fact a necessity for them to be in consultation any moment during the 24 hours. Air Marshal Harris, therefore, had a special room fitted up in his private house for General Eaker to use as often as he pleased and General Eaker has been there constantly. This intimate collaboration has quickly extended throughout the two services.

I have just been visiting a number of the American army's operational air bases under General Eaker's command and I have never before seen such constructive collaboration as that which exists in every aspect not only of flying but of the complicated ground organization which keeps a modern bombing force in the air.

RAPID GROWTH OF STRIKING POWER

Not only is there an unprecedented expansion of the Royal Air Force but now forces of America are multiplying every day. Within a very short space of time, American bombardment forces, often escorted by Royal Air Force Spitfires, have been able to carry out raids which already run into two figures; they will reach their century before very long.

Their presence, however, means that while the striking power of Great Britain as a base is rapidly extending, new problems are added to the intricacies of the ground organization which only an enthusiastic conception of give and take can solve.

I went to several stations, which are just becoming operational, having been taken over by the Americans from the Royal Air Force bomber personnel. The Stars and Stripes flew over these bases but that does not mean that collaboration was at an end.

In the handing over, the preliminary work of organizational alignment may have been completed, but that is where a constructive collaboration of flying operations begins.

GETTING USED TO NEW CONDITIONS

The American air crews are arriving fully trained and they are more than anxious to have a smack at the Germans immediately. Several of them told me, however, how glad they were of the Royal Air Force help in accustoming themselves to the European flying conditions. After the wide-open spaces of the American continent, with clearly marked roads, railways and rivers, the fine close-knit pattern of the British countryside is a little bewildering. The Royal Air Force bases are naturally much closer together and a pilot must consequently be much quicker in recognizing landmarks.

After exceptionally good visibility in America they must also accustom themselves to the British weather which only very occasionally gives them the visibility to which they have so long been accustomed. Three years of war, of flying in all weathers and handling huge air forces within a small space have given the Royal Air Force ground organization a specialised experience unequalled anywhere in the world.

At the Wing Headquarters which I visited, there was a Royal Air Force officer, who has been in service for many years and who has an unrivalled experience of signalling and aircraft safety devices, in charge of the whole signals organization for various operational stations controlled by the Wing (equivalent to a Royal Air Force group).

"My No. 2 is an American, as you see," he said. "And if you should need any proof of how we get along together you have only to listen to us for a few moments."

The American officer, later, took me aside and expressed his admiration both of his chief and of the signals organization which they were so quickly absorbing.

SHARING SECRET DEVICES.

War experience has put Great Britain in possession of many signalling and radio-location devices which the Americans are now using for the first time. Upon every operational station these are still being handed over and the British Personnel are being retained to work them alongside their American colleagues.

Even in the mess of an operational station, where I had lunch, I was served with the first course by an American orderly and with the second course by a Royal Air Force steward. It is no exaggeration to say that the two peoples are getting to know each other in the daily routine of duty in every branch of the great ground organization which is mounting the United Nations' bomber offensive.

All the American lads share the great eagerness for operations, an eagerness which the Royal Air Force crews are all too quick to recognize because they know what it means.

WHAT SHE GOT FROM RUSSIA

SAM WOOD, the Hollywood director, tells about the German *hausfrau* who was enumerating for a friend the various gifts she had received from the countries invaded by the Nazi army. "From Norway," she related, "I got the most beautiful gloves. From Holland I got a lovely pair of shoes. From France I got a wonderful dress!" . . . "What did you get from Russia?" interrupted the friend.

"From Russia," was the reply, "I got my widow's veil."

—WALTER WINCHELL,
in the "New York Daily Mirror."

NEW ZEALAND SENDS SUBMARINE MEN HONEY

The men of the Royal Navy got—

310 footballs,
500 tins of tobacco,
2,000 dartboards,
7,032 packs of playing cards,
14,000 books,
16,465 games and puzzles, and
60,000 packets of cigarettes,

and large quantities of boxing gloves from the Navy League Seafarers' Comforts Supply last year. The success of the League's effort to liven up lonely hours at sea is a tribute to the few workfolk making sports goods and games in Britain: their numbers have been reduced to next to nothing by the call to munition making.

In addition to their share in this contribution to cheer the tedium of sea warfare, the men of the submarines get honey, sweets and cakes from the Navy League every month. Hundreds of tins of honey have come in from New Zealand and Canada has contributed many consignments of cakes.

From South Africa hundreds of sheepskin coats, strong and warm, have come to England: these are issued only on very special occasions. And the good work of the League includes parcels of shaving tackle, handkerchiefs, razor blades and pyjamas to prisoners of war.

IS THE ENEMY WHISPERING TO YOU?

Every time you hear a rumour
It is the Japanese whispering in your ear.
They are trying to poison your mind,
Weaken your resistance.
Don't help the enemy by believing
And spreading unconfirmed news.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS
BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Chinese Students in Wartime

BY

H. U. LIEM

STARTING from scratch in 1919, the Chinese students had built up a nation-wide movement. Their influence had wrecked the intrigues of the corrupt Pro-Japanese An-fu clique in 1919, who tried to sell China piecemeal to Tokyo. Their vigorous dissatisfaction against the treatment of China's claims at the Versailles Conference had caused the people of the world to realize with a jolt that at last the days of treating China as they pleased were over; that China was fully alive to her new responsibilities towards herself and to the world at large. Whenever any corrupt regime of the Peking period tried to seek self-aggrandisement at the expense of the nation, the students had been instrumental in causing nation-wide strikes of labourers, merchants, peasants and students throughout the country. And so the student movement grew and grew until it towered, like a giant, in strength and in proportion. It has always been the vanguard of any important national movement in the pursuit of China's greatness. No wonder the Chinese students to-day enjoy the full confidence and support of the nation as a whole.

Those were the days before Manchuria was invaded by the Japanese on September 18th, 1931. When it became clear that the Manchurian invasion was to be the prelude to Japanese conquest of the whole of China, the students started a nation-wide agitation for ending the civil war between the Central Government and the Chinese Communists. They called for an armed resistance against the enemy to the bitter end whatever be the cost. Meanwhile the Generalissimo, Chiang Kai-shek, was quietly making preparations for a total resistance. The Chinese Communists, too, were agitating for national unity and resistance, promising to shelve their Sovietisation and propaganda programme in the interests of national unity, and announcing their readiness to fight, shoulder to shoulder, within the ranks of the Government forces, against the enemy who was fast encroaching on North China. Consequently, when Japan struck on July 7th, 1937, the foundation for unity and resistance was laid, unity became an accomplished fact overnight. The students, true to their spirit of sacrifice, rose to the occasion. To-day they are to be found in the vanguard of the forces of resistance, in defence, the home front, political and social and other work of national reconstruction.

The Soviet Forces continue to hold, and in many places hurl back the strong attacks made in several sectors of the Russian Front by the Germans. Photo shows: Red Army men moving forward during a strong attack on a populated place on the Western Front.

THREE WAR AIMS

The Chinese people have vowed and pledged themselves to carry out three war and peace aims. The first is Unity and Resistance—in other words, the people should be united and resist the enemy until victory is won, whatever be the cost. The second is National Reconstruction—to carry out a gigantic programme of national reconstruction which will make China emerge from this war, not exhausted, but greater and stronger than when she entered the war in 1937; with the country well-developed, ample employment for everyone and the people's standard of living raised to a new high level. The third is Democracy—to consolidate Chinese democratic principles and institutions so that China will become a pillar of World Democracy.

In carrying out these war and peace aims, particularly in National Reconstruction, education undoubtedly must play an important part. In a long war of attrition, the duration of

which no one can foresee, the cultural life of the nation, which has never been interrupted for five thousand years, must go on. The Government, therefore, decided to open up new universities, colleges and schools in the interior, which has been converted into a base of resistance against the invader. As the result of this plan new universities, new colleges, new schools sprang up like mushrooms there. They were merged together for reasons of economy and expediency. At that time, few students were to be found in the interior. The Government therefore made an appeal to the students to come to the newly established schools and universities. Thus began the great epic trek of the students from the coastal areas into the great interior. Boys and girls, young men and women, having no railways, steamships, cars, boats, or even bicycles with which to travel, trudged on foot. They covered distances ranging from six hundred to a thousand miles. When they reached junction towns, they formed a stream of human beings. Along the way they performed the most marvellous reconstruction work. They set up schools to teach the illiterate people to read and write. When it was time for them to leave, they handed over the administration of the school to the newcomers. And so, a school built is a permanent one. The agricultural students would go to the farmers to teach them better farming methods and to learn from them the wealth of their experience. They set about to improve the village rural work, sanitation and hygiene. They did propaganda work to rouse the spirit of the people to resist the enemy and maintain their morale at a consistently high level. They invoked the greatness of the people to build up a new and greater China by carrying out the gigantic programme of National Reconstruction. They helped the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives to spread and organize new branches. They enlisted in the fighting forces, guerrilla units, civil defence, A.R.P., hospitals, clinics and schools. They went through rigid discipline and vigorous military training. They promoted mass education by extraordinary methods. In fact, they did the most incredible work that has ever been recorded in the history of any student movement in the world. They have risen to the occasion during China's period of crisis. It sounds like a fable, but it is true.

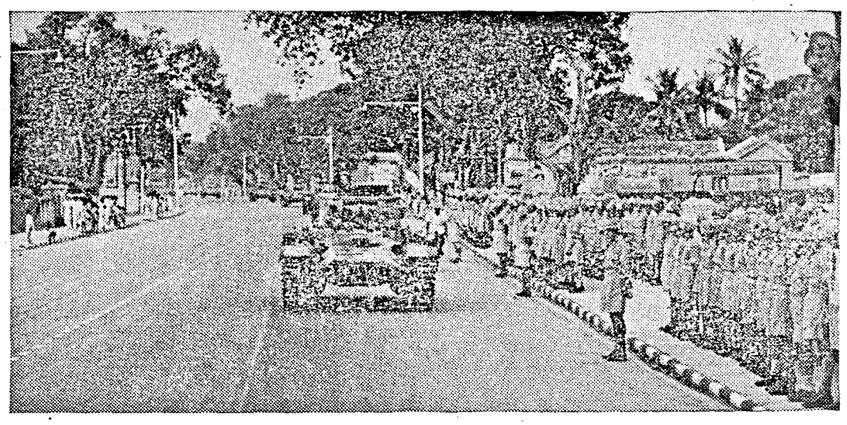
Let me give you an example of their extraordinary versatility and adaptability, or, if you prefer to call it, genius. For instance, they have raincoats. To us a raincoat serves only one purpose; to keep ourselves dry and warm in rain. To them, it serves three purposes. The first is to keep themselves dry and warm in rain. But when they walk through the fields, they are afraid of being machine-gunned from the air, so they paint it all over and it becomes a camouflage—that is the second purpose. When they pass a village or town they paint the coat with slogans calling for resistance, unity and reconstruction; and so it becomes a propaganda sheet. Still another example: the Little Teacher's Movement. This method could be used to combat illiteracy or carry out propaganda. They would collect a number of the active and intelligent youth of the village or town. They would teach them intensively and tell each of them to teach their still younger comrades. The youths of fifteen to twenty should teach those of ten to fifteen. Those of ten to fifteen should teach those of seven to ten. These children would be told to teach somebody else. Having no one to teach at home, they would gather and teach their grandfather and grandfather or the maid-servants. So this method reaches a perfect circle in range of age.

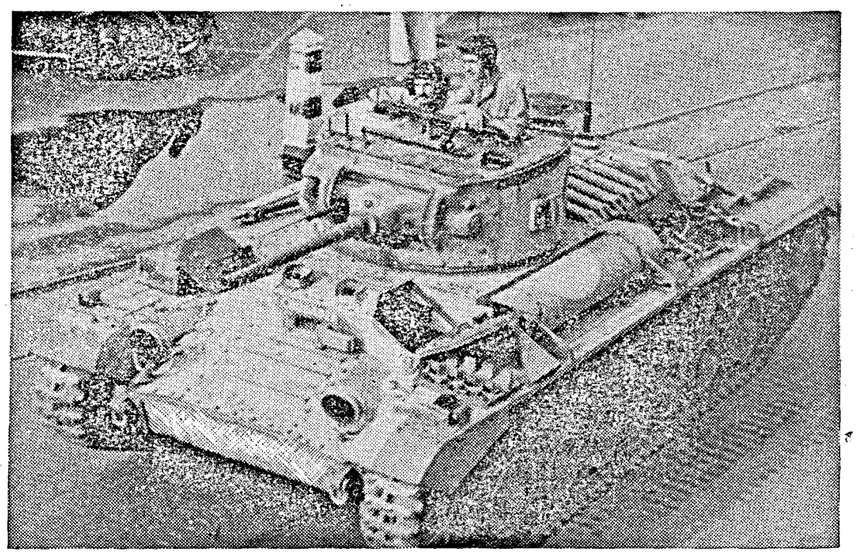
STREET PLAYS

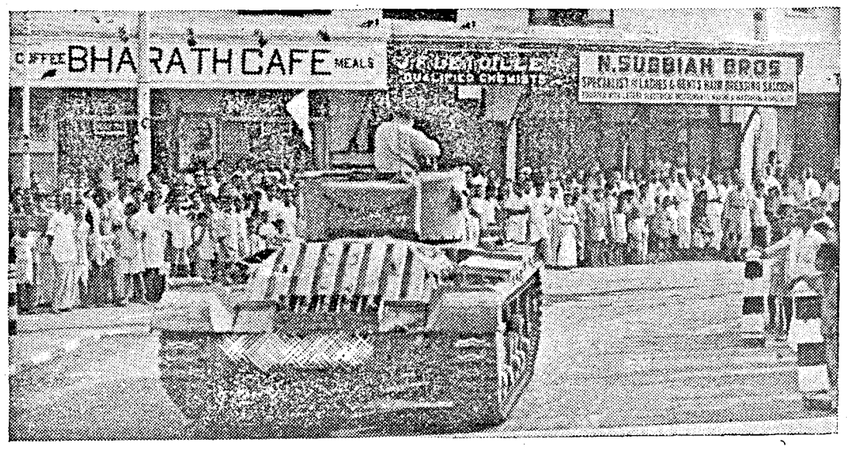
Another effective method is the street plays. The theme is usually a peasant family making merry after harvest. Down come the Japanese, killing the old folks, massacring the youngsters, doing violence to the women, looting and burning the house. A lad would survive. With blood streaming down his face, he would crawl and cry: "Why did the Japs kill us? Why did they steal our land and destroy our property? We must protect our country, our folks, our homes and our soil! We must fight! But we must also find comrades. Oh, who will fight with me?" Then the actors, who are distributed among the audience, would rise and say: "We will fight with you!" These peasants and people have felt the pang of reality from their own experience. And so, the next day when recruiting time comes, everybody goes to the recruiting station of their own free will. They know what they are fighting for.

When at last these students reached the universities and colleges, they lived in Spartan fashion. They used caves and huts as dormitories, libraries and classrooms and meeting rooms. They bathed and washed in the rivers and brooks which abound. During their spare time, they continued with their good works which they had begun during the long trek, and, as a result, profited by their experience. They have gained invaluable knowledge from school and experience from life. That is why the enemy is so afraid of the Chinese students. That is why to-day the first military objectives to be bombed are the universities and colleges; the first batch of victims to be tortured and bayoneted are the students and youth of China—(*A B.B.C. broadcast*).

Mechanised Might in Madras







Tanks passing through Madras City after the manœuvres

South Seas and Japan

THE conquest of the South Sea Islands does not mean a treasure-trove for Japan, says Mr. Kung Teh-po, an authority on Japanese affairs, writing in a recent issue of *Japan Review*, a magazine published in Chungking.

What Japan needs most, the writer observes; is iron and steel. These are found nowhere in the South Sea Islands. Throughout Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies, Philippines, Thailand and French Indo-China there were prior to the war no installations for the mining or refining of iron and steel.

Resources which Japan can have in plenty in her newly seized territories are tin and rubber. But no ingenuity of the Japanese can make use of rubber for the manufacture of tanks or tin for making airplanes.

Some people, the writer continues, are under the illusion that Japan's conquest of the South Seas would contribute towards the solution of her food and petroleum problems. To correct this erroneous conception, the writer quotes Premier Tojo as saying in his report to the Japanese Diet on May 27 that up to the end of April the Japanese Army had shipped home 700,000 tons of materials. This is a miserably small amount, even if Tojo had tried to boast.

In peacetime, Japan's merchant vessels plying between home waters and the South Seas amounted to 1,300,000 tons each month. The total of materials shipped to Japan each year accordingly amounted to more than 13,000,000 tons. Japan occupied the Philippines, French Indo-China, Thailand, half of Malaya and a greater portion of Borneo as early as January this year. The amount of 700,000 tons, therefore, represents four months' seizures. Calculated on this basis, Japan gets only 2,100,000 tons each year, one-sixth of what she got in peace time.—*China Information Bulletin.*

Wartime Hawaii

THE strange contrast between beauty and grimness presented by "Hawaii at war" was described by Hanson Baldwin, military commentator of the New York *Times*, in a telephone message to his New York office. He said:

"The surf at Waikiki still breaks in lacy foam across the coral reef, but the lazy beach-boys are gone. Ukeleles strum no more. The roar of planes is now an ever-present part of life on the island.

"In Honolulu and Hilo, on Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii blackout regulations are strictly enforced, and the people must be indoors at 10 p.m. Today the importance of the islands as a tourist centre is completely subordinated to the sombre purposes of war.

"As a keystone in our Pacific strategy, the Hawaiian Islands now represent the major focus of our war effort. As such, entry and departure are rigidly controlled, and those who leave are not likely to be allowed to return for the duration. . .

"The raid on December 7 completely scotched the 'it can't happen here' psychology, and Hawaii is prepared. . . . Everywhere people are working. Pearl Harbour is filled with workers. The earth is scarred and new. Everywhere there is construction—new buildings, new air raid shelters, new roads. In Honolulu the streets are always crowded—soldiers with gas masks and helmets strapped together, and sailors and civilians with gas masks.

"The large Japanese population—very important as workers and in the general economic life of the islands—is rigidly controlled and carefully watched, particularly at night, by specially constituted civilian and military battallions.

"The islands today are a grim place of beauty dedicated to one purpose—victory. Their people are determined that it won't happen here again, and from what this correspondent has seen, it won't."

Great and Grave Responsibilities

"The Eastern Army of India bears great and grave responsibilities, firstly to ensure that no aggressive intention on the part of the Japanese succeeds, and secondly when the word to advance is given, to move forward inexorably to the destruction of the enemy."

—Lt. Gen. N. M. S. IRWIN,
in a broadcast to troops of the Eastern Army, from Calcutta, on September 27.

War and India's Finances

Astonishing Accumulation of Assets

ONE of the most striking financial feats of this war has been the ability of India to pay off the bulk of its sterling debt, writes Oscar Hobson, City Editor of the *News Chronicle*. Just before the outbreak of the war, this debt stood at about £376,000,000. The only Government sterling loan still outstanding is the 3½ per cent issue, amounting to about £78,000,000. This has already been called for redemption, and will disappear next January. With this operation, £260,000,000 of India's sterling debt will have been repatriated.

In spite of this almost miraculous achievement of re-buying in three years a debt contracted over many decades of capital expansion and investment in India by this country, India has found it possible to continue accumulating sterling assets at an astonishing rate. The Reserve Bank of India held at the end of last month sterling balances and securities totalling about £290,000,000. Out of this, of course, the coming redemption of the 3½ per cent issue will have to be financed, but this operation will leave a very substantial balance in hand. The fact is that, whatever we may think of our political treatment of India, our financial treatment of that country has been generous in the extreme.

The Finance Member, Sir Jeremy Raisman, who was recently on a financial mission in London, and who has now returned to New Delhi, gave in the Central Assembly some interesting information, not on the precise nature of his mission, but on the general financial position of India. In particular he revealed that no part of the expenditure incurred in the employment of Indian troops in the Far East or in Burma has been debited to Indian revenue. On the contrary, under a special financial settlement, the British Government had undertaken charge of the following expenditure in respect of supply and defence in India: £3,000,000 for the financial year 1939–40; £40,000,000 for 1940–41; £140,000,000 for 1941–42; and a budgeted figure of £290,000,000 for 1942–43. This is quite apart from Government's undertaking to supply India free of charge with aeroplanes, vehicles, guns, etc., of an estimated value of £45,000,000 for the current year. It also excludes the American and Chinese forces in the country.

In the light of these facts, it is not altogether surprising that in purely monetary terms, India should find herself very much in credit as the result of the war. Now that the bulk of the sterling debt has been repatriated, the continued accumulation of sterling assets by India has acquired a somewhat new aspect. There may in particular be political objections from India to piling up sterling resources which can no longer be used for repatriating debt and which for the duration at least must be regarded as virtually blocked. The answer to this is, of course, that sterling will be available in the post-war period to finance public works programmes and other schemes of capital development which must sooner or later be launched in India.

Among the often unrecognized heroes of the sea are the men of the British Royal Naval mine-layers, who slip out night after night, in all weathers and under all conditions, laying minefields round the coasts of Britain and in the approaches to enemy shores. Photo shows a member of a minelayer crew fixing a "horn" to a mine.

Drive Against Corruption

FIVE YEARS penal servitude and "To be cashiered" was the sentence passed by a recent Court-Martial on Lieut. N. B. Gifford, I.A.O.C., inspection staff, Delhi Fort, for accepting bribes from contractors.

An N.C.O., Sgt. D. W. Latham, Tent-Pole Section, Delhi Fort Inspectorate, received a sentence of five years penal servitude and was discharged with ignominy for a similar offence.

Convicted of stealing Government petrol, Trooper H. Simmonds, Dragoon Guards, and Sgt. C. Bardsley, Dragoon Guards, were each sentenced to six months' detention, as were two chaukidars employed in a supply depot.

These convictions are among the achievements of the Special Staff deputed by the Government of India to combat corruption in the Defence and Supply Services. In co-operation with the provincial police and service authorities, this staff of picked investigators, drawn from almost every province of India and led by an Indian Police Officer from the Punjab with an impressive record for work of this kind, has already a number of such successes to its credit some of which are described below.

Amba Parshad, Madan Lal, Fazal Ahmad and Lachman Singh, all of Lahore, have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment and fined for offering bribes to a member of the Ordnance Inspection Depot, Lahore.

L. Karam Chand Sood, Head Clerk, R.I.A.S.C., Supply Depot, Sialkot Cantonment, was sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200 for accepting a bribe from a contractor, and Mr. Moody, Examiner, Ordnance Inspection Depot, Lahore Cantonment, has been sentenced to a fine of Rs. 300 or, in default, to three months' rigorous imprisonment for a similar offence.

For offering bribes to members of the Ordnance Inspection Depot, Ram Krishna, Proprietor of Ram Krishna & Co., Cawnpore, has been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 350.

In a large number of cases departmental action against Government servants found guilty of corruption has been taken, and 8 firms of contractors have been black-listed for offering bribes and cheating.

The introduction of petrol rationing has greatly increased the profits to be derived from stealing Government petrol and apart from other vigorous measures taken by Government, the Special Staff has been set on the track of the petrol thieves, a number of whom have already been convicted and sentenced.

HOW THE PUBLIC CAN HELP

It is emphasised that Government is not content to rest satisfied with results so far achieved, but is determined to intensify the fight against bribery and corruption—those twin evils which can do so much to sap the strength of the nation's war effort.

In this fight the whole-hearted co-operation of the public is sought, for without the full backing of public opinion, expressed in active help to the Special Anti-corruption Staff, the latter can do no more than touch the fringe of the problem.

No one who has the welfare of the country at heart can tolerate for a moment the illegal diversion into private pockets of any part of the tax-payers' money, and Government looks with confidence on public opinion to help in the drive against corruption in the Defence and Supply Services.

THEY TALK ONLY OF VICTORY

"Five million Russians have been killed, wounded or missing. At least, sixty million Russians are now slaves in Russian territory controlled by Hitler. Food in Russia this winter will be scarce, perhaps worse than scarce. Fuel will be little known this winter in millions of Russian homes. Clothing, except for the Army and for essential war workers, has nearly gone. Many vital medical supplies just do not exist. Yet no Russian talks of quitting. The Russian people have chosen victory or death. They talk only of victory."

—Mr. WENDELL WILLKIE, *in a statement to the Foreign Press, on September 26.*

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

26th Sep.—There was some enemy air activity over the south-east coast of England. Bombs were dropped at three places.

The Coastal Command shot down two enemy bombers into the Bay of Biscay.

27th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided Nazi headquarters in Oslo.

One German bomber was destroyed in raids on Britain.

28th Sep.—The Royal Air Force raided north German coastal region.

Speaking on the Second Anniversary of the Tripartite Pact, Von Ribbentrop, German Foreign Minister, said: "The enemy is still attempting to contest the positions gained by us and hard battles therefore lie ahead."

29th Sep.—According to a Stockholm report, the Germans were taking active steps to stop the rumour in Berlin that the Gestapo Chief Himmler was dead.

Hitler, making an unexpected appearance in Berlin, addressed a gathering of 12,000 officers and cadets in the Sports Palast.

30th Sep.—A high officer of the British Army broadcast from the B.B.C. another invasion warning to the French people.

1st Oct.—German aircraft dropped bombs at several places in south-western and southern England. A school was hit and 20 children were killed.

Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that very heavy losses were sustained in the raid on Dieppe.

2nd Oct.—An enemy convoy was attacked off Dutch coast by the light coastal forces and a supply ship blown up.

A small number of enemy aircraft flew over parts of East Anglia.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

26th Sep.—Diplomatic interest was focussed on Mr. Willkie's blunt statement about Soviet disappointment and dissatisfaction over the Allied failure to open a second front.

27th Sep.—The American mighty aircraft-carrier **Lexington** was launched at Quincy.

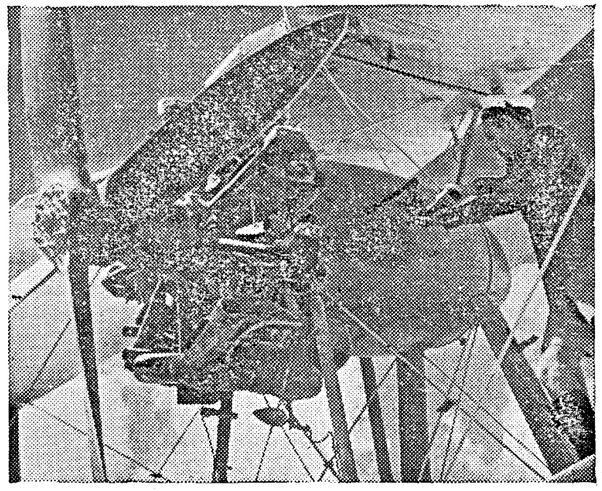
28th Sep.—A four-day running battle with Axis submarine packs in the mid-Atlantic led to the loss of the Canadian destroyer **Ottawa.**

29th Sep.—H.M.S. **Lulworth** rammed and sank an Italian submarine in the Atlantic.

1st Oct.—Mr. Macdonald, Canadian Minister of the Navy, announced the sinking of four U-boats and the probable sinking of two others.

An Icelandic ship was bombed and machine-gunned by a German flying boat off the east coast of Iceland.

2nd Oct.—Commenting on Hitler's speech on the winter-help campaign in Berlin, Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, said: "Evidently he is desperately preparing his people for greater hardships. It is a quiet come down from loud boasts and bombasts."



Amphibian Naval aircraft of the Vickers-Supermarine Walrus class—here being started up by a British Naval Air mechanic—have been doing magnificent work in rescuing air crews, and protection of British Naval convoys in the Mediterranean.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

29th Sep.—General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, speaking at a dinner in New Delhi, said: "Ever since the loss of Burma, I have been planning its reoccupation because strategically it is one of the most important areas in the war."

30th Sep.—Brig. Chennault, Chief of the United States Air Force in China, in a press interview, said: "Japanese dreams of conquering India before the Germans will be unattainable while the Americans continue to hit Japan's conquests from bases in China."

1st Oct.—Plans for the rebuilding of Burma were discussed by the British War Cabinet.

2nd Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked Akyab. Mandalay was bombed.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

26th Sep.—There was an air raid alert in Gibraltar. A small number of Italian aircraft flew over the rock.

Enemy working parties and patrols were attacked and dispersed in the Western Desert.

Troops in Madagascar still under Vichy orders retired into the southern part. M. Annet, Governor-General of Madagascar, who left the capital, arrived at a "fairly inaccessible place" in Madagascar.

27th Sep.—Five enemy ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

Allied aircraft attacked enemy landing grounds in the Sidi Haneish area.

The headquarters of the Vichy Governor-General of Madagascar, M. Annet, were established at Fort Dauphin.

28th Sep.—Tobruk was attacked again. The dock area and port facilities were bombed.

29th Sep.—German planes bombed and machine-gunned Cairo.

30th Sep.—Black-out regulations in Durban were partly relaxed.

Mr. H. G. Lawrence, South African Union Minister of Interior, in the course of a speech in Capetown, said: "Neither Germany nor Japan will have overlooked South Africa's strategic importance. . . It is known that the Japanese could send submarines from Tokyo to Capetown without refuelling. These submarines could transport smaller submarines."

The last remaining port in the southern part of Madagascar, Tulear, surrendered without opposition to the British forces.

1st Oct.—The Royal Air Force raided Sicily.

The British forces captured Behenjy in Madagascar.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26th Sep.—Soviet troops still held up the German onslaught on Stalingrad. Over 25,000 Germans were killed in the battle of Stalingrad during last week.

The Red Army continued to make headway on the Western front. Mr. Wendell Willkie visited Rzhev front. According to the Moscow Radio, Major-General Rettan, the German Commanding Officer and other high officers were killed at Rzhev.

27th Sep.—Stalin's city stood firm.

The Germans dropped parachute mines in the Volga. The Nazi army was pushed back near Mozdok.

A Soviet submarine sank the Rumanian destroyer **Marasesti** in the Black Sea.

28th Sep.—The Soviet army drove a wedge in the Nazi lines north-west of the city, compelling von Bock to divert more men and tanks and planes to his left flank.

In a written statement handed to the foreign press, Mr. Wendell Willkie stated: "I am now convinced that we can best help by establishing a real second front in Europe with Great Britain at the earliest possible moment that our military leaders will approve."

29th Sep.—The battle swayed to and fro in Stalingrad. Two more streets were wrested from the Germans.

An enemy transport was sunk in the Black Sea.

The Russians crossed the Neva river and advanced east of Stalingrad.

Violent air battles took place over the Soviet Arctic base of Murmansk.

U.S. Tribute to Australia

"In every theatre of war before Japan's entry, Australian airmen played a prominent part. Japan's entry into the war and the immediate threat to Australia necessitated an immediate revision in training. New schools were opened for operational flying. So well had the groundwork been laid that Australia immediately came into the picture as one of the world's major air training centres."

—From a U.S. Navy Dispatch to the "New York Times."

30th Sep.—Marshal Timoshenko launched a second 'relief offensive' south of Stalingrad.

The Vichy radio quoted unconfirmed rumours that Marshal von List had taken over command from von Bock.

1st Oct.—Fierce battles raged in the Steppes along the Don river north-west of Stalingrad. The initiative remained with Timoshenko.

The Moscow Radio reported that the Rumanian troops massacred 25,000 Russians in Odessa. They were locked in the barracks which were blown up.

2nd Oct.—The position was still very grave in Stalingrad. The Russians advanced in the south and the Germans made a thrust in the north-west.

Speaking on it, M. Laval said: "I shall not tolerate that the authority of the Government is attacked."

M. Laval's plan to get skilled French workers to fight on Germany's war production front was announced in a Vichy Decree.

1st Oct.—The German-controlled Paris Radio stated that a new contingent of 500 workers left for Germany from Paris.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

26th Sep.—The Japanese drive from Myola and Naoro was at a standstill. Allied fighters strafed Kokoda.

Lord Beaverbrook, British Supply Minister to the United States, stated that the production of British tanks had been doubled in the past six months. Photo shows: Workmen riveting tank turrets in a British tank factory.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

28th Sep.—A small Egyptian merchantman was torpedoed and sunk by a submarine about mid-August in the Caribbean Sea.

1st Oct.—The Argentine Chamber by voting, recommended a rupture with the Axis.

* * * *

SHIPPING

27th Sep.—A medium-sized Axis merchantman was hit off the Dutch coast.

29th Sep.—The British submarine **Thorn** was lost.

1st Oct.—The British 600-ton corvette **Dianthus** rammed a German U-boat.

Two United States naval transports were sunk in the south Pacific.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

28th Sep.—M. Benoit-Mechin, Secretary of State in Laval's Government, resigned.

AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

"Our enemies in the Pacific understood the significance of this change in naval warfare and started the war with superiority in carriers. But no country in the world can employ these weapons as effectively as the American Navy. This was proved first by the Battle of the Coral Sea, and later, by the Battle of Midway and by subsequent actions in the Pacific."

—Rear-Admiral FREDERICK C. SHERMAN, *at the launching of the* "LEXINGTON," *on September 26.*

27th Sep.—United States planes raided Gizo Island in the Solomons.

Jap aerodrome in Hanoi was raided.

28th Sep.—The Japanese withdrew in the Owen Stanley area.

General Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, said: "British and American plans for the counter-offensive are beginning to take a more definite form. The real developments of them will be seen in the future."

The Chinese advanced in Chekiang and penetrated deep into enemy territory.

29th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in China.

Japanese attacks were repulsed in Hupeh and Kwangtung.

Allied planes raided Kiska. Seven Japanese sea-planes were destroyed.

The Allies attacked Rabaul and a Japanese ship was hit.

30th Sep.—The Navy department, Washington, announced that since Friday, 42 German planes had been brought down in the Solomons.

The United States Air Force in China attacked Japanese installations in Wanting and Tengchung.

1st Oct.—The Allies advanced in New Guinea and captured Iorabaiwa Ridge.

2nd Oct.—The Allies took Nauro in their successful drive in New Guinea.

The Chinese attacked Lanchi.

MADRAS CASUALTIES

L. No. 123.

We regret to announce the following Madras Casualties which occurred on various dates:—

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Died.

Indian Engineers.

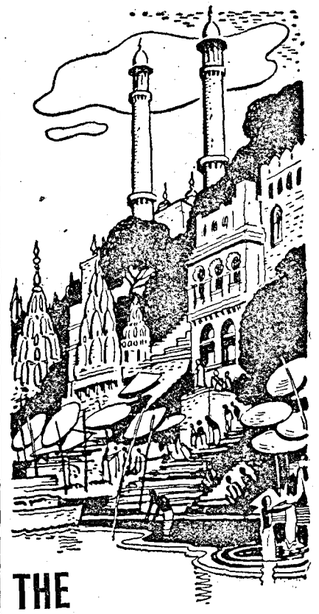
49832	Hav.	Kalimuthu Thevar.

R.I.A.S.C.

SR/ 768498	L/Nk.	Bal Raj.
MT/ 894047	Sepoy.	Balamuthu, N.
181583	Bellow/Boy	Gul Hussain Shah.
MT/ 948655	Sepoy.	Kanda Samy.

Aux Pioneer Corps.

187002	B.Q.M.H.	John Ratnam, S.
116709	Lab.	Venkaiah, K.



THE LOVED NAMES WILL BE CHANGED

IMMEDIATELY the Japanese *took Singapore,* that great city was given a Japanese name. If the Japanese should capture our towns and holy places the same will happen here. Places with deep historic and religious associations will be desecrated and given Japanese labels — by law. The Japanese are not going to respect Indian sentiments. Are we of this great land going to allow such treatment without a blow? Never! Let us resist these barbarians with our combined might.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

against the Japanese

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1942 No. 5

RENDEZVOUS IN RANGOON

H.E. SIR REGINALD DORMAN-SMITH

- We have no doubt that we will soon recapture Burma, and I can tell you that the day we again establish ourselves there, we will start reconstructing the whole country
- Here you are all exiles from your own country. I have no doubt that you are greatly worried as to what is happening now to your families, and I know you all want to get back to your homes as quickly as possible
- I am fully convinced that, as things are moving now, the day is not very far distant when we will meet again in Rangoon

—H.E. SIR REGINALD DORMAN-SMITH, *Governor of Burma, addressing the personnel of the Royal Burma Navy at Calcutta, on October 4*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
The "Stay Put" Issue: A National War Front Survey.	5
Good News!	7
Parcels for Troops	8
Destruction of Germany by Air: General Eaker's Plans.	9
Tobruk and Jalo Exploits	10
France in Fragments	11
Shipyards gaining on Submarines	14
Poland's Martyrdom	15
Turban Tale: Headgear made history ..	16
Vladivostok: Key-point of Eastern War ..	17
American Ingenuity	18
In Occupied Europe	19
Long-range light day bomber	20
New "Leave City"	21
Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

India—From the Defensive to the Offensive

We have referred in our last issue in some detail to General Wavell's address to the press correspondents and drew attention to the definite change-over from the defensive to the offensive outlook on the Indian front. A master of brevity of speech, caution of forecast, and surprise of action, General Wavell has told India to prepare for an attack on Burma. But a Japanese attack from Burma on India must not be ruled out of the bounds of possibility. It is important, however, to note that an allied attack on Burma from India is now a more definite possibility. Six months ago General Wavell bluntly admitted the mistakes that have been made in Malaya and the losses that might further be expected, and still left in his audience a feeling of increased confidence in his own powers. His confident tone about the re-occupation of Burma and his revelation that he had been planning it for some considerable time indicate the opening of an important operation of far-reaching consequences in the near future. Mr. Wendell Willkie was evidently referring to this when he stated at Chungking on Sunday last that he regarded a bold offensive action in the Asiatic zones as important as the opening of a Second Front. There have been troop reinforcements in India as well as many indications that the Allied air strength here is mounting rapidly. The Japs have got to be expelled from Burma and the isolation of Free China has got to be ended. It is then that the forces of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek can be made into an Allied spear-head against the land corridor which links Japan with her southern conquests.

* * * *

Scorched Earth Policy: China and India

China has been carrying on a magnificent fight against the Japanese agression. In a message to the United Aid to the China Fund meeting addressed by Sir Stafford Cripps in London, Dr. Wellington Koo, the Chinese Ambassador, said that during the past five years China had been carrying on the fight against a powerful war machine in Asia. There had perhaps never been a struggle in which the opponents were so unequally matched. China was convinced, in spite of her great suffering and tribulations, that her cause was a just one and it was the common cause of all liberty-loving people. Dr. Koo added that China "has now the satisfaction of seeing her resistance merged into a joint fight of the democracies against the forces of barbarism and tyranny and the cementing of this partnership has given her therefore inspiration and added impetus to play an active part in the joint struggle of the United Nations." One of the important features of this struggle is the scorched earth policy followed by China. This policy which was also followed with considerable success by Russia has been the subject of controversy in India and the subject-matter of Axis canards. It may be stated clearly that this policy is not considered suitable for India. Scorched earth means not merely a destruction of objects of military value such as bridges, railways and munitions factories, but also the burning of crops and homesteads, the destruction of the whole countryside and the emigration of the whole population, as exemplified by the great trek of the Chinese to Western China. There is a sharp distinction between the scorched earth policy and the denial of military facilities to the enemy. Reference was made to this by General Hartley when replying to questions in the Council of State on September 26th. He said that instead of the scorched earth policy, there will be the recognised military policy of denial of facilities by the destruction of *whatever may help the enemy*. This is quite different from the destruction of *what will enable the civil population to live*.

* * * *

Air Action Against Rioters in India

General Hartley also contradicted the Axis canards of wholesale bombing of towns in India. He said that riotous crowds have been machine-gunned from the air since August 9th at four places in Bihar or Bengal and at one place in an Indian State. All those places were outside towns and on none of them were bombs dropped. The action taken was preventive and not punitive in each case. A plane can fire its machine-guns over the heads of rioters or saboteurs, or direct its bullets at people actually engaged in disorder. In both cases, the fire is controlled, and not indiscriminate. Bombs cannot be dropped near a crowd with a view to scaring it, without actually injuring people. That is to say, bombing in any inhabited place is to some extent indiscriminate. The difference between machine-gunning from the air and indiscriminate bombing is the difference between Allied and Axis technique. It may be recalled that Ribbentrop boasted that he would cow down occupied Europe with dive-bombers and tanks. In contrast to this method of indiscriminate terror what is used in India is the method of discriminate prevention. In other words, only that degree of force is being used which is necessary to quell disorder.

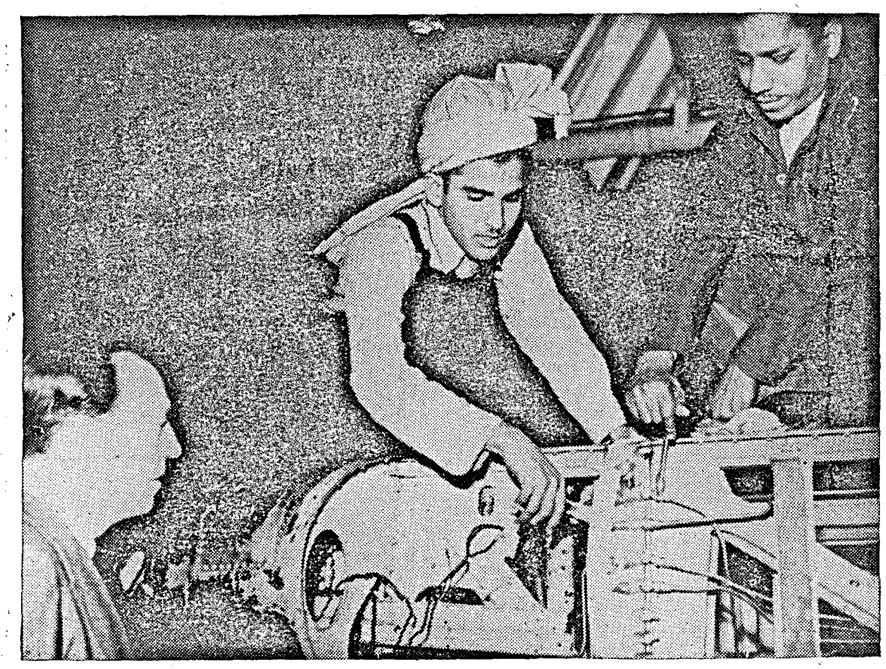
* * * *

Japan's Next Move—A Problem of Consolidation

What will be Japan's next move? It seems from what is happening in the Far East that she is focussing her attention on the immediate objective of cutting the communications between America and the Allied base in Australia. The concentration of the Japanese forces in the south-west Pacific, her repeated attempts to regain foothold in the

NO HAJ PILGRIMAGE BY SEA ROUTE

In view of the existing danger from enemy action to which pilgrim ships and their passengers would be exposed, the Government of India have decided not to arrange the Haj Pilgrimage this year by the sea route. This decision, it is realised, will inevitably cause severe disappointment to many intending pilgrims, but the Government of India are clearly of opinion that the risk to their lives at the hands of an enemy who will have no regard for civilian lives nor pay any attention to the peaceful religious purpose of the voyage is such that they would not be justified in permitting the sailings. They have consulted representatives of the Port Haj Committees, members of the Central Haj Committee who were available in Delhi and other representative Muslims, who are agreed that the circumstances are such as to render the decision inevitable.



A trainee from India who went out to Britain with the fifth batch of Bevin Boys at work on a plane wing, watched by Mr. Robert Cary, M.P. (left), Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for India.

Solomons and her determined drive towards the key-point of Port Moresby—all these make Japan's intentions clear. Her move now seems to be to retain and consolidate the territories that have been occupied by her forces. A vast empire has been conquered, and from Indo-China to the Indo-Burmese frontier and from the Philippines to New Guinea, her sway extends, but this territorial *bloc* is exposed to attack from four different quarters, namely, from Vladivostok from the north, from full-scale naval action in the Pacific, from Indo-Burmese frontier in the west, and from Australia in the south.

So far as the first source of danger to Japan is concerned, this cannot become an actuality unless and until a war breaks out between Japan and Russia. There have been rumours of a possible Japanese invasion of Siberia, during the last many weeks. Japan has concentrated one-third of her land forces in the north. It is officially declared that the dismissal of Togo as Foreign Minister did not indicate any change in Japan's fixed policy of neutrality towards Russia, but this declaration is as trustworthy as the pledge given in Washington by the Japanese representatives immediately before the assault on Pearl Harbour. Whatever this be, Soviet Russia is vigilant and ready. The Red Army of the Far East is formidable in numbers and equipment, and it has been announced that the reserves transferred from Siberia to the Stalingrad front come from Western, and not from Eastern Siberia. This does not, however, mean that a Japanese attack on Siberia may not be launched in the immediate future. It is stated that the Japanese place the elimination of the sea and air menace from Vladivostok against Tokyo and other industrial centres of Japan high up on the list of priorities. But this rests on the basis that Russia is contemplating an attack on Japan. Russia avoided this over a year ago when her resources in the West were in full strength, and now she is in the middle of a life-and-death struggle with the Axis armies.

The whole attitude of Japan now seems to depend upon the extent to which Germany will be able to cripple the Russian military machine in the immediate future and the pressure which the Allies will be able to exert on the Japanese in the south and west. Japan will have to see some advantage for herself as well as for the Axis as a whole, before she attacks Siberia. That has been the very basis of totalitarian policy. It is hinted from neutral sources that Germany is desperately urging Japan for that relief and aid which is being withheld. But these reports must be treated with reserve. For it is to the advantage of Germany to create such an impression in case Japan's attack in the north is part of the Axis plan. As regards India there seems to be no concrete sign of a major move for invasion, for no heavy troop reinforcements have been despatched to Burma by Japan to seal the western gateway of the conquered area. Further, there has been a considerable withdrawal of troops from the provinces of Chekiang leaving two of the "bomb-Tokyo" air-fields to revert to the Chinese. After this withdrawal, the Tokyo boasts of a knock-out blow to Chungking have ceased.

* * * *

South-West Pacific: Japan and Port Moresby

The South-West Pacific area may, therefore, be stated to be the main centre of attention for Japan. Conquest of New Guinea and its keypoint, Port Moresby, and the re-occupation of the Solomon islands seem to be the essential steps in an indispensable programme of consolidation. It may reasonably be supposed that Japan has concentrated her maximum possible hitting power by sea, air and land in this area as against the great strength of the Americans and the Australians. A grim struggle has begun in front of Port Moresby and it is likely to continue with growing fury. But the Japanese are faced with the prospect of losing the initiative, upon the retention of which all their gains depend. Though the battle for Port Moresby is most important, it is well to remember that events from the South-West Pacific, on the frontier of India, on the border of Siberia, and in the streets of Stalingrad are all pieces of a single mosaic pattern.

INCREASING JAPANESE DILEMMA

Japan's many reverses in the Coral Sea, at Midway, in the Solomons and in China have increased the dilemma in which Japanese strategy has been placed by the length of her communications, writes the Military correspondent of *Dagens Nyheter*, Swedish paper.

He adds: Japan has four alternatives for the next attack: Australia, India, China or Russia. An attempt to attack Chungking from Burma failed, and Japan burnt her fingers in the Indian Ocean. An offensive against India on land seems improbable. Japan is wondering whether to attack Russia and make a new enemy when she already has her hands full. Japan's air force is insufficient for simultaneous attack on Australia and Russia. Several of Japan's undertakings have obviously been badly planned and prepared and there are signs that all is not right with the Japanese war plans.

The "Stay Put" Issue

A National War Front Survey

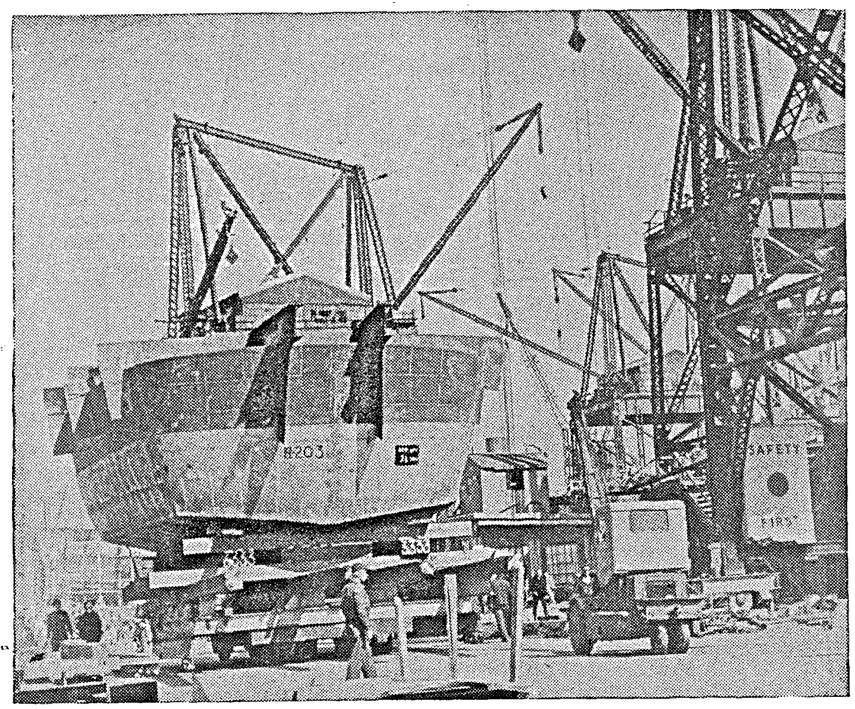
WHEN a fleet of enemy men-of-war and transports were in the Bay last April, the Government, and the people of Madras, had to think quickly. Owing to pardonable unpreparedness, they thought separately and the effects of the process were too variegated for universal satisfaction.

More than six months have passed; the south-west monsoon is over; the Japanese are still in Burma and the Andamans; and people's thoughts naturally turn to a possible repetition of the threat that once caused such confusion and distress, and wonder what has been done in the meantime to meet such an eventuality.

'A very great deal' is the correct answer to such a question. The likelihood of enemy invasion, or even of spasmodic raids, may be remote, but their *possibility* is obvious, and the public will like to be assured that Civil, Military and National War Front authorities have co-ordinated relevant ideas into a general plan to be readily applicable to circumstances which we may reasonably hope will not arise, but which are patently still on the *tapis*.

There are two main factors to be considered. The first is Public Order and the second is Military Efficiency, and the latter is largely dependent on the former. The National War Front has for some time past been inculcating the doctrine of "Stay Put" into the districts of the Presidency, and so this article may not come amiss to the citizens of Madras itself, for, despite the implications of the details which follow, "Stay Put" is a wholesome slogan for any man, as many a sufferer from the aimless, comfortless and useless migrations that took place in April will agree.

From the general point of view an unauthorized and ill-considered evacuation may mean the total dislocation of normal existence—factories stop, supplies stop, the war-machine is hampered, the whole war-effort hazarded. More personally, our sense of duty demands



The 10,500-ton Liberty freighter slid into the water at a U.S. West Coast ship-building yard just 240 hours after the laying of the keel. To quicken the pace of ship-building, U.S. shipyards are employing new and progressive operating devices.

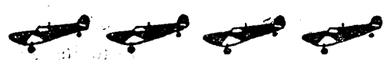
that every man who is ordinarily of use to the community (and only the too young, too old or those whose escort is positively necessary for womenfolk, can escape this sense of duty) should stay at his work. Self interest alone should tell people that where services and supplies are kept working, where shops and customers remain, where there are A.R.P. protection, medical attention and police security to look to, they must be better off than as homeless, unprotected and hungry stragglers on strange railway stations, or in over-crowded mufassal villages. In short, business—an interest life—a what you will—goes on, if the citizen stays put.

The other consideration—Military efficiency—may be less obvious, but it is even more important. Recently there has been a partial demonstration of the military resources now available for our defence, or rather for the destruction of the enemy, but the average man has little idea of the amount of space and freedom from obstruction which a large army requires for its efficiency, and we have a very large army indeed within campaigning reach of Madras. It should be taken as axiomatic that the army MUST have first and unhampered claim on all communications, railways, roads, bridges, telegraph lines and so on. They cannot afford to allow the least congestion of these communications by civilians; there simply *cannot* be swarms of jutkas, bullock carts, pack animals, or samans on handcarts to hamper their speed when moving to a battle front. How to defeat the armed forces of the enemy by the power of their own arms is, and must be, the army's sole consideration, and to this end, even if the Japanese never come, the army must be kept fit for their coming. So, in the daily exercise of their duties, as also on frequent large-scale military manœuvres, the normal life and conveniences of the civilians they are here to protect, must rightly take second place. That is why the military authorities whole-heartedly support the 'Stay Put' slogan.

Is this a counsel of perfection? Will the nerve of the people of Madras be so steady under stress that civilian and military activities alike can hope to remain unhandicapped? Let doubters then suppose that a couple of air raids start a panic, and that more than the expected efflux of women and children and aged and infirm feel prompted suddenly and simultaneously too look for more secure resting places. They may also suppose that public opinion will, with familiar vehemence, demand to know "what Government have done about it". Now although the facts were published, many have forgotten that certainly two months before the enemy last arrived in the Bay, Government had constructed large temporary camps with food and other supplies, water, medical and sanitary arrangements at half a dozen places within 24 hours march or so of Madras. Three lakhs sixty thousand people—that was the number for whom rice and vegetables, shelter and water for a week was ready then! So, though the sites of those camps and the duration of stay allowed in them may have been altered since, it can reasonably be assumed that after six months' breathing space "Evacuation" arrangements are now better rather than worse.

The facts are that in a certain western direction (the precise road will, of course, receive timely publication) the timid wayfarer will find rest and shelter every 20 miles. But he will find no trains! all vehicles are bespoken for essential traffic plus military requirements—and he will have to travel by a route which will not interfere with military dispositions. Moreover, he will have to travel light for, except possibly for a short distance on one road, there will be no bullock carts or jutkas or any wheeled traffic (except automobiles which can speedly be cleared from any given strip of country). Finally, those who choose to hike, will hike for a long way, for the camps will not entertain for more than one night. Inconvenient? Yes, *mais c'est la guerre*—and it is hard to see how a Government which has undertaken to tell the public of Madras if, when, and how they *must* go, can be expected to do more for those who go before they need.

Let us sum up then: (i) If trouble comes and we repeat that there is quite a good chance of its NOT COMING—duty, common sense, Government's wishes, and the Army's efficiency point to every man who is of use to his friends, his office, his service or his community, STAYING PUT! (ii) If rumour and panic should gain the upper hand, and the feeble-spirited decide to make a journey, Government have made provision for them. (iii) If the worst comes to the worst and this ancient city has to be evacuated (which may the gods forfend!) Government's dispositions are equally ready. (iv) In this time of War, all these circumstances are subject to the requirements of the army. If people behave sensibly the army will not interfere with the adequate civil arrangements for the security of the ordinary man, but they will insist on not being cramped and hampered in the field of action, and every regulation relating to communications should be as faithfully adhered to by the layman as it will be rigorously enforced by the soldier. We are at War—every one of us in this City and Province. This War is a Total War, and what we have written is merely something of what Total War means.



Good News!

As from September 1st, 1942, the basic pay of all Indian other ranks and of enrolled non-combatants is increased by Rs. 2 per month.

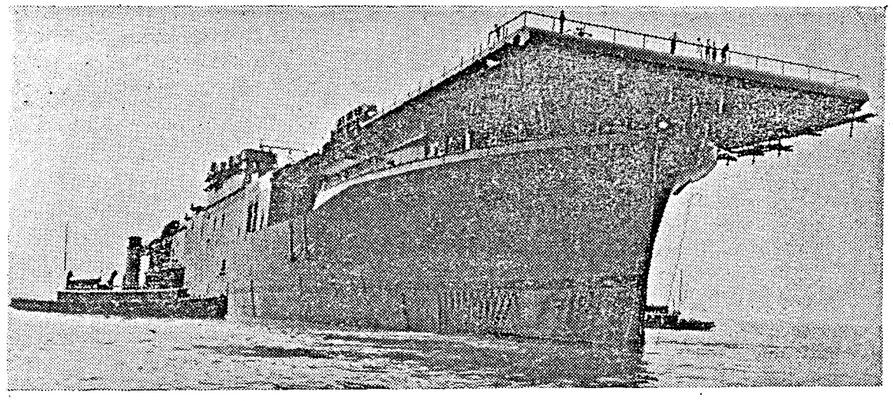
Proficiency pay, hitherto granted after one year's service, and giving an addition of Rs. 2-8-0 per month, will now be payable after six months at the rate of Re. 1 per month and after a year at Rs. 3-8-0 per month. The rules governing good-service pay for N.C.O.'s have been modified so that it may be drawn after one, two or three years service, instead of two, four and six years as formerly.

In addition, in recognition of the effect of the recent rise in prices, the messing allowance for Indian soldiers on peace time ration scales in Indian stations is raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per month. These increases, which represent an addition to the Indian Army pay-bill of roughly 5·3 crores a year, constitute the third direct increase of pay to the Indian soldier since the outbreak of war.

RECONSTRUCTION FUND

Improvements in pay previously introduced during the present war included one relating to present and two of future benefits. In regard to the former the messing allowance was raised from 10 annas per month to Rs. 2 per month. To safeguard his future the rate of deferred pay was increased from Re. 1 to Rs. 3 per month and a Reconstruction or Resettlement Fund was started to which Government credited Rs. 2 per month for every serving soldier to be used for the benefit of the soldier and his community after the war. Incidentally, it might be mentioned that free issues of clothing have been substituted for the old kit allowance, under which, after an original free issue, the soldier received Rs. 2 per month as an allowance from which he was expected to replace his clothing.

The minimum pay of an Indian serving soldier is made up of a number of rates. His basic pay on enlistment, including the new increase, is now Rs. 18 per month. After six months, in addition to this, he can receive an extra Rs. 2-8-0 per month. If not on field service, in addition to both the above, he gets a messing allowance of Rs. 3 per month and a hair-cutting and washing allowance of 10 annas per month. Apart from this he is credited throughout with Rs. 3 a month Deferred Pay, and Government also pay Rs. 2 on his behalf into the Reconstruction or Resettlement Fund. Therefore, per soldier, not on Field Service, Government pay to him or on his behalf Rs. 26-10-0 per month and after a year Rs. 30-2-0.



The 25,000-ton ESSEX, first of a scheduled class of eleven similar aircraft carriers, launched in the eastern United States. U.S. shipyards set new world records in July by delivering 71 ships of 790,300 dead-weight tons.

HIGHER SCALE ON FIELD SERVICE

When the soldier goes on Field Service in India he receives the higher scale of rations and batta at the rate of Rs. 5, so that a soldier on Field Service with 12 months' service earns Rs. 31-8-0. If he goes on service overseas he gets a further Rs. 7 per month Expatriation allowance. Thus, an Indian Soldier on Field Service overseas who has been in the army for 21 months or more earns a total of Rs. 38-8-0. Overseas, in hard cash, the Sepoy receives Rs. 33-8-0, the L/Naik Rs. 35-8-0, the Naik Rs. 46 to Rs. 48, and the Havildar Rs. 49 to Rs. 53.

In addition to his pay and allowance he is fed, clothed and accommodated free, receives free medical attendance and lighting, free travel when granted furlough, and travel concessions when granted leave. He is exempt from local taxation for municipal services, and when necessary receives free fuel. At a conservative estimate these concessions in kind represent at least Rs. 21 per month in cash to the man not on Field service and a correspondingly larger amount to the man on Field or Overseas service.

Although the supplies and services received in kind by the soldier not only represent a substantial saving to his pocket but also protect him to a large extent from price fluctuations, Government recognize that the soldier, particularly the man who has to maintain a family or dependants, is not wholly immune from the effects of the general rise in prices. It is in order still further to protect the soldier and improve his position that Government have now decided to afford these new benefits.

Increases granted since September 1939 now involve an additional annual expenditure of between 10 and 11 crores.

Parcels for Troops

◆

BIGGER and better parcels may now be sent to troops serving overseas. Parcels which are too bulky to be sent by the Postal Service are now handled by a special Military Forwarding Organization, which has been set up at Bombay and Karachi.

Whereas the weight of parcels which may be sent by the postal service is limited to 22 lb. (25 lb. in the case of Aden), the Military Forwarding Organization will deal with parcels exceeding the above limits but not exceeding 56 lb.

Parcels for despatch through this organization will be sent by rail to the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay (for troops located in Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Abyssinia, Eritrea, Kenya and Great Britain) or Karachi [for troops located in Iraq and Persia(Iran)] and will be addressed as follows :—

1st Line—" Number, Rank and Name." 2nd Line—" Appointment or sub unit (Sqdn., Battery or Coy.)." 3rd Line—" Unit (Regiment)." 4th Line—" C/o. M.F.O. at——." 5th Line—" Through Commander, Sub Area,— ".

In the blank space following " M.F.O. at " the words " Port of discharge Middle East " should be inserted if the parcel is intended for troops located in Egypt, Palestine or Syria; " Massawa " will be inserted if the parcel is intended for troops in Abyssinia or Eritrea; " Mombassa " for troops in Kenya; " Basra " for troops in Iraq and Persia (Iran), and " Port of Discharge U.K." for Indian troops in Britain.

Parcels for other than Indian Army personnel will *not* be accepted for carriage to the U.K. and parcels will *not* be sent to Dominions, Colonies, or foreign countries other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Parcels will be marked " M.F.O." by senders in red letters approximately two inches in height. Carriage within India will be prepaid by the sender, but no charge will be made for conveyance from the embarkation port to the destination overseas. Parcels will be carried at the owner's risk.

The railway receipt, together with a copy of the packing note or invoice, or, in the case of private parcels, a statement declaring the contents, will be forwarded to the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay/Karachi, on the same day as the parcel is despatched.

Parcels received by the Commander, Base Sub Area, Bombay/Karachi, which do not conform to the above requirements will be returned to the sender " Freight to pay."

CHINA'S FUTURE

" We think, sooner or later, China is bound to kick the Japanese from the mainland of Asia, including, of course, Manchuria. From that point we look forward to China going ahead and becoming a strong military nation . . . and organizing a big peace-time industrial set-up, for lifting the standard of living of the people. If they do those two things, China will become a great continental Power, while Japan will be cut down to the status of an off-shore island Power . . . Looking further into the future, it seems more than possible that in the 21st century China will blossom out as a dominant Power in Asia if not in the world."

—THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, *in an editorial.*

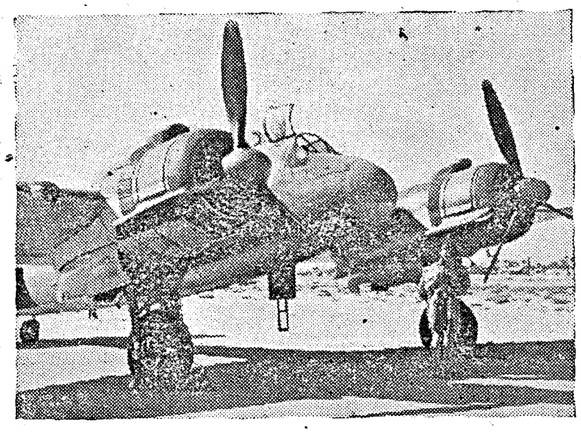
Destruction of Germany by Air

◆

General Eaker's Plans

◆

IMPORTANT new facts about the plans of the United States Air Force in Europe and the methods by which in combination with the Royal Air Force they hope to bring about the destruction of Hitler's fighting machine were given by their Bomber Chief, General Ira C. Eaker, in an exclusive interview with the Aeronautical correspondent of the *Daily Mail.*



Here is a British " Beaufighter." This most versatile of all aircraft, is used as a night fighter, a long range day fighter, an escort fighter, convoy protector and ground-target attacker. Its 1,400 h.p. engines sweep this 9-ton giant fighter into combat at a speed of well over 330 m.p.h.

General Eaker's full title is : Commanding General Eighth Bomber Command, the United States Army Air Force.

He spoke with frankness and began by giving this heartening piece of news : " There are ," he said, " enough aerodromes in the British Isles now, built or building, to accommodate all the allied air forces needed for the destfuction of Germany."

Asked whether the phrase " the destruction of Germany " needed qualifying, he replied : " I believe it is possible to destroy the enemy from the air. By destroying his aircraft factories, you can put an end to his air force. By destroying his munition plants and communications, you can bring his armies to a halt. By destroying his shipyards, you can make it impossible for him to build submarines. There is nothing that can be destroyed by gunfire which cannot be destroyed by bombs. The only things that are not within range are the underground factories and submarine pens.

" But it is still possible to deal with these because everything built underground must come to surface for distribution. The German work people must have houses to live in and the utility services to keep them alive. These are very vulnerable to air attack. No man is going to be happy about going underground to work when he knows that his home may be destroyed and his family wiped out in his absence.

" It is like saying that you can't destroy a submarine with bombs when it is 200 feet below the surface of water. May be, you can't but then a submarine cannot stay under water indefinitely. It must show itself sooner or later.

OUR MOST POWERFUL MEANS

" It should be recognized that air power is one of the most powerful means we have to win the war. We should of course use every weapon—except one—but don't let us miscalculate the power of air. The winning side in this war will be one that has the biggest and the most effective air force."

General Eaker talked specifically of his bombing plans and discussed the Flying Fortresses under his command. He was with those bombers when they made their first raid on Europe. He knows what he is talking about from practice as well as theory.

General Eaker went on : " There is no opportunity for hitting the enemy in strength that will not be investigated and demonstrated by the United States Bombers within the next few months. There is hardly a corner of Germany we will not reach."

General Eaker said frankly that some phases of his programme would require bigger forces than were at present available. These, however, will be rapidly assembled. He also indicated that the Americans might not confine themselves solely to day bombing. It was, however, a happy coincidence that the Royal Air Force habitually bombed by night. In this way, the Americans could supplement their work. "Two good reasons" he said "make this highly desirable. First it would reduce congestion in air space and aerodrome space which would be difficult to avoid if the Allied air forces were operating in force at the same time.

Secondly, it would prevent the German defences from getting any rest. They would have to double their strength. No body could be efficient working 24 hours of the day."

AREA BOMBING

General Eaker was impressed with the results of the "area bombing" practised by the Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force. It had, he thought, much greater effect on civilian morale than day-light precision bombing, so far employed by the Fortresses. People soon learned that when bombers came over by day, their attack would be confined to precise targets. The very uncertainty of "area bombing" by night was tremendously un-nerving for the civilian population.

"Both types of bombing should be continued," declared the General.

When asked whether the Fortresses had yet had sufficient opportunity to prove their defensive ability against the German fighters, he referred to their experience at Rotterdam. The Fortresses had no fighter escort, while over the target, where they were attacked by something like 100 fighters. Yet the Fortresses carried out their job and returned home without loss. Many of the enemy fighters were not so fortunate.

Discussing the conditions in winter, he said that there would be fewer days on which high altitude precision bombing would be possible. Then he laid this principle: "It is much better to bomb heavily and effectively on a few days which suit you, rather than to peck away in dribbles in unsuitable conditions."

"But," he added "it should not be assumed that we are committed to high level bombing. The United States army air force will bomb anywhere in any way that the weather indicates is the most suitable. Contrary to the general belief the weather can be made a friend in air attack. We don't look upon it as unfriendly. Clouds for instance can be exploited for cover and this is more often possible by day than by night."

Tobruk and Jalo Exploits

◆

It is one of the minor tragedies of this war that many of the best "stories" which are often also the bravest and brightest exploits of our armed forces must for various reasons remain untold or at least only hinted at. Such is the case to-day, writes the *Times* Special Correspondent in the Western Desert.

Behind the terse and unrevealing sentence in the announcement, "Our desert forces have carried out successful operations over 500 miles behind the enemy's front"—an announcement on which official sources remain obstinately silent—lies one of the most dashing operations undertaken in this theatre of war for some time. All that can be said to amplify the extremely uncommunicative announcement is to emphasize that these operations took place 500 miles inside the enemy's lines.

At the same time as our air and naval forces were attacking Tobruk on the night of September 13, our mobile patrols, having gone through the enemy's forward positions, trekked hundreds of miles across uncharted desert where they might at any moment run into enemy patrols and positions, and reached the enemy's main rear base and aerodromes at Benghazi and Barce. Stealing in silently in pitch darkness, they destroyed more than 30 enemy aircraft and did other damage to his administrative machine. Their presence could not then be concealed, and the alarmed and enraged enemy attacked on a huge scale, putting in against half-seen and swiftly moving patrols the fury of concentrated air and land attack. Our patrols had accomplished their mission, however, and they withdrew successfully.

JALO GARRISON SHOT UP

Two nights later other columns not only attacked the *isolated* oasis of Jalo hundreds of miles away down in the southern part of the Libyan desert, but actually occupied it long enough to destroy vast dumps of ammunition and supplies stored there and entirely to dislocate the lines of communication. The enemy garrison was badly "shot up," and, when their task was completed and large enemy reinforcements, German as well as Italian, had arrived, our forces withdrew in parade ground order, and they have now arrived at their bases.

These magnificent exploits are part and parcel of a systematic plan of damaging and disrupting the enemy's supply arrangements, and this is preventing—or at least delaying—Rommel's immediate task of building up his battered Afrika Korps.

France in Fragments

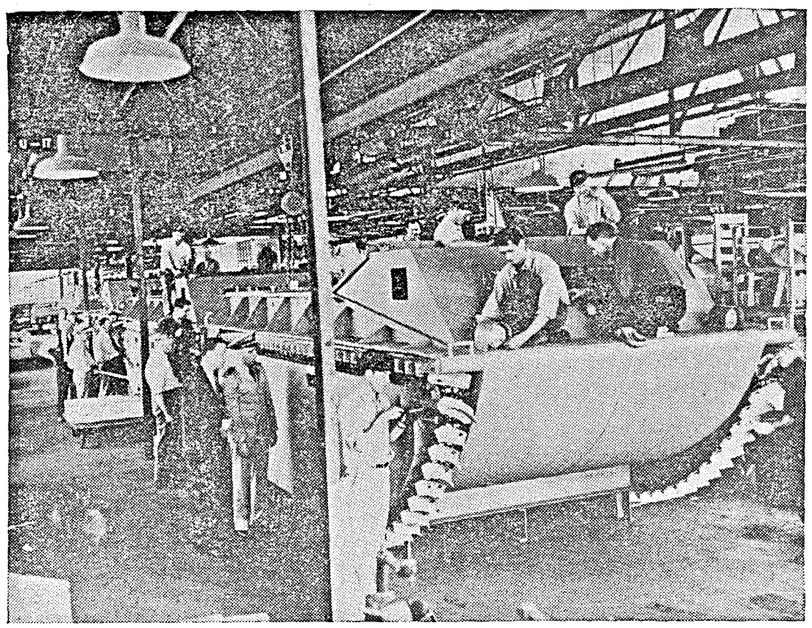
◆

In totalitarian States relations between government and opposition cannot be compared with those in democratic States; they are much less simple and obvious, and in no country have they become as intricate and complicated as in France. Apart from all the confusion and tension caused by the armistice and the occupation of the greater part of the country, one must take into consideration the fact that in France the totalitarian system has not yet had time to mature. Marshal Pétain is the first to admit this; he even touched upon it in his New Year message, admitting that the national revolution was still in the world of ideas and had not yet reached the world of reality. He also hinted at the difficulties which beset the National Government, due to the various oppositional movements of the country.

French opinion differs most widely upon foreign affairs, which nowadays are of paramount importance to France. Foreign observers as a rule take three movements only seriously: the pro-British sympathizers of General de Gaulle; the *attentistes*, who try to put off any important decision until they can see how things are going to turn out; and the adherents of co-operation between France and Germany. This is a superficial differentiation and leaves out of account all the more variegated shades of opinion—and these are found even amongst the pro-British—relating to foreign as well as home affairs.

HATRED OF GERMANY

One thing unites all the different factions (except the collaborationists), and that is their inexorable, inextinguishable hatred of Germany. This suffices to make them allies and enables them to work together, although they have not as yet found it possible to join into a single organization. Nevertheless, they conjointly publish pamphlets and leaflets in Occupied as well as in Unoccupied France. Besides the Communist, Socialist, Trade Unionist and Gaullist movements there exists in France a strong underground movement bearing the name of its paper, *Libération Nationale*. This movement expects the liberation of France through a renewed alliance with



A new amphibian tank which will swim ashore and carry soldiers into combat is in mass production now in the U.S.A. It was devised and constructed after years of hard work behind closed doors. Powered by a stock-model automobile engine, it runs over land or through water on a caterpillar tread. It can ferry troops to shore, carry them up the beach to the enemy and give them a mobile fortress to fight from. Photo shows the new tank in mass production at a mid-western war factory.

the enemies of the Axis, but fears on the other hand that General de Gaulle has bound himself hand and foot to Great Britain and will therefore be unable to consider the real national interests of France as a perfectly free agent could. The movement of *Libération Nationale* has been of greater assistance to the anti-German opposition than all the other underground organizations. It has rapidly become a collective movement, embracing not only different groups from the old Left wing, but also Catholics and members of the Right. Its clear separation from Gaullism has enabled *Libération Nationale* to attract those circles who agree theoretically with the new State created by Marshal Petain but are absolutely opposed to co-operation with Germany. For this reason the very active national revolutionary "intellectual" organization in Lyons, with its own underground review *Verites*, has joined *Libération Nationale*. And the fact, that, in the last twelve months, highly placed civil servants of the new State like Under-Secretary of State Tixier-Vignan-court and officers like Generals Bastion, Cochet, Fornel de la Laurencie (who led the heroic resistance against the Germans on the Loire) and Colonel de Lacran Loustenau have been disciplined, proves that the outposts of the opposition are to be found even amongst members of the Vichy Government, and especially in the army.

IN OCCUPIED FRANCE

In Occupied France co-operation between underground anti-German organizations is still closer. They have their own clandestine paper, *Resistance*, which has a large circulation. The fact that many acts of sabotage and attacks on Germans are much too involved to have been instigated and executed by a single person proves the strength of the underground organizations. Only one man has somehow managed to keep a strangely solitary position: Gustave Herve, once a Social Anarchist, then a violent Nationalist, is publishing in Occupied France, instead of his old paper *La Victoire*, an underground bulletin with the same title that keeps the balance between *attentisme* and Gaullism, and at the same time combats all such foreign ideas as anti-Semitism, racialism, and so on. The pro-German press hates him and continually denounces him.

The second opposition against Vichy is led by those men and organizations who desire still closer relations with Germany. This movement enjoys a legality not conceded to the anti-German organizations, and, while Vichy sometimes bans one or other of the anti-German publications, the Paris press can write as it likes. Besides the Parisian press the pro-Germans possess the Doriot papers in the South—*L'Emancipation Nationale*, *Midi Libre*, the very popular and widely read *Gringoire*, *L'Union Française*, *Le Pays Libre* and the so-called non-political illustrated papers of which *L'Illustration* is the best known.

The pro-Germans rely upon a few literary, "intellectual" circles in Paris and, much more, upon Doriot's *Mouvement Populaire Francais* and Deat's *Rassemblement Nationale Populaire*, as well as Eugene Deloncle's *Collectivistes Nationales*. To the Free French each of these groups seems as vile and despicable as the other, but, on looking closer, one can distinguish two chief divisions: those who desire German-French co-operation for its own sake and out of enthusiasm for Germany (sometimes too, it must be conceded, for other more profitable reasons), and those who hope thus to ease the strain on France and desire to collaborate only in so far as Germany is ready to grant concessions.

The latter movement is headed by men belonging to the Government, like Darlan, Benoist-Mechin, Scapini, and De Brinon. The last-named has more than once been the subject of violent attacks in Doriot's *Emancipation Nationale*, which calls De Brinon's conduct "sterile, senseless and disguised *attentisme*." Jean Luchaire, De Brinon's friend, demonstrated the difference between

Press Telegrams for Russia

A press telegram service between India and Russia has been started. The rate per word for telegrams sent from India is nine annas.

AIR MAILS FOR FORMER ITALIAN COLONIES

Communications by air mail for the former Italian colonies of Eritrea and Somaliland are now accepted by post offices in India. Besides the usual air mail label, correspondence should bear the superscription "India-Eritrea" or "India-Somaliland." The air mail surcharge per half ounce on letters and packets is Re. 1-1-6 in the case of articles for Eritrea and Re. 1-4-0 in the case of Somaliland, while the total fee on postcards (including postage) is eight annas to Eritrea and nine annas to Somaliland.

the two pro-German camps in his Paris paper *Les Nouveaux Temps* in which he attacked those who criticized Marshal Petain's New Year message, thus taking the Government's part and the part of those whose co-operation is founded on *attentisme*.

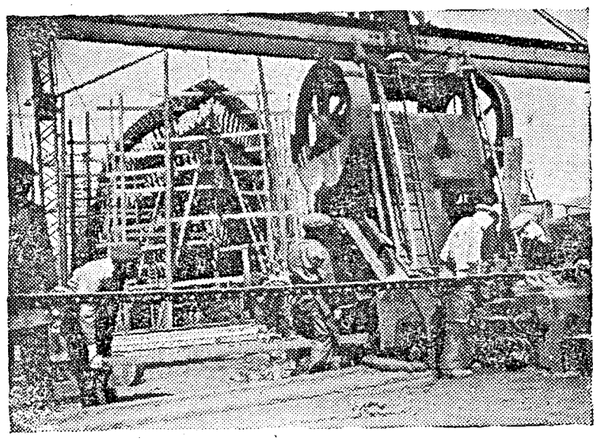
DIFFERENT CLASSES

The two pro-German movements represent different classes. The politicians who wish for an understanding with Germany without too great a degree of co-operation belong to the old aristocracy, the upper middle classes, the financiers, and their literary followers; while the more violently pro-German group is recruited from the urban middle class, a certain section of the higher clergy, intellectuals of all schools, the pauperized middle class, such professionals as have lost their jobs, and rank outsiders. The last-named include the men who have joined the voluntary anti-Bolshevik Legion and who are fighting in Russia with the Germans. Anti-Bolshevism is one of the most effective propaganda slogans of the pro-Germans; other useful means are hatred for the late regime and its men, and denunciation of the Freemasons. Doriot's movement, whilst leaning on all these propaganda props, is beginning to concentrate more and more on anti-Semitism, which always had mouthpieces in *Gringoire*, *Le Pays Libre* and *Je Suis Partout* and which nowadays expresses itself without the least restraint. But even on this question the pro-German groups cannot always agree; thus the *Union Française*, a paper preaching radical anti-Semitism, has suddenly started a campaign for the admission of "loyal" Jews into the national revolutionary movement.

Even Marcel Deat is trying not to exaggerate his anti-Semitism; he sees that Doriot's friend, the writer Louis Ferdinand Celine, who became an anti-Semite for purely personal reasons, has, by his violent anti-Jewish diatribes, done more harm than good to the movement. For Celine is not only an insane anti-Semite, he has also put himself terribly in the wrong and committed the unpardonable sin by scoffing at the misfortune of his own country, sneering at the collapse of the French Army with the term "*fuite motorisee*." His friend, Pierre Clementi, a leader of the *Collectivistes Nationales*, whom Doriot accused in public of having received foreign money for his political propaganda, has become intent upon taking revenge on the other pro-Germans for the abandonment of Celine. He also reproaches Deat and Doriot with the fact that, although they attack the mistakes of the past (their failure to prevent them notwithstanding), they are to-day behaving like parliamentary hypocrites by supporting Marshal Petain on the one hand whilst they fight his policy in Occupied France, where they feel secure under German protection.

Thus the pro-Germans not only fight the pro-English, but also each other. But, however great the din they raise and however many papers and reviews and weeklies they publish, one must never forget that they represent only a tiny minority which is without the least influence upon the French masses, and that they have by their policy put themselves beyond the pale in the eyes of all French patriots.

—*Condensed from Die Weltwoche, Zürich.*



Framed by heavy girders a new cargo ship for Britain takes shape in a busy British shipyard, while in the foreground, platers punch out angle bars. The U.S.A. also has embarked on the biggest shipbuilding programme in her history, and ships of her "Liberty Fleet" have already been launched.

Shipyards Gaining on Submarines

◆

THE wild exaggerations from Berlin of the number of ships sunk by air and submarine attack on a convoy of British and American supplies to Russia exhibit the anxiety of the Nazi High Command, writes the *Daily Telegraph*. It adds:

The last convoy to Malta was also "destroyed" by the Axis wireless though the material reinforcements which the island needed came safely through. Russia's needs are great and urgent, so heavy has been the consumption of munitions during the long fierce battle of Stalingrad and so severe were her losses in raw material and productive power in the German advances towards the Volga and the Caucasus.

The United Nations must support the stubborn heroism of the Russian armies by all supplies that can be sent by every means.

United States bombers have been for some time taking part in the air offensive against Germany and the number of Flying Fortresses will soon be doubled or trebled. These blows struck at the sources of power and communications of the German armies in Russia multiply the effect of the munitions sent to the Russian front.

The long route to the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf, however, requires not only shipping but the development of land communications over a vast area in Iran and Iraq. The Middle East has called for large numbers of aircraft, tanks, guns and the establishment of bases with harbour and engineering installations on a large scale.

China, as Mr. Roosevelt noted, wants air strength and mechanized equipment. India and Australia have their claims. The supply to each and every one is limited not only by production but by the capacity of sea transport. Big bombers can be and are being flown over thousands of miles—for example from Brazil to West Africa and over huge spaces of the Pacific but fighters can only cross the ocean by ship. Ground equipment for air forces also requires shipping while the amount which must be assigned to any large movement of tanks and guns strains the available tonnage.

Shipyards are gaining on submarines. They provide more ships than are being sunk. The lamentations of recent German broadcasts over the hard task of the U-boat suggest a failing confidence. We must, however, make our account with the certainty that there will be severe losses on routes against which the Nazi strategy concentrates attack. The utmost skill and gallantry of the navy and the merchant service, though they have done miracles, cannot make the seas safe till Nazidom has struck its flag.

"The United Nations," said President Roosevelt in the spring, "need more and still more sea transport." The sinkings of summer made the need greater for distances by the Cape to our supply points in the Middle East and from the American coast across the Pacific keep ships for many months on the round voyage.

Mr. Roosevelt's declaration that the Allied strategy must plan an offensive which "will drive to the heart of the Axis" should still be the guiding principle of every council of War. To make the most of the strength of the Allies, it must be combined and applied at points where it will inflict the greatest damage to the enemy. No operation should take precedence of the development of an air offensive against Germany.

POISONED ARROWS → → →

Beware of rumours.

They are the poisoned arrows of the enemy

Sent to cloud your mind,

And dull your judgement

—to make you act unwisely.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Poland's Martyrdom

(By a Pole)

THERE can be no better indication of the real spirit and attitude of a nation than its treatment at the hands of the Germans. Those that are indifferent to the Allied cause, or inclined to collaborate with Hitler, are exploited economically, but otherwise allowed to live their own lives. Nations which continue the struggle and believe in the victory of the Allies are cruelly persecuted.

The story of Poland's martyrdom is the best evidence of that country's indomitable faith in the ultimate victory for freedom.

The persecution is thorough and all-embracing. First of all the Poles are condemned to poverty and semi-starvation. Their rations are half or less of those of the Germans themselves, which are not very generous either. There are, in Warsaw, restaurants where a German can get an excellent meal for as little as two shillings. A Pole would have to pay several pounds in the black market to get the same kind of food.

With low wages and high prices, with their businesses and houses taken from them, with no freedom of any kind, the Poles in Poland live miserable lives.

But they are fortunate compared to those that have been pressed into labour gangs and sent to Germany, to work there as slaves. About two million Poles have been deported to Germany in this manner. The usual method is to round up everyone in a street, or a square and pack them into cattle trucks, which carry them straight to forced labour in Germany.

IN PRISON CAMPS

Even worse, however, is the fate of the thousands of prisoners in prison camps—especially the notorious camp of Oswiecim—where torture is a daily occurrence and the chances of survival are very small indeed.

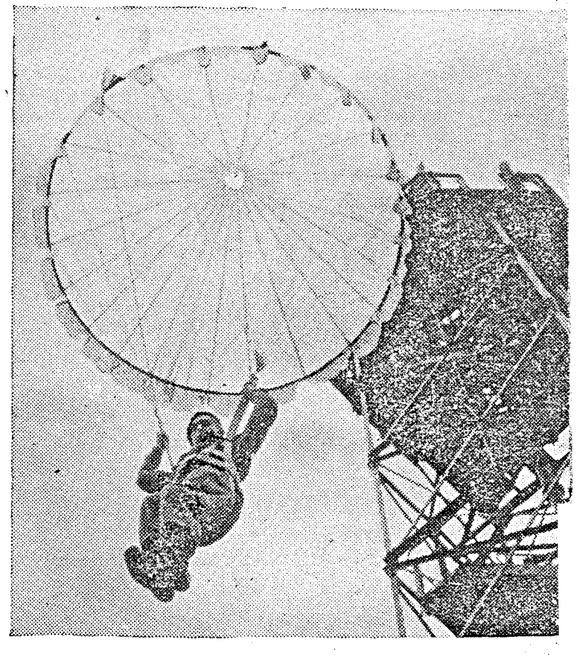
Perhaps those that are executed from time to time may count themselves lucky, for they escape the horrors of the prison camp. The executions, by hanging or shooting, take place in public. Sometimes school children are compelled to attend executions, to 'educate' them after the Nazi manner. Some children may thus have seen the death of their own parents, or brothers and sisters. A conservative estimate of the number of people executed in Poland since the German invasion is 80,000—to say nothing of those slowly put to death in prisons and camps, or of those that died in labour gangs, or starved.

The German aim is to exterminate the Polish nation. Their first objective is the destruction of the educated class, which provides leaders. That is why the professors of Cracow university were sent to a prison camp, where many of them died.

Can the Germans succeed in their attempt? They cannot, for the vitality of the Poles is such that before the war the population increased every year by half a million—more than the natural increase in Germany itself. After the war Poland will be able to make up her losses quicker than most nations. But that won't bring back to life the victims of the Germans and there will be accounts to be settled.

SPIRIT OF POLAND

The spirit of Poland is unabated. Resistance and sabotage continue in spite of everything. There is a secret press and scores of newspapers continue to be read by everybody. People listen secretly to the Polish broadcasts of the B.B.C. and then they pass on the news to their friends. Four days after the declaration of the Atlantic Charter, Mr. Churchill's and President Roosevelt's photographs on board a British battleship appeared in the Polish secret press. How they got there is still a mystery.



A Polish soldier leaps from a specially constructed tower during demonstration of parachute troop training in Britain, before Gener Sikorski, Polish Premier and Commander-in-Chief, and other hi officers of the British and Polish armies.

The resistance of Poland is a matter of serious concern for Germany, especially as all the supply lines for the Eastern Front pass through Poland. There was a moment when the German governor-general wanted to negotiate with the Poles. He made an offer, which may have seemed tempting: all Polish prisoners to be released, no food to be taken out of the country, a degree of autonomy and economic freedom to be granted. In return for these substantial concessions, the Germans asked for one thing only: they wanted the Poles to give up resistance and to abandon the idea of an Allied victory.

True to their Allies and to their honour, the Poles refused to collaborate. Their refusal filled the Germans with amazement and anger.

WAVE OF TERROR

A new wave of terror swept the country. The Germans proclaimed conscription—in western Poland, which is formally annexed to Germany, the Poles are forced to join the German army. This is the height of cruelty, for nothing could be more revolting to a Pole than fighting for Germany. In the 'General-Gouvernement,' the Germans introduced a veiled kind of conscription, by forcing Poles into special labour battalions, a sort of pioneer corps. The idea is, of course, that it would be dangerous to give them other arms than picks and spades.

The very ferocity with which the Poles are persecuted is proof of their strength. Had they been weak, the Germans would have subdued them long ago. Fear is the motive of oppression. Fear dictated the offer made to the Polish nation by governor Frank. The Germans are afraid of Poland, even though they have the country in their power. Their fear is not unjustified, for there is punishment in store for the tortures.

Poland is making a sacrifice that has no equal in history. But it will not be in vain—(*A.B.C. Broadcast*).

Lost Her Start

"If Germany has to face—as she will have to face—a campaign in the Spring, she can hardly maintain both her military and industrial efforts at their present pitch, but will have to choose between them. The race is still on and the finish a long way off, but Germany has lost her start."

—Lord HALIFAX, *British Ambassador in U.S.A., in a speech in New York, on 3rd October.*

Turban Tale

◆

Headgear Made History

◆

THIS is the story of Jasjit Singh, his beard, his turban—and how they made history.

When war broke out Jasjit Singh was in Britain, studying engineering at a college in London. Very soon he was at the War Office, offering his services.

"We shall be glad to have you in the British Army," said the officials, "but first you must shave off your beard, and discard your turban."

"But I am a Sikh, and a beard and turban are part of my religion."

The officials shook their heads, and said they were very sorry, but it was an Army regulation that officers must wear the headgear of their regiments, and must not have beards.

Jasjit Singh's reply was spoken very quietly.

"I thought one of the reasons we are fighting this war was that men might practice their religion according to their beliefs," he said.

It was a point, and General Auchinleck, to whom Jasjit Singh was sent, was quick to appreciate it.

The regulations were amended. To-day Jasjit Singh proudly wears the uniform of a Captain in the British Army—and, of course, his beard and turban.

Inspired China

"The Chinese have shown the most passionate determination to develop their country's resources and are determined that the new China shall become the leading exponent of peaceful civilisation in the Far East. When I was in China two and a half years ago, I felt the same vitality and inspiration then as I later found among the Russian people."

—Sir STAFFORD CRIPPS, *at the United Aid to China Fund meeting, on 3rd October.*

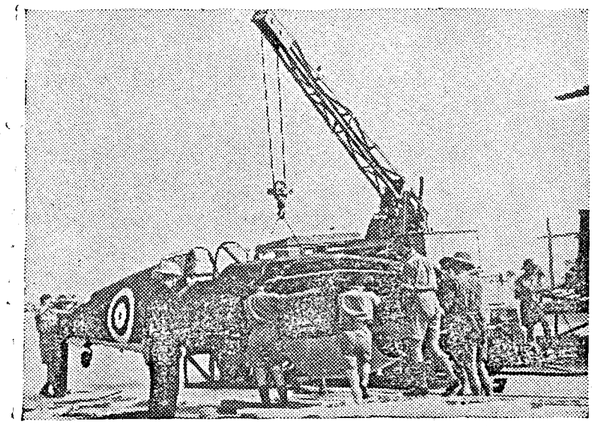
Vladivostok

◆

Key-point of Eastern War

◆

AT one end of the Svetienskaia, the wide main street of Vladivostok, there stands a big bronze statue of Lenin. The founder of the Soviet State points towards the sea as if to tell the men of the Red Army and Navy that out there, in the Pacific, decisive battles would one day be fought. At the other end of the Svetienskaia there is another statue, that of the Tsarist admiral, Nevelskoi, who as early as the middle of the last century advised the Tsar to build here, where the river flows into the sea, a Constantinople of the Far East.



A Maintenance Unit of the British R.A.F. in the Middle East, assembling new Curtiss "Tomahawk" fighter aircraft that have just arrived from the U.S.A. The aircraft arrive in two crates, wings in one, fuselage in the other. They are assembled in a day.

On the plinth of Lenin's statue is engraved in many languages—including Japanese—the slogan, "Workers of the world unite!"; on the plinth of Nevelskoi's monument one may read the famous sentence of Tsar Nicholas I: "Where the Russians have once hoisted their flag, they will never retreat."

In 1858, when the clever diplomat Muraviev took over the small Chinese port of Aigun, which in due course was to become Vladivostok, Japan as a nation was still half asleep. Thirty years later, after the Meiji Restoration had given a new impetus to the peoples of the Japanese isles, the Russians would hardly have been able to occupy without resistance this ideal strategic point, situated exactly between the two bights of the Japanese Sea, nor could they have built the port. At the beginning of this century the Japanese tried hard to oust the Russians from this position in the Far East. But, notwithstanding the Japanese victory at Tsushima and the fall of Port Arthur, the Russians managed to keep Vladivostok.

"LORD OF THE EAST"

Perhaps in 1906 the port, which was frozen for a great part of the year, did not seem very important. Nowadays powerful ice-breakers keep it open the whole year round, and, what is of still greater importance, Vladivostok has become a dangerously strong air base. From here Soviet bombers have only to fly about 595 miles to reach the densely populated centres of Japan—a distance which is flown night after night by the R.A.F. in Europe. And, while German territory is well protected by anti-aircraft measures, Japan cannot boast of the same. Japan's air chief, Okada, has himself confessed that, as things are, a single squadron would suffice to destroy sixty per cent of all the buildings in Osaka.

Vladivostok, "Lord of the East"; the name given to the town by the Tsar has become its motto. The first colonists came from Manchuria—they were Chinese, Kalmuks, Tartars, Kirghiz and a few Russians, and were exiles or men who were in disgrace for one reason or another. They built the first absolutely straight, mathematically measured streets and ugly, primitively painted wooden houses. In 1889 the town was proclaimed a fortress and the boom began. Barracks and forts, dockyards and arsenals, were constructed. The hills framing the town were ruthlessly cleared of their forests; the Siberian pines were turned into new warehouses and enormous granaries, where wheat, soya beans and oil cake from Manchuria were stored. By the beginning of the new century Vladivostok had equalled the other Siberian city, Irkutsk, in importance. The population doubled, then trebled, and soon reached, by leaps and bounds, the figure of nearly 100,000. Tsar Nicholas II had a special liking for the town ever since he had been welcomed there as Crown Prince with a

gigantic triumphal arch and Chinese fireworks. He showed this liking by founding a Far Eastern University at Vladivostok.

A REAL METROPOLIS

Since the Bolsheviks came to stay at the city of the Far Eastern Golden Horn, it has become a real metropolis. Today it has over a quarter of a million inhabitants. This sudden rise, accompanied by the strengthening of the Fleet and the extension of dockyards and warehouses, is due to several causes. Vladivostok is a town full of revolutionary traditions. It was here that a violent insurrection against Tsarism broke out in 1905 and 1906; part of the Far Eastern Fleet mutinied and could only be subdued by force.

In 1917 the city had to surrender to Czech legionaries returning from the broken-down front of Europe. The Japanese hastened to the town on the pretext of protecting their countrymen, although their real desire was to seize the dangerous Russian base. But they were routed. In 1922 the second revolution broke out in Vladivostok. The Red Partisans came by the partly new Trans-Siberian Railway; the city, occupied until then by English and American troops, became Russian once more, thus ending the Civil War.

The Communists have always felt a special affection for Vladivostok, because for them the town possesses a historical and symbolical significance. They have worked furiously at the construction of this, their most Eastern port, because their interest in Asiatic problems is much greater than that of the Tsars ever was. After the collapse of the Chinese Communists in 1926 and 1927 Russian policy appeared to turn its back on the East, but this soon proved a delusion. Fundamentally, Russian policy did not change. Imperceptibly, the U.S.S.R. continued to penetrate into Outer Mongolia and strengthen Vladivostok as a fortification and also as an ideological centre. In olden times the Tsar had sent the enemies of his regime to Vladivostok; Stalin, on the contrary, sent his best men. In 1924 the Far Eastern State University was founded; it stands upon a hill overlooking the city and the sea. This university became the meeting place of Chinese, Japanese and Korean revolutionaries, and represented one aspect of the "white peril," feared by the Japanese. They are still afraid that the "white idea" fostered at Vladivostok will make their "New Order" impossible.

There is also the strategic "white" danger, which has grown tremendously through the probable co-operation of Japan's two foes—Russia and the United States. It is doubtful whether the Russians alone would be able to hold out against Japan in this part of the world. Their submarines and destroyers might easily be caught in the mousetrap of the Japanese Sea. But now that American bombers, flying from Seattle by way of the Aleutians and the Soviet base Petropavlosk, can reach Vladivostok in two days or even, flying non-stop, in ten hours, the situation takes on a different aspect. On the island in front of the city the Soviet has constructed Russia's most modern base. Here a "Town of Wings," Aerograd, has been built.

That is why Japan fears Vladivostok and the significance of its name, "Lord of the East," and the pointing finger of Lenin's statue.

—*Die Weltwoche.*

American Ingenuity

◆

OFFICIALS in Washington announce that 44 of the best suggestions by American workers for increasing war production are already in effect. These were selected from 1,200 submitted.

One worker suggested the substitution of a machine operation for hand filing, resulting in 100 per cent increase in production.

Another machinist suggested eliminating the super-finish on half of the faces of bolt heads. This reduced 16 operations to 8.

An assemblyman devised a fixture to hold a gear in place so that the machine could replace his hand action, saving four hours of labour on each engine.

A new design log for performing slitting operations on quartz crystals now prevents 75 per cent of the breakage.

Aviation workers have saved tons and tons of steel by substituting plastics in fuselage construction.

The Times are Better

"I can say with conviction that the times are better than when I arrived and one can look forward with confidence to victory. I have sought to interpret China's mind to India, explaining how the independence which the Indians desire and demand, can arise only on the foundation of unity and agreement between the Indian communities themselves."

—Sir MUHAMMAD ZAFRULLAH KHAN, *Indian Agent-General in China, in a farewell message, on 3rd October.*

In Occupied Europe

◆

THE shooting of 116 Frenchmen on orders of General Stulpnagel, Commander of the German forces of occupation in France, brings the total number of persons executed in Occupied Europe up to September 22 to 207,373.

This figure compiled by the Inter-Allied Information Committee covers executions which have followed trials or court-martials, the shooting of hostages in reprisal for attacks on German or Italian troops of occupation and persons whom the Germans have announced they have shot. A part of the figures for each of the occupied countries has been obtained from Governments in London who have confirmed them and in most cases the Governments in question have the names of victims.

FRANCE

In the first six months of this year 1,500 have been shot or sentenced to death in France and North Africa. Since Germans overran France, they have in addition shot 250 hostages. Many have also been condemned to death but their actual execution has not been announced. Most victims have been accused either of sabotage or of the helping the United Nations or of being "communists or terrorists."

GREECE

In Crete alone 3,000 have been killed since May 1941. In Athens 40 people were shot this summer, another 40 in the island of Mytiline. Most of those had been accused either of trying to escape abroad or of helping other people to get away.

Several thousand have been executed in Macedonia by Bulgars following a revolt against the Bulgarian troops of occupation.

British Naval spotting aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm dropped flares to illuminate the target when enemy coastal positions menacing Tobruk from the east were bombarded by the Mediterranean Fleet. The picture shows bombing up a Naval aircraft in the Western Desert.

The table of executions has been made up as follows:—

BELGIUM

Definite information has been received of the execution of 130 Belgians, mainly for sabotage, although some have been shot in actual fact as hostages. The German procedure as regards hostages in Belgium differs from other occupied countries. People have been condemned to death for such offences as sabotage, reprieved and then shot on the occurrence of fresh outbreaks of sabotage by other people.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Since the shooting of Heydrich 1,765 Czechs have been executed, 525 of them were accused of being directly responsible for his death. In addition, 1,000 have died in concentration camps.

NORWAY

Since the German occupation 106 persons have been shot. Of these 100 have been executed since September, 1941 when a state of siege was declared in Oslo. Most of the victims were accused of sabotage or attempting to escape to England. Thousands have died in concentration camps as a result of ill-treatment.

POLAND

The Polish Government in London states that 200,000 people have been executed since the Germans overran the country. Of these, 100,000 were shot after trial according to the German law, 70,000 as hostages and 30,000 have died in concentration camps.

Long-Range Light day Bomber

MOSQUITOES, Britain's fastest bombers, have begun a new kind of daylight bombing. They are being used for long range, and without fighter escort, to hit accurately small but vital targets. The Germans have never sent over this country so fast a long-range bomber, says the *Daily Herald's* aeronautical correspondent.

Mosquitoes were first mentioned recently in connexion with the Royal Air Force daylight raid on the Gestapo headquarters at Oslo, but they have been attacking enemy targets for some time. On September 8, the German High Command communique said, "Two British aircraft made a sweep over Germany during the day. One Mosquito was shot down." A week later the Air Ministry reported that "light bombers" flying without escort and without cloud cover had attacked at dusk targets near Wiesbaden. Wiesbaden is nearly 400 miles from London and the greater part of the flight would be over enemy territory. Yet not one of the "light bombers" was missing. Only light bombers of very high speed, able, as the Mosquitoes were over Oslo, to escape from Fockewulf fighters, could have made a daylight raid so deep into Germany without cloud cover.

To Oslo and back is a 1,000 mile flight from the nearest air bases in Britain. This means that Mosquitoes could, for instance, have managed the famous Augsburg raid which was made by Lancasters. A light bomber cannot carry such a heavy bomb-load as a bomber of the Lancaster type, but it can be replaced very much faster and more cheaply, and it carries a much smaller crew.

Now that Mosquitoes are being used, the argument for and against the light or heavy day bomber will be put to the test. Fortresses have still to be tested on a large scale over Germany by day without fighter escort. Probably both the Fortress and Mosquito types will have their place in our daylight offensive.

MADRAS CASUALTIES

No. 135.

We regret to announce the following Madras Casualties which occurred on various dates :—

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

Indian Hospital Corps.

86069	Amb/Sep.	Kaliyani.
86154	Amb/Sep.	Kista Rao, S.
186687	W/Man.	Krishna.
85844	Amb/Sep.	Krishna Jadhav.
85099	Amb/Sep.	Krishna Murthy.
186752	Swpr.	Munu Swamy.
18584	S/Hav.	Murthy, K. N.
40043	N/Sep.	Nambiar, K. K.
85499	Amb/Sep.	Peria Swamy.
186009	Ck.	Rama Reddy.
85498	Amb/Sep.	Rama Swamy.
210755	A/Nk.	Sadanand Swamy.
8641	C/Hav.	Selva Nayagam, V.

No. 136.

I.A.O.C. **Wounded.**

O/72009	Sep/Dvr.	Shunmuga Thevar, P.

Indian Hospital Corps.

H/85520	A/Sep.	Mohammad, S.
GS/8068	W/Svt.	Mohd. Ismail.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

I.A.O.C.

O/73213	Sep/Dvr.	Achuttan, C. K
O/72681	Sep/Dvr.	Anady Kesavan Nair.
ONC/1414	Cook.	Dharam Raj.

I.A.O.C.—cont.

O/32320	Fitr.	Keshow Ramachandra Pillay, M.
O/33362	S/Elect.	Manindra Nath Chakraverty.
O/104281	S/Carp & Joiner	Murages Naicker, V.
O/102735	Elect.	Nitya Nand.
O/105250	B/Sm. PA/L/NK.	Pars Ram.
O/102845	S/Fitr.	Parva Kutty, K.
O/105254	Sep. B/Sm.	Palakollu Polayya.

No. 137.

VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Died.

Indian Engineers.

49202	Sub.	Kuppan, R.

INDIAN OTHER RANKS.

Madras S. & M. **Died.**

1494	Cook B.T.	Selvamani.
65165	Spr.	Sundaram.

Indian Engineers.

43437	L/Nk.	Gopala Kurup, P. V.
104145	Pnr.	Ramu Mali.
63940	Spr.	Subramania Pillai.

Indian Signal Corps.

55306	Sigmn.	Chacko, P. M.

I.A.O.C.

MT/971511	Sep/Dvr.	Sami Muthu.

I.G.S.C.

GSF/1764	W/Wtr. Gde.	Duraisamy, S. L.

Aux. Pioneer Corps.

117427	Lab.	Rangasami.

New "Leave City"

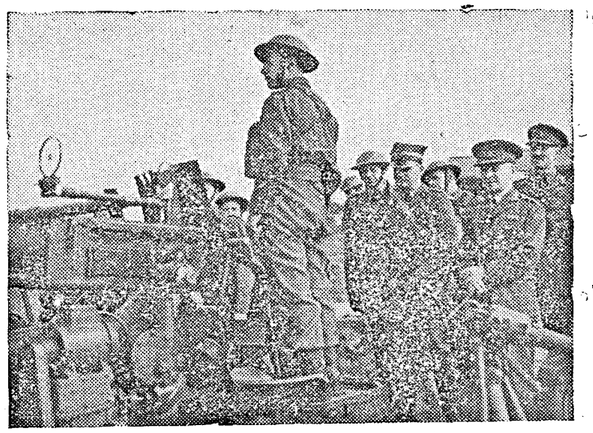
EVERY new draft of British reinforcements arriving in India increases the problem confronting Army authorities and voluntary workers who are striving to improve the welfare of troops serving in India.

Just how much can be done in this direction is shown by developments in a Southern India city which is rapidly acquiring a big reputation as a leave resort—Bangalore. Here British soldiers can find most of the comforts and amenities of a military town in Britain, with the added advantage of an equable climate.

Through the Station Staff Officer, the ladies of the cantonment invite soliders to their homes for meals and parties once or twice a week. One such lady, overhearing a young soldier at a whist-drive say that his 21st birthday was during the following week, promptly arranged a party for him and his friends at her home.

The Women's Voluntary Service Canteen, now about four months old in the city, provides a library of periodicals for both British and Indian troops, and a writing-room for correspondence.

Toilet articles are on sale; hot baths, light meals, table tennis and darts are provided, inter-services tournaments at various games are arranged. There is a concert every Sunday night.



Lt.-General Sir Frederick Pile, Bart., Commander-in-Chief of the British Anti-Aircraft Command (right), with General Zajac of the Polish Forces, were photographed watching a Bofors gun detachment during a demonstration of gun drill.

Soldiers on leave are assured of a comfortable holiday at a resonable cost. There is a leave camp, with accommodation at present for 250, where the soldier can take his well-earned rest and where rules and regulations are cut to the minimum. It is situated within easy reach of the city's main centres of amusement, where except for one hotel and one restaurant practically every establishment is "In Bounds For Troops."

In the city the soldier can take his choice of cafes' dance halls and cinemas, of each of which there are several. Every Sunday afternoon a "Contact Canteen," of which the president is a Minister of the Government of Mysore, invites British and Indian troops to meet civilian guests at a tea party which is frequently attended by as many as 300 persons. After tea, there is usually music, or conjuring, snake-charming, or a display of riding by the Mysore Lancers.

Another canteen, run by the Y.M.C.A., opens early each morning, does not close until 11 p.m. (midnight on Saturdays), and is always well filled. Good food is available at low rates, and a whist-drive is held once a week.

And so Bangalore comes to be numbered among the centres foremost in enterprise on behalf of the welfare of soldiers, many of whom have so suddenly been snatched from their accustomed environments and set down in a—to them—strange country not always well provided in the particular comforts, amenities and amusements among which they have been brought up.

There is a great deal to be done in this direction in many other cities and centres of India and it is to be hoped that the lead given by Bangalore will swiftly be followed—and perhaps overtaken.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

3rd Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked submarine yards at Flensburg and other objectives on the Baltic Coast of Germany.

4th Oct.—Four-hundred British fighter aircraft operated over a wide area of northern France. Iron and steel works near Liege were bombed. Objectives in the Rhineland were attacked.

5th Oct.—Goering, at a special mass meeting of the Nazi Party in Berlin, said: "The German people come before all other peoples for food. The whole German army is fed from the conquered countries."

7th Oct.—A German mine-sweeper was attacked and set on fire off the French coast near Berek.

The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in western Germany.

Enemy E-boats were attacked off the Belgian coast.

With reference to a second front, Mr. Churchill stated in the House of Commons: "No statement from the British Government is called for at the present time than those that have already been given."

8th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked Osnabruck.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

3rd Oct.—The Mexican Government ordered that all 18-year old youths should register for military service.

4th Oct.—Hitler's nephew, William Patrick Hitler (British born), joined the Canadian Air Force.

5th Oct.—American shipyards reached the promised goal of three ships daily by delivering during September 93 new freighters.

The United States War Department disclosed that a new specialised American troop unit nicknamed "Swimmandos" was training for attack in river areas.

8th Oct.—President Roosevelt refused to comment on M. Stalin's recent statement.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

4th Oct.—The Royal Air Force raided Central Burma. Barracks at Meiktila, south of Mandalay, were bombed.

5th Oct.—British determination to recapture Burma at the earliest opportunity was re-emphasized by His Excellency Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, Governor of Burma, when addressing personnel of the Royal Burma Navy. "I am fully convinced that as things are moving now, the day is not very far distant when we will meet again in Rangoon."

7th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets at Yenangyaung in Central Burma. Objectives in Chindwin and Myittha Valleys were also attacked.

8th Oct.—Hostile aircraft were over various points in Bengal within recent weeks.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3rd Oct.—The Royal Navy intercepted two Vichy French ships which had escaped from Madagascar.

The Eighth Army launched an attack and captured positions which were consolidated.

An Axis merchant vessel was hit in a naval base in Greece.

4th Oct.—Axis convoy was attacked in the Mediterranean. Allied aircraft raided Tobruk.

5th Oct.—Axis aircraft raided Alexandria and bombs were dropped harmlessly.

6th Oct.—According to a Tass Agency report, differences had occurred between Hitler and Rommel.

Three Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

Three thousand alerts had been sounded in Malta since the war began.

8th Oct.—Tobruk and Benghazi were raided.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

3rd Oct.—All German efforts to regain lost positions in Stalingrad were beaten off. Timoshenko's relief offensive north-west of Stalingrad gathered momentum.

Over 200 German planes were destroyed in a week near Leningrad.

7th Oct.—The Russians launched a new offensive against German positions south of Stalingrad. The Germans suffered heavy losses. German thrust to Caucasus was halted. German defence lines were broken at Voronezh.

8th Oct.—The battle for Stalingrad reached a new climax of ferocity. The Germans threw in all available reserves.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5th Oct.—General Franco, speaking at the National Youth Congress at Madrid, said that the doctrine of the Falange was built on the foundation of the principles of the Christian Church.

7th Oct.—The Iraq Cabinet resigned.

India's Great Citizen Army

"The Indian Soldier of to-day represents the Indian people as a whole more than ever before. Never has India had so many men trained to war or drawn from a wider section of the population. They are certainly more of a citizen army and less of a military class than ever before."

—General Sir ARCHIBALD WAVELL, *Commander-in-Chief of India, in a speech on Oct. 3.*

THEME OF VICTORY

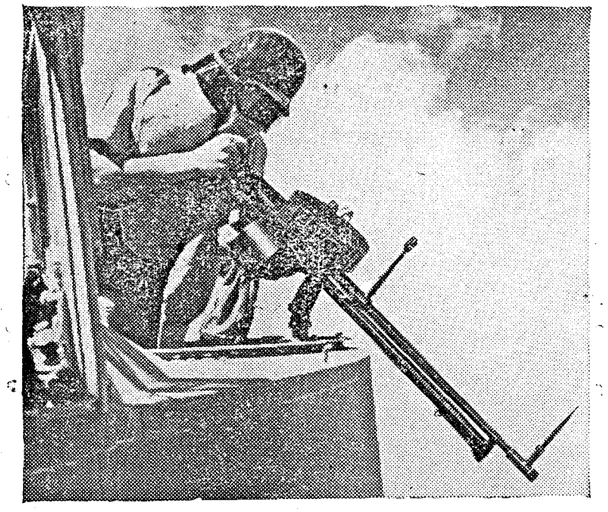
"The noises in American shipyards are the theme of our coming pageant of victory and their din can already be heard, we need have no doubt, in Berlin, Tokyo and Rome."

—Mr. J. V. FORRESTAL, *U.S. Under-Secretary of the Navy, in a letter to Rear-Admiral Land, on September 27.*

MET EFFICIENTLY

"When I gave directions, first for 12 million, and then for 8 million, finally for 22 million tons of merchant ships to be built by American shipyards in 1942 and 1943, I issued a challenge to the ship-building industry and the Maritime Commission. That challenge was accepted and is being met efficiently."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a letter to the Commission's Chairman Rear-Admiral Land, on September 25.*



The protection of convoys bringing supplies for the British Forces in Libya, entails considerable air escort. Amphibian Naval aircraft of the Vickers-Supermarine "Walrus" class are used in constant patrol of the Mediterranean. Photo shows one of the air gunners of a British "Walrus" Amphibian aircraft, which carries machine guns fore and aft.

SHIPPING

6th Oct.—The American submarine **Grunion** was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

4th Oct.—The German Radio said that M. Herriot, former French Premier, was under house arrest.

In the first six months of this year, German occupation cost France 72,700 million francs.

5th Oct.—According to the Moscow Radio, M. Laval was organizing special troops on the German model to suppress the patriotic movement in France.

6th Oct.—According to telegrams from Ankara received in New York, territorial differences had occurred between Rumania and Hungary over Transylvania. Rumanian officials in Bucharest expected a war with the other Axis satellite state.

Men in the Yugoslav province of Slovenia were to be conscripted for the German army, according to a German Decree.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 German soldiers were imprisoned for mutiny at Alta in Eastern Finmark in Northern Norway.

7th Oct.—According to the Vichy Radio, a state of emergency was proclaimed throughout the province of Trondheim because of acts of sabotage.

As the result of an agreement between the Croatian Government and the Reich, the Germans evacuated from the entire areas of Dalmatia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

3rd Oct.—The Allies advanced in New Guinea and the Japanese supply lines were attacked.

4th Oct.—In an Allied raid on Rabaul, a Japanese cruiser and transports were hit.

5th Oct.—In a surprise raid on the Solomons by the Allies, three Japanese cruisers were hit. The Australians advanced in New Guinea.

American troops occupied positions in the Andreanof group of the Aleutians.

6th Oct.—Mr. Wendell Willkie had a talk with General Chiang Kai-shek.

The Australians advanced in New Guinea and took Efogi. A naval engagement took place off the Solomons.

7th Oct.—The Americans bombarded Kiska. Five Japanese sea-planes were shot down.

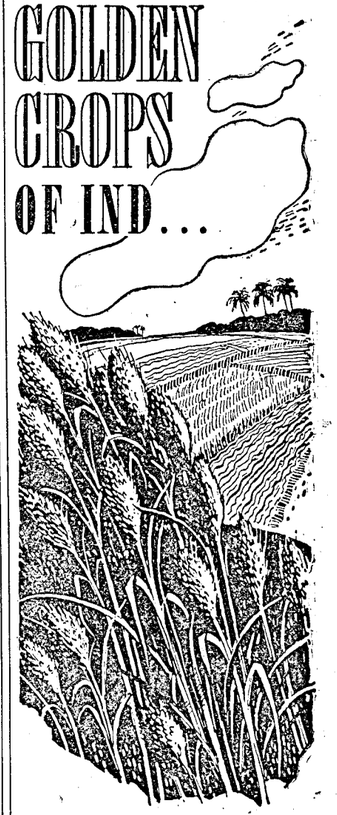
The Japanese landed in Guadalcanar in the Solomons.

Rekata Bay was attacked by American naval dive-bombers.

A Japanese convoy at Buna was attacked.

8th Oct.—More Japanese landings were effected in Guadalcanar.

THE GOLDEN CROPS OF IND...



IN German-occupied Europe and Japanese-occupied China, the rich golden crops are harvested by the enemy while the rightful owners starve and die. Are you going to let this happen to India, where our mainstay is agriculture? India with her huge resources is the most tempting prize of all to the enemy. Japan uses soft words to woo us into submission! But beware of those words. Resist Japan with all your combined might, for Japan's coming will mean starvation for your women and children.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

against the Japanese

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1942 No. 6

Keep Right on

Mr. Churchill with Lt.-Gen. Montgomery, Commander of the Eighth Army, in the Western Desert

We must all drive ourselves to the utmost limit of our strength We must preserve and refine our sense of proportion. We must strive to combine the virtues of wisdom and of daring. We must move forward together united and inexorable

Light is broadening on the track. And the light is brighter too

Let me use the words of your famous minstrel, words which have given comfort and renewed strength to many burdened hearts—'keep right on to the end of the road, keep on right to the end'

—Mr. CHURCHILL, in a speech on Monday, October 12 at Edinburgh

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
England a year ago and to-day: An American's impressions.	6
Strengthening of the British Navy: Replacement of Warship losses.	8
Britain has a new fleet	9
Gigantic Air Surprise Force	10
Record munitions output in India ..	11
Imperial War Graves Commission: An appeal to the Indian public.	12
Cell in a Stalingrad house: Headquarters of "Miracle Men": A Russian Poet's description of the City.	13
Japs want to make Burmans into drug fiends	15
Siam and Japan	16
Art of jungle fighting	17
Motor vehicles manufactured in India ..	18
German quarrel with Denmark	18
Fortunes of War	19
Diary of the War	20

Running Commentary

India Debate: Civil Disobedience and Dictatorship The House of Commons passed the Third Reading of the India and Burma (Temporary and Miscellaneous) Bill, on Tuesday. The Bill now goes to the House of Lords. It was on the Second Reading of this Bill that the India debate took place. Last week our readers would have read the speeches of Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Labour leader, and Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister. Though much of the ground covered by these speeches is old there are certain broad impressions and certain new features, which deserve emphasis. The first broad impression is the general condemnation of the Civil Disobedience Movement from all sides of the House. One thing is very clear; the British Parliament, and the British people behind it, cannot come to a settlement with those who launched a subversive movement at the most critical moment of the war, until that movement is called off and the acts of violence to which it has led are disavowed. Another clear impression left by the debate in the House of Commons is the general determination not to allow any one party to secure sole control of the Government to the prejudice of others who have equal claims to consideration. There can be no party-State in India if there is to be a free and contented India. These are the negative impressions.

* * * *

The Path to Self-Determination and Independence As regards the positive side, there was a general recognition of the principle of self-determination for India and that that self-determination means independence if India so desires. Mr. Amery made this point very clear in his speech. He said:

"What was offered to India was control over her destinies within the partnership of the British Commonwealth, or without that partnership if she preferred to forego it . . ."

Mr. Maxton, leader of the Independent Labour Party, went out of his way to express his belief in Mr. Amery's sincerity. He said:

"Indians were promised complete independence, even to breaking with Dominion association, if so desired."

The anxiety of all parties for a settlement at the earliest possible moment which would be honourable to all concerned was another positive impression left by the debate. His Excellency the Viceroy has shown the desire for such a settlement by continuing his talks with Indian leaders. But when will such a settlement take place? What are the conditions necessary for it? Firstly, the Civil Disobedience Movement must be called off. Secondly, there should be an agreement between the parties on India's future constitutional structure. Aspirations of the various groups must be integrated into the needs of India as a whole, for it is only then that compromise can be reached without a feeling of loss or grievance Political negotiations have

Shall not go Unpunished

"We are resolved that they shall not go unpunished. We are not animated by a spirit of revenge, natural though such a spirit must be to so many in Europe to-day, but my conviction is that civilized justice will only be restored to its rightful place in the affairs of men when the criminals who have sought to destroy it are made to answer for their deeds. The retribution must be swift and sure."

—Mr. ANTHONY EDEN,
The Foreign Secretary, in a speech at Lamington on September 26.

taken on a new sternness and intractability, because they consist of manœuvring for the substance of power, and not of bargaining for the trappings of office. Planning, not bargaining, is the need of political India to-day, as lighting, not indifference, is the call to India in the great world arena. By fighting, India will secure the possibility of independence, and by planning, she will turn that possibility into reality when victory comes.

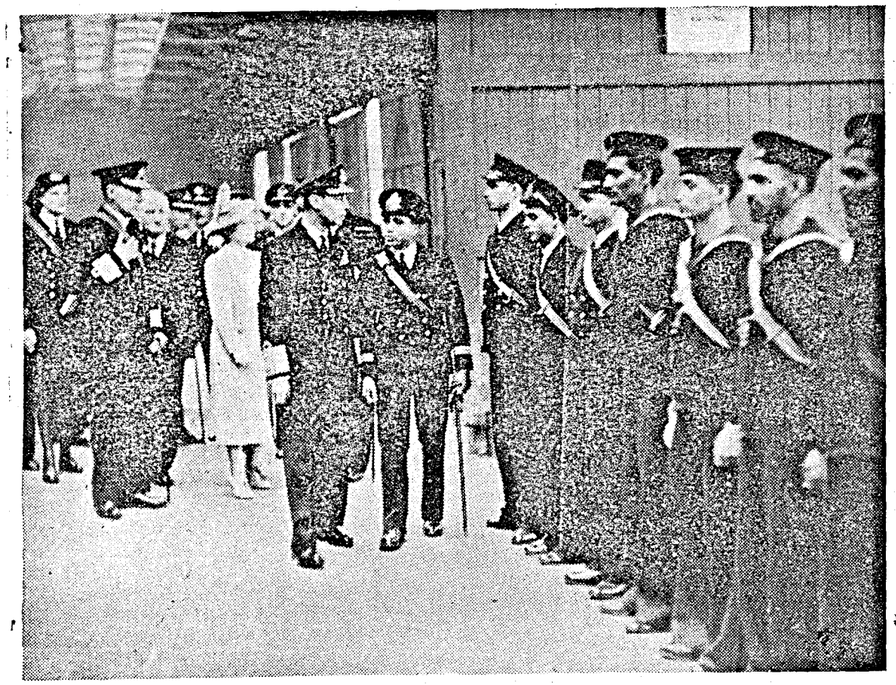
* * * *

Mr. Gandhi and the Axis The 74th birthday of Mr. Gandhi, which fell on October 2nd, was celebrated by the Axis Radio by a number of special broadcasts to India. They have once again revealed that the Berlin-Tokyo-Rome Combine praise only those who advocate and follow policies, whatever the intent of the authors, which are calculated to advance the Axis project of conquering and enslaving the world. Their estimate of Congress leaders has changed with the changing wind, and their heroes of to-day may well be the scoundrels of tomorrow. The Axis will praise them only so long as they play their game. Let us compare what the enemy radios were saying during the Gandhi week with what they were saying only a few months ago. The German Azad Hind Radio said in a news broadcast in Tamil on October 1:

"We, the Indians, are glad that Gandhiji did not come to a compromise with the Government. To come to terms with the British would defeat the aim of Mahatma Gandhi's move for freedom to which he has dedicated fifty years of his life."

But what did Berlin say on February 4, 1942? It said:

"Gandhi's principle of non-violence and Ahimsa has miserably failed to achieve any effective results. The majority of the people in India, being disappointed with the fluctuating policy of the Congress, are now forming different parties with a view to attaining independence in the near future."



His Majesty the King-Emperor inspecting men of the Royal Indian Navy at a town in the United Kingdom.

In its Hindustani broadcast on April 10, 1942 Berlin said:

"Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Nehru are miserable British agents."

A day earlier it said:

"The Indian leaders are the deluded henchmen of London."

Now the Axis radios are showering praise on Mr. Gandhi. Tokyo says on October 2nd:

"Gandhi is a great man in history. He is characterized by his meekness, his undaunted spirit, his spirit of sacrifice and his unwillingness to be utilized by others."

Berlin praises "Gandhi's unflinching sacrifice and devotion to the cause of India." The previous venomous diatribes of the Axis partners and their present glowing tributes show the real motive of the Axis propaganda. They are praising Congress leaders because the results of the Civil Disobedience Movement are expected to be helpful to the Axis.

Let us contrast this attitude with the attitude of the United Nations. In spite of Mr. Gandhi's politics, his moral eminence has been accepted by great leaders in the Allied countries. Men like General Smuts and Lord Halifax have paid their tributes to Mr. Gandhi on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Even now, living amidst the clash and clang of political controversy, the dominate note is one of disappointment, sorrow and, in some quarters, anger, that one so morally distinguished should have seen fit to pursue a barren path—a path that implies so much frustration to his own people and delights the enemies of India and the other United Nations.

* * * *

Allied Shipping Losses: Axis Propaganda

When receiving the freedom of the City of Edinburgh last week, Mr. Churchill made a speech reviewing the general war situation. He pointed out Hitler's mounting difficulties and the growing strength of the Allies. The months of August and September, he said, saw the new building of merchant ships substantially to outweigh the losses; they saw the greatest tonnage of British bombs dropped upon Germany; they covered the most numerous safe arrivals of United States troops in the British Isles; they marked the definite growth of Allied air superiority over Germany, Italy and Japan; they saw in the Pacific Australians with their American Allies making good advance in New Guinea. "It is not my habit," he added, "to encourage vain expectations, but these are solid and remarkable facts. Surveying both sides of the account good and bad with equal composure and coolness we must see that we have reached a stern and sombre moment in the war which calls in a high degree for firmness of spirit and constancy of soul."

Mr. Churchill laid emphasis upon one aspect which has been the subject of Axis propaganda for some considerable time. U-boat warfares, said Mr. Churchill, still remained the greatest problem of the United Nations, but there was no reason whatever why it should not be solved by the prodigious measures of offence and defence and of replacement on which Britain, Canada and above all United States were now engaged. Prodigious is also the word for the enemy propaganda to magnify the United Nations' shipping losses. This subject seems to be a perennial news item for Dr. Goebbels, his associates and satellites, and the claim of losses is expanded or contracted to suit the needs of the moment. It may be recalled that in his address to the Berlin University on December 1, 1941, Dr. Goebbels laid down the dictum: "News is trickery by which to defeat the enemy." A study of enemy propaganda over a long period shows that when news from other fronts is bad for the Axis "shipping news" is built up and embellished to distract attention from failures elsewhere. If news from other fronts is good from the Axis point of view, the shipping losses become less and are relegated to the background.

* * * *

Rise and Fall in Axis Claim: The Technique Behind it

In the first four months of this year, when Japan was forging ahead in the Pacific and Germany was confidently looking forward to a successful spring offensive in Russia and Libya, Berlin's claims of Allied shipping losses averaged 554,325 tons which was a very modest figure for Dr. Goebbels. In May the Allies had a big victory in the Coral Sea Battle in the Pacific and Hitler's spring offensive both in Russia and in Libya was in temporary difficulties, and so Berlin inflated shipping losses in that month to 924,000 tons which represented a sudden jump by 67 per cent. There was a decline in the succeeding month, for in June Rommel broke through to Egypt and the offensive in the Caucasus gained momentum. So the shipping losses fell to 886,000 tons. Further successes in Russia in July and August brought down the Axis claims still lower. In July it was 815,900 tons and in August 808,000 tons. Bad news for the Axis came last month (September) when Japan lost half the Solomon Islands and was trying in vain to regain them. In Egypt, Rommel could not advance further and for a whole month German soldiers were trying their best to take Stalingrad without any appreciable results. To all these facts must be added the achievement of the United States which turned out 93 new ships totalling 1,009,800 tons in September. These are the reasons why Dr. Goebbels pushed up his claim for September right up to 1,011,700 tons.

* * * *

Daily Totals and Monthly Claims Vary

It is a well-known fact that Berlin's false claims are exposed by its own later announcements. Every day the Berlin Radio announces the number of ships claimed as sunk in the preceding 24 hours and on the 2nd of each month detailed figures of the number of persons and the total tonnage sunk in the previous month are given. But the total of the daily sinkings does not tally with the monthly claim. If we total the daily claims of the Berlin Radio during August 1942 we arrive at the figure 339 ships (excluding warships which are announced separately). But the monthly total given out by the Berlin Radio on September 2nd is only 125. For September, the same thing happened. The daily claims totalled 281 vessels, but the monthly claim was only 161. These discrepancies show clearly how Dr. Goebbels's dictum that news is trickery is being put into practice.

* * * *

Ship-building: America's Astonishing Progress

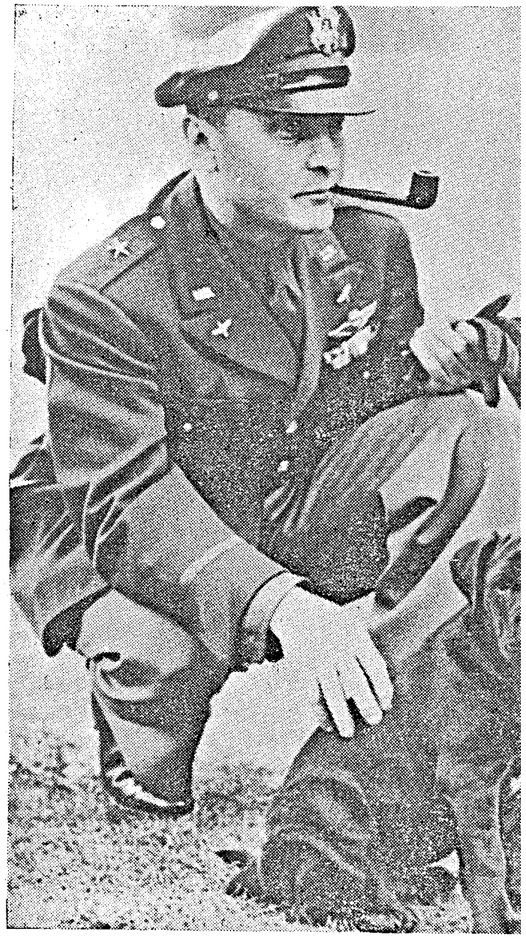
America is making such great strides in ship-building that the Axis claims of Allied shipping losses would make even the most gullible listener become sceptical. In the first quarter of 1942 Berlin's claim exceeded American replacement by 111 per cent. In the second quarter by 35 per cent and in the third only by 3 per cent. The progress of American ship-building can be gathered from a glance at the figures for the outturn of American ship-building yards. In the first quarter of 1942 only 70 ships were built, but in the second quarter this was more than doubled; 160 ships (1,768,000 tons) were built. In the third quarter, American yards turned out 232 ships totalling 2,553,700 tons, that is to say, during the last *three months* the outturn was as many ships as were built in the first *six months* of this year.

This astonishing progress is further supplemented by Canadian shipyards which are producing at the rate of one ship every three days, while the United States' outturn is three ships a day. In 1942 Canada has completed so far 50 cargo vessels of 10,000 tons, whereas only one ship of this type was built last year. So far as Britain is concerned, it will add 150,000 tons this year to the United Nations' merchant fleet. By the end of this year, Axis has to sink Allied ships at the rate of more than 1,500,000 tons every month if it is to keep pace with the combined replacement by the United Nations' shipyards!

* * * *

Battle of Transportation—Allies Getting Ahead

This is a formidable task for the Axis and no amount of false claims by the Berlin Radio can mislead the public as to the real facts of the shipping position of the United Nations. This was stressed by President Roosevelt in a broadcast talk on Tuesday last. He said that the total tonnage of ships coming out of American, Canadian and British shipyards had increased so fast that we are getting ahead of our enemies in the bitter battle of transportation. In expanding her shipping, America had enlisted many thousands of men for her merchant marine and they were doing magnificent service. They were risking their lives every hour, said the President, so that guns, tanks, planes, ammunition and food might be carried to the heroic defenders of Stalingrad and to all the United Nations' forces all over the world.



U.S. BOMBER CHIEF.—Brigadier-General Ira C. Eaker, Commanding General of the Eighth Bomber Command of the U.S. Army Air Force, who led the first all-American Bombing raid against the Germans, is seen at an American base in England with "Winston Churchill" the mascot of the U.S. Army Corps in England. General Eaker is confident that there is hardly a corner of Germany which the U.S. bombers will not reach within the next few months. According to him, air power is one of the most powerful means the Allies have to win the war and he is sure it is possible to destroy the enemy from the air. An interview with General Eaker was published in our last issue.

England A Year ago and Today

An American's Impressions

By ALLAN NEVINS, *Professor of American History, Columbia University*

AN American returning to the island after a year paints a bright picture—the War machine running efficiently and the spirit confident.

Worse or better? This question fills the observer's mind on his return to Britain after a year's absence. Is food scantier? Is the clothing supply uncomfortably low? Have transportation, lighting, mails and other public services deteriorated? What has happened to the nation's morale under additional months of nervous strain, exhausting effort and loss of life? These are serious questions, for Britain in 1941 lived close to the margins of her strength.

Yet it is soon plain that a reassuring answer can be given. Internal economy has held its own. In some respects ground has even been gained. While British war production has been kept on a level which America only in recent weeks equalled, the island has adjusted itself more effectively to its tremendous burdens, remedied some of the most grievous hardships and perceptibly reduced nervous tension. If Britain faces the present situation with less exaltation than when she was fighting the Axis alone, she looks to the end of the war with firmer confidence and to the ensuing peace with brighter hope.

NEATNESS AND ORDER

A year ago when I left England, the mid-summer sun shone on cities where evidence of just-ended raids lay in great heaps of rubble, some exhaling the acrid odour of smoke, some the ghastlier stench of death. Now the debris has been cleared away and English neatness and order have been so well restored that one often passes unnoticed a spot where huge bombs had fallen. A year ago everyone took for granted that the trains would be late. To-day they are punctuality itself. A year ago London looked half desolate, now it is so crowded and busy that living quarters are hard to find. A year ago everyone talked nervously about food, for when warehouses filled with stores had gone up in flames, when distribution from certain ports was disorganized at a time when communal eating places were few, food was worrisome if adequate. To-day the national diet is more abundant and so well assured that nobody is preoccupied with it.

Life still has many minor inconveniences, a few graver hardships and, where raiders pounce, occasional dangers. But it is much less bleak than trans-Atlantic newspaper readers would suppose. Reports have been circulated to Americans that the British lack soap, but a glance at a few shop windows dispels the idea. While soap is rationed, as one Briton remarked, "We've enough to wash elephants."

Shabbiness in dress was becoming evident in 1941. It hasn't increased and perhaps is even less noticeable. In the first year of clothes rationing just ended, the drop in sales was under 10 per cent by value, 20 per cent by quantity. People have continued to buy clothes almost as before rationing; while stocks of men's wear remained nearly constant and women's wear increased. More of both sexes are uniformed and ordinary folk have more time than in the Blitz period to look after their appearance.

TWO PRESSURES

Everywhere are evidences of the two great pressures of the war—on materials and on man-power and woman-power. Signs shout at you to economize. "Waste-paper must not be thrown away, destroyed or mixed with refuse," reads a notice on all rubbish bins, with a list of the penalties. "Is your journey necessary?" demands a placard above every ticket seller's window. Newspapers advertising a variety of wares carry, alongside, the picture of a citizen and his wife looking at shop-windows across a raging torrent, wherein a swastika-marked shark bares razor teeth, and the rebuking caption "Would you buy if you had to swim for it?" "Turn Down the Gas," exhorts another advertisement. Britain is reminded that if everybody wastes half an ounce of bread daily a convoy of thirty freighters must brave the Atlantic both ways for more wheat.

Metal articles particularly show the insatiable demands of war factories. Woolworth contains almost everything, even crumbled mushroom spawn, for people who have nothing but a cellar for a garden, but it has little metal. One can buy toothbrushes aplenty, but collar buttons require some search. Shaving brushes are abundant but blades scarce. Questions are asked in Parliament about baby carriages, and bicycles are growing so precious that even *The Times* fulminates against their theft. Yet men keep shaved, even if they have revitalized the joke about the Scot who was asked "What do you do with your old razor blades?" "Shave with them." They keep their shoes neat even if nobody believes in the engaging sign, "Shoe repairs in five days."

LABOUR SITUATION

Labour is as scarce as materials, and grows scarcer. Of 8,000,000 women registered for war employment, railroads employ over 50,000. Nevertheless, journeys are made difficult by the absence of anybody to give directions where platforms swarm with people given a few minutes to change trains at crowded junctions. Taxicabs sway under six to eight people at rush hours, for drivers to make up parties going in the same general direction.

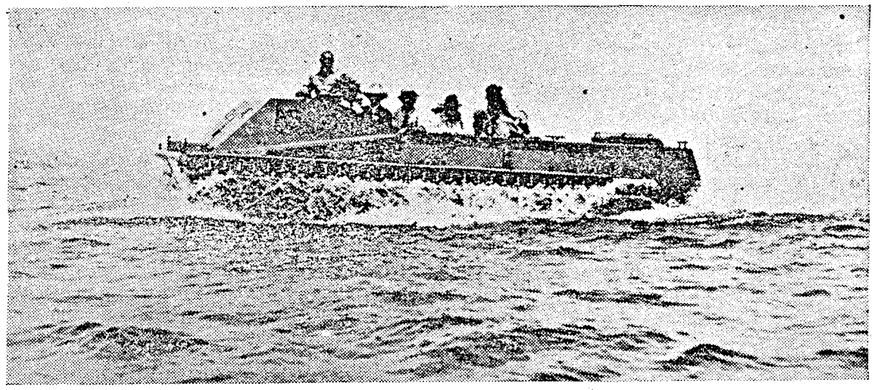
Teachers in rural areas complain of the rising rate of truancy, for farmers insist children are needed in the fields. Postal collections have been restricted. Arriving at a big northern shipbuilding town, I was told that the Mayor might be late in introducing me to the audience, for he worked as an engine driver from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., after which took up his mayoral duties. London clubs make members serve themselves cafeteria-style breakfasts. Under the demand for labour many look more tired than they did a year ago. Under the double burden of office or factory work in the daytime, and firewatching, home guard and other community service in the night, many are desperately tired. There is a general agreement that Government officers in Whitehall must be forced to take a week's holiday, yet somehow labour seems better adjusted to the nation's task than it was a year ago.

—*New York Times Magazine.*

THEIR CAUSE WILL TRIUMPH

"To-day marks the eleventh anniversary of the Japanese attack on Mukden. On the night of September 18, 1931, the Japanese Army marched out to conquer China, Asia and the world. China understood its meaning and called the attention of the chancellories of Europe and America to the Japanese aggression. She appealed to the highest international authority at Geneva for timely intervention. Our purpose in commemorating this day is not to allocate responsibility for the failures, but rather to stress the fact that international aggression, wherever arising, is a matter of general concern and must be dealt with by concerted action. We all have become wiser through experience. To-day, liberty-loving peoples are fighting shoulder to shoulder, the forces of aggression in the East and West, and though the United Nations are not yet out of the wood I feel certain that their cause will triumph in the end."

—Dr. WELLINGTON KOO, *the Chinese Ambassador, at a press reception in London.*



TANK THAT SWIMS.—A new amphibian tank which will swim ashore and carry soldiers into combat is in mass production now in the U.S.A. It was devised and constructed after years of hard work behind closed doors. Powered by a stock-model automobile engine, it runs over land or through water on a caterpillar tread. It can ferry troops to shore, carry them up the beach to the enemy and give them a mobile fortress to fight from.

Here it proves its sea worthiness on the rough waters of Lake Eire, one of North America's Great Lakes. A fighting craft, it can also be used as a transport.

Strengthening of British Navy

◆

Replacement of Warship Losses

◆

BY

H. C. FERRABY

APART from any news of fighting of the immediate present, we have had quite a lot of items of official news about the war at sea in the past few days. They tell us about the general progress, both at sea, and in what I may perhaps call the background to the sea war. Without attempting to put them in any particular order of importance, I think we ought to note these five separate pieces of evidence of our progress.

Firstly, British merchant ships travelling in convoy have covered 125,000,000 miles at sea during the war. This is considerably more than the distance from the earth to the sun.

TOLL OF ENEMY SUBMARINES

Secondly, British submarines in three years of this war have sunk more enemy submarines than they did in the 51 months of the last war. If we know that that total was 19, we can safely assume that 20 and more of the enemy U-boat losses so far, have been due to our submarine service.

Then in the third place, in about 27 months, as the First Lord of the Admiralty has told us, British shipyards have delivered enough new warships to make good our losses in battleships, aircraft-carriers and cruisers, and have more than made good the losses in destroyers.

The fourth point is that, on top of this, the shipyards have carried out repairs and refits to 23,000 warships, and to 35,000 merchant ships, to several of the ships, obviously, on more than one occasion.

MINESWEEPING AND MINELAYING

And as a fifth point, British minesweepers have destroyed German mines in our coastal waters, more than enough to have sunk every ship in the British Merchant Navy. The number of mines we have laid in enemy waters exceeds 100,000.

That seems to me to be a pretty good record of activity, but replacing losses alone does not build up the strength to win the war; more is needed, and more has been done. The Navy to-day is stronger materially than it was in September 1939, so naturally much of the information about that must still be secret.

Perhaps the most interesting of these items of news concerns the replacement of our lost warships. The Navy has suffered very severe material losses in the three years.

SINKINGS MADE GOOD

You can recall dramatic cases like the blowing-up of the *Hood*, the aerial destruction of the *Prince of Wales*, and the torpedoing of the *Ark Royal*, but these are only a fraction of the losses. Eighteen times we have had bulletins announcing the sinkings, by one means or another, of a British destroyer; 24 times the Admiralty has told us of the sinking of a British cruiser; nearly 40 times, we have been told of the loss of a submarine; as for minesweepers and trawlers, and other auxiliaries, the losses in these classes have been more than 150.

All the sinkings in the main classes of warship in the last two and a quarter years have been made good. The battleship *King George V* has replaced the *Royal Oak* and her sistership the *Duke of York* has replaced the *Hood*. Now we know that the other two ships of the class are on service, so that the *Anson* has replaced the *Byron* and the *Howe*, the *Repulse*.

INTERESTING DISCLOSURE

The British Navy's strength in capital ships is the same to-day as it was when the war began. Four aircraft-carriers lost in the last 27 months have all been replaced by vessels of more modern design, with a greater number of planes on board. When we come to cruisers, we find a most interesting disclosure.

We know that our losses during the period have totalled 22 cruisers, including those of the Royal Australian Navy. We know also, that when the war began, we had only 17 of this type building. So that, as the losses have been replaced, the shipyards must have completed at least five cruisers over and above the pre-war programme. We know nothing of their design or size, but we do know that normally it takes two and a half years to build a medium-size cruiser.

It is clear, therefore, that some very rapid building has been carried out by our shipbuilding yards, in their battle to ensure that Britain's naval strength is not reduced by any of the blows that the enemy may inflict on us. The new destroyers built for the British and Dominion Navies in the first 30 months of the war totalled at least 160. Since our losses total 80 in this type, you can see that the number built is more than double the number lost.

REPAIRS AND REFITS

This is a useful addition to our strength, though it is far from sufficient for all our needs. In this war, as in the last, the destroyer flotillas have had to be cruelly overworked, because there were never enough ships available for all the jobs that had to be done. Some of the boats that were on service when the war began have now steamed about 150,000 miles, or an average of 4,000 miles a month. When you think what that means in strain, not only for the men on the bridge and at the gun, but for the engineers and the boiler-room men, you begin to realize what sort of a war effort has been put up, both by personnel and material.

That figure of 23,000 repairs and refit to warships, is another indication. No doubt a lot of the job was what we call minor repairs—railings and superstructure damaged by heavy seas, or by bomb splinters; small breakdowns of auxiliary machinery; a shell hole through the above water plating, and so on. These could be carried out in a few hours, and they do not keep the ship long away from the fighting line.

MILLIONS OF MAN-HOURS

But 23,000 of them gives an average of some 640 jobs to be done every month to maintain fighting efficiency. The shipyards have done that on top of replacing and more than replacing every lost warship. And then, on top of that again, they have carried out 35,000 repairs to merchant ships.

Here again, probably a good many of them were minor repairs, the sort of job that is always done in merchant ships during their turn round, while the work of loading or unloading goes on. And every one of those 35,000 jobs has involved man-power, and it is the shipyard workers who provided it.

Many of the jobs have been very long and very complicated. Damage by aerial bombing has provided a lot of new technical problems to the ship repairers. Damage by the magnetic mine, and later by the acoustic mine, provided quite a lot of headaches when we first had the shattered ships brought into the shipyards to be made whole and seaworthy again.

Millions of man-hours have been expended on this repair work, though few of us have ever given much thought to that side of the war effort. Now that we have a few figures to go on, we can begin to form an outline at least of the picture, and the toil that has been given in the background—toil to support the personal bravery and hardihood of the men, who steamed in the face of danger more than the distance from the earth to the sun.

—In a recent B.B.C. talk.

Britain has A New Fleet

◆

ALL but a few of the fighting ships—they amounted in aggregate to a large well-balanced fleet—which Britain had under construction at the beginning of the present war are now completed, writes the *Yorkshire Post*. It adds:

This naval programme comprised in addition to the numerous destroyers and other light vessels about 20 cruisers, and five battleships of *George V* class. Of even more importance in the present age of naval warfare are six large aircraft carriers of the *Illustrious* class.

When war broke out, these ships were still on the stocks and at that time our naval shipbuilding capacity was very limited. Through years of wishfully-conceived naval disarmament, of the three Admiralty yards, which might have been developed, one was surrendered to Eire, one closed down and the largest reduced to a base for small supplies only.

But that first war programme went through to completion and has been succeeded by so many others that now they are virtually continuous. It had long been known that when war came a colossal building programme of merchant ships would also be necessary. With our greatly reduced shipping facilities, the extent of that naval war programme had to be carefully balanced against our anticipated needs of cargo carrying tonnage and for this reason merchant shipbuilding was also placed under the control of the Admiralty.

Side by side, therefore, under one centralized control, our Royal Navy and merchant navy are being rapidly expanded. On the naval side our efforts have been mainly directed to countering the U-boat and dive-bomber menace. That these have been successful is proved by the fact that of all European nations we are still the best fed, best clothed and our needs have still to be imported.

LARGE NUMBER OF LIGHTCRAFT

Shortly after the outbreak of war corvettes, escort vessels and other lightcraft were being laid down in considerable numbers and the fact was generally known. Few realized, however, that this great naval war programme was planned in detail by the Admiralty many months beforehand and kept on ice ready for immediate application.

Our greatest need now is more aircraft carriers. These are big ships—they must be about 800 feet long and 50 feet or more above water in order that the aircraft may land on them—and they take several years to build. But the Admiralty has not lacked foresight in the matter of necessity for providing them.

Gigantic Air Surprise Force

AMERICA to-day is building a gigantic air surprise force, far greater than even the wildest dreams of Hitler. An armada of huge bombers and troops-carriers are under way, writes Glenn Martin, the well-known aircraft manufacturer, in the magazine *This Week*. Army, air-borne, infantry, parachutists, and glider troops are being trained for sudden blows on a dozen fronts. Long-range fighters have been developed to strike from hidden advanced bases, and new secret devices will enable them to make surprise attacks even in foggy weather.

Flying battleships like the 70-ton Flying boat *Mars* could strike any spot in the globe to-day, adds Glenn Martin. Germany and Japan have so extended their lines of communication that they are exceptionally vulnerable to this type of surprise attack. But to hit and run is not enough. We must hit and capture ground that can be taken by air power. Crete taught us that. A ground soldier becomes a flying infantryman striking with fantastic speed surprise. Our Army and Marine Corps are training such men by the thousand. Huge planes will carry them or tow their gliders and trains into action.

Our aircraft industry has already done the impossible, says Glenn Martin. To-day we are approaching the 1942 goal of 5,000 planes a month. The 1943 goal is set at 10,000 planes a month.

There is no technical limit to the size of the planes. We have already designed a 250,000-pound flying boat about twice the size of *Mars*. With such a ship we can strike across the Pacific and return with spare fuel. Five hundred of these planes might turn the tide of war. Before the war is over, we may need flying battleships of 500,000-pound or larger. If such super planes are found necessary to victory, we shall build them.

SAVING PETROL

By converting 600 motor vehicles to producer gas, it has been computed that it is possible to save one million gallons of petrol per year.

With charcoal selling at Rs. 2-12-0 per maund, a bus or a lorry, converted to producer gas and running about 2,000 miles per month, can show a saving of Rs. 200 per month. Such a vehicle running for this mileage at 12 miles per gallon on petrol, or one gallon per day when working on producer gas, saves the country about 140 gallons of petrol a month, or 1,680 gallons per year.

Steady progress in the conversion of petrol-driven vehicles to the use of producer gas continues to be made, the latest total number of such converted vehicles in India being about 7,000. Steel materials made available by the War Transport Department from its quota are being absorbed by manufacturers from the various stockyards from which the materials are available. As the stocks at the stockyards become augmented, further progress is anticipated in the near future.

The question of providing steel material for the manufacture of producer plants for motor cars has received the attention of the War Transport Department. A certain amount of material licensed to makers may in future be utilized for the conversion of cars employed on official touring and by others whose work involves regular touring.

The important question of the provision of suitable charcoal fuel has been, and is, receiving the active attention of forest officials throughout the country. Work is in progress towards the provision of an easily portable type of kiln manufactured from reinforced concrete. In the United Provinces, arrangements have been completed for distribution of high grade charcoal for vehicle use. Similar arrangements are being undertaken elsewhere.

The question of briquetting charcoal, so as to provide a supply of uniformly moulded briquettes, is under consideration. Particulars of plant have been received from abroad for implementing the valuable work which has already been done in this direction by the Forest Research Institute.

The examination of coke as a possible fuel for producer gas operated vehicles is being undertaken.

Record Munitions Output in India

INEXORABLY India's munitions programme gathers increasing momentum and with the arrival of new equipment and expansion of existing capacity, new records are monthly being obtained.

Record outputs for August included some 17 new categories of production, of shells, bombs, explosives, bayonets, cartridges and various equipment, including a record output of special kinds of alloy steels.

This is not to say that India's requirements of plant and machinery have been completely met. Problems of a world-wide war are the problems of allocation and co-ordination of industrial effort. The progress that India has registered is in the increasing uses made of her present possibilities for production aided by supplies on generous proportions of new equipment and machinery as will enable the construction and stimulation of further industries.

The endeavours of scientists and research workers are directed towards greater and more efficient use of available and indigenous material. A new technique in the production of high-speed tool and high die steels economises ferro-alloys—the group includes ferro-tungsten, ferro-molybdenum, ferro-chrome and ferro-vanadium on the imported list. The new technique will eventually result in the saving of nearly Rs. 40 lakhs of ferro-alloys and valuable shipping space.

A new use for detoluated benzol obtained from India's toluene industry as a solvent in processing rubber replaces oil previously obtained from the oilfields. The importance of this discovery lies in the fact that every gallon of solvent oil drawn from the oilfields decreased production by two potential gallons of aviation spirit. Increasing new uses for coconut oil as a substitute for sperm oil in certain operations connected with munitions manufacture have also been found, displacing an average import of nearly 9,000 gallons of sperm oil.

Under a contracting supply position with the consequent close scrutiny and limitation of demands, the position emerges where everything released is essential and the difference between defence and non-defence really vanishes. Thus United States of America has released under Lease-Lend to India articles such as wireless sets and steel baling hoops. The latter, for example, do not go into munitions, etc., but they are essential for moving the cotton crop, and the importance of these high pressure hoops for handling this crop has an obvious bearing on transportation also.

Dependent on American supply of machinery, a new saw mill factory has been laid down in South India, while at a steel mill, India's plate mill capacity is to be extended by 25 to 50 per cent at a cost of over Rs. 35 lakhs. The present mill supplies all the plate for ship-building and repairs, bullet-proof and other heavy armour steel. Additional demand will be met when the new plant is installed.

A young Indian gunlayer at a twin Lewis gun in one of India's coastal defence ships.

Imperial War Graves Commission

◆

An Appeal to the Indian Public

THE names of civilians in India who become victims of enemy attack are to be commemorated by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

The Commission, which was established in Britain during the last War, was originally concerned with the commemoration of members of His Majesty's Forces who gave their lives and of whom the greater number fell in foreign lands. For more than 20 years it has helped to keep their names a living memory. Now that war takes its toll of the non-combatant population as well, the Commission has been charged with a new duty—that of collecting the names of all civilians who become victims of enemy attack, so that their memory also may be preserved, for all time, side by side with those of the Fighting Services.

The Commission's duty extends to compiling records for every civilian subject under His Majesty's protection and suzerainty and every national of any territory mandated to His Majesty who has died, or may die, during the present war from war injuries, wheresoever sustained.

As regards the peoples of India, therefore, the Commission is concerned with all classes of civilian British, British Indian and Indian Nationals, whether residing in British India or in Indian States, and also with British Indians and Indians residing in countries outside India.

COMMISSION'S APPEAL

The Commission approached the Government of India through the High Commissioner for India for advice and assistance in the matter.

Advice was requested as to:

(i) the most suitable form in which the records should be compiled, and

(ii) the particulars which would be appropriate in the case of Indian Nationals.

Assistance was requested in obtaining lists:

(i) of civilians so dying in territories under the control of the Government of India, and

(ii) of civilian Indian Nationals so dying elsewhere, so far as information might be available.

It has been decided, in consultation with Provincial Governments, Chief Commissioners and the Imperial War Graves Commission, that the records should be arranged according to Provinces, sub-classified into divisions, districts, subdivisions, towns and villages, showing the civilians who die in any particular place, irrespective of their place of domicile.

DETAILS TO BE RECORDED

Regarding the particulars appropriate for Indian Nationals, the particulars recorded in the United Kingdom are:—

(1) Name; (2) Permanent home address; (3) Degrees, Honours and Decorations; (4) Service, Service Number, Rank or Appointment (only in cases of members of Civil Defence Services); (5) Sex; (6) Age; (7) Son or Daughter, and Husband or Wife of (name and address), family details being added if desired; (8) Nationality; (9) Date and place of death; (10) Date of incident causing death; (11) Place of incident causing death; (12) Place of burial; (13) Other details (if desired).

As the Commission's object is to commemorate the sacrifices made by all classes of Indians in the same form as those of their British comrades, it has been decided that all the above items should be collected, that a new item "Religion and Caste or Sect" be added after item 2 and also that the words "or cremation" be added to item 12 above.

APPEAL TO PUBLIC

The co-operation of the public is requested especially in regard to civilian Indian Nationals who die, or who have died, of war injuries outside the territories under the control of the Government of India. It is likely, for instance, that persons now residing in India have information regarding civilian Indian Nationals who died of war injuries in Burma.

Anybody who is aware of any British Indian or civilian Indian National who is definitely known to have been killed, or to have died of war injuries, outside territories under the control of the Government of India should get in touch with the local authorities, in order that the necessary information may be recorded and sent to the Imperial War Graves Commission, through the Civil Defence Department and the High Commissioner for India in London.

Bullets for Hitler

A student from New Delhi has sent annas four to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund out of his pocket money "for the purchase of bullets for Adolf Hitler and his colleagues."

Cell in A Stalingrad House

Headquarters of "Miracle Men"

A Russian Poet's Description of the City

THE Russian poet Koustantin Sumonov has returned to Moscow from Stalingrad nd describes the amazing organization within he city which has achieved the miracle of its lefence.

This miracle is being worked, he writes, by ome men in a cellar and over them stands a urned out block of flats. Against the brassy lare of the night sky, the block stands out ike a skeleton.

and herring at their desks. Their hot meal daily is thick scalding cabbage soup with a big lump of mutton. In the deep cellar the air is so foul that matches will not strike.

A staff officer telephones to a forward Command post on a southern sector of the Stalingrad front. Here is where the biggest threat lies for the moment. The Command's post is on the fifth floor of a block of flats in the dining room of an engineer. The officers

The Leningrad sector. A delegation of the working people of Leningrad visiting the Red Army men at the front.

You go down the steep steps from the street into the basement area. The entrance is sandbagged like a bomb shelter. There are many more steps in the dark inside. Here dug below the ruins is the General Headquarters. Working in a murky room with thick timber props, are the staff of the General Commanding Stalingrad's defence. The name of that General is for the present not being revealed. It will become well known.

A MODERN DUNGEON

Down in this modern dungeon staff officers have been working now for a month without break. They are unshaven. They eat bread

sit on good velvet arm chairs. On a mahogany table, beside military maps, is still a child's exercise book. On the floor in front of a window are pots of geraniums, dahlias and a big green fern.

A MENACING ATTACK

You don't need glasses, you can see the Germans. There is one on a motor-bike. This is the sector where the enemy launched against a Red Guard's unit their most menacing attack of the past week. They started as usual with junkers and an artillery blitz and then threw in 200 tanks followed by motorized infantry. They attacked 12 times in the day.

After 42 tanks had been knocked out by the Guard's artillery, the Germans switched over from a frontal attack to a flank infiltration by tommy-gunners.

Here a most fierce fight began in one tall building. The Germans gained possession of every storey. They commanded all the approaches with their fire. Still the Red Guards went in. They fought from the first to the second storey and they fought corridor by corridor. Several rooms changed hands many times. But they could not throw out the Germans, so a decision was taken to blow up the building.

Five guardsmen went forward under fire with 25 lb. of dynamite each. The Germans were buried in the ruins. I do not know whether these five guardsmen escaped their own explosion. It is unlikely.

GERMANS FORCED BACK

Now on this sector the Germans have been forced back on the defensive. They are dug in on the nearby corner that can be seen from the Command Post windows. Driving back in a little American jeep from the Command post, a sharp-eyed man would notice that the tommy gunner, who stands where the traffic cop used to direct cars, is new. The man there an hour ago was killed by a shell:

Here is a Stalingrad factory. It is a vast place. Workers of this plant continue at their benches with intervals for fighting. Last week, the Germans broke through to the factory. The repair shop hands jumped into tanks they were working on and drove them straight out of the factory gates into the battle. They were followed by a Home Guard battalion of workers, commanded by Professor Pachenko, Dean of the Chair of the Institute of Mechanics. Another battalion was commanded by the Chief Constable of Stalingrad and the tough old steel smelter called Krigulin.

FOLLOWING THEIR FATHERS

They fought in over-alls just as their fathers did in the revolution. May be that some of them had fought themselves in those days. They went out to the battle with their wives and daughters. Women brought up ammunition and food. Girls went up into trenches and treated the wounded and carried them back to the factory. They held their position at a stone bridge all day until the evening brought reinforcements to the Red Guardsmen. When guardsmen came up workers marched back to their factory and continued their job of making fighting tanks.

There is no moon over the Volga. It has been blotted out by a blanket of smoke screen, that drifts and curls over the broad sleek waters. Ferries bring in men, ammunitions, food and guns.

There are girls too. They are Red Army nurses, crossing to the First Aid posts in the city to bring back the wounded over the river. All the wounded are evacuated across the Volga by these girls and then taken by lorry to a hospital in the rear far from that red hell that used to be Stalingrad.

Just by the landing stage there, dark logs are lying along the fore-shore by the hulk of a burned out steamer. Logs? No those are not logs. They are bodies of women and children trapped in a steamer when it was hit by a bomb as it left the landing stage to evacuate these poor folk to a quieter stretch of their river. Many women and children died when they tried to leave Stalingrad. Now there are none left in the burning city. Houses that still stand are empty.

BRITISH HEAVY BOMBERS

The maximum bomb-load in the British heavy bombers is about a quarter of the total loaded weight. The important feature, which must be built into all modern heavy bombers, is the inter-changeability of the bomb-load with fuel for range. Just as range will be limited when racks are full so must bomb-load be limited when tanks are full or the maximum permissible load will be exceeded. This means that enough tanks must be provided to give the greatest possible range when the bomb-load is reduced to the economical limit—say 4,000 tons.

Speed is the next criterion in determining the value of the big bomber. Speed is the function of a clear design and power-weight ratio. Wing loadings are going up and we have now reached more than 40 pounds per square foot as common loading for large machines. Runways are now essential at all heavy bomber stations. As a result of this and of the development in aero-motors, the cruising speeds around 220 m.p.h. are normal to-day.

On the question of production, hours of experience with the Lancaster shows that a heavy bomber need not be expensive in man hours to build. This particular bomber probably takes less man hours than many medium bombers needed in the past.

A modern heavy bomber compared with the heaviest bomber at the beginning of war carries three times the load. It has two and a half times the armament and half the crew in relation to the weight of bombs delivered. Furthermore the percentage of the casualty rate in heavy bombers is lower. How much this achievement depends on the essential quality of the British aircraft industry can be seen from the fact that the machines in question, the Lancasters, Halifaxes and Stirlings were planned six years ago.—The *Aeroplane*.

Japs want to make Burmans into Drug Fiends

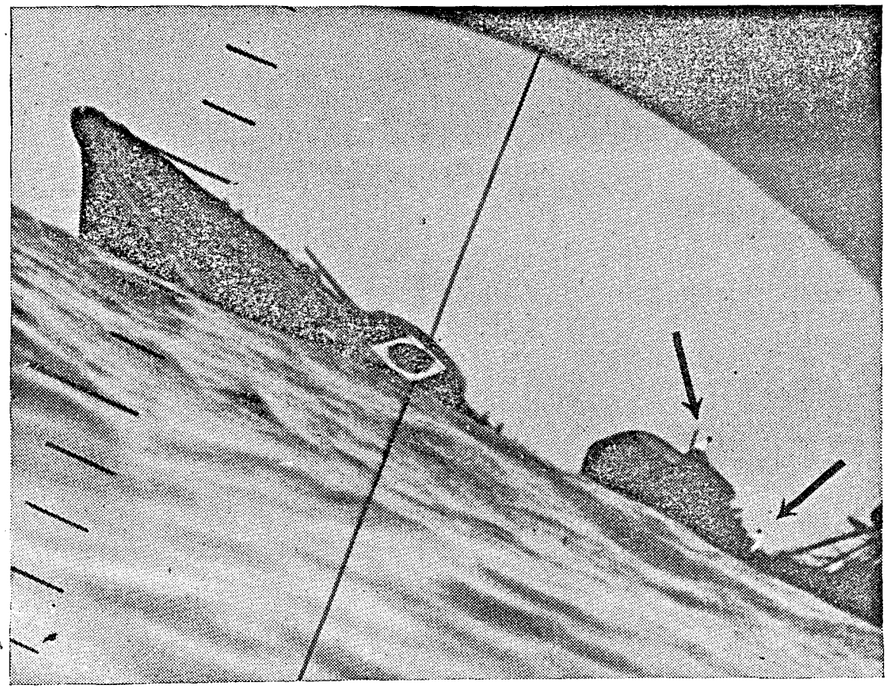
INDIAN and British guerilla patrols, penetrating deep into Burma, report that the Japs are encouraging the Burmans to take drugs. Opium and heroin dens, run by undesirables imported from Japan, are springing up in Mandalay, Rangoon and all the other big towns.

When they had sold their produce, the peasants were approached by Jap agents offering them drugs very cheaply so that they could try them. Heroin, morphine and opium were offered for sale and some of the Burmans have already become addicts.

The Japanese idea, which they have practised in China for years, is to make the peasants so addicted to the drugs that they will sell their farms and cattles in the long run to buy them.

Everywhere in Burma to-day, the Japs are eliminating the small man and establishing big chain organizations directed by Japanese. Opium is one of the methods by which they eliminate him.

Japanese officials and Army officers in Burma are interested in the establishment of



WAR THROUGH A PERISCOPE.—This unusual picture shows a Japanese destroyer just before she went down in the Western Pacific. It was taken through the periscope of a United States submarine which fired two torpedoes into the destroyer. Arrows point to two men in white uniforms—one on the bridge and the other below it. Atop the forward turret can be seen the Rising Sun insignia. The line through the middle and marks at left are periscope etchings.

This is part of a deliberate plan of the Japanese authorities similar to the one they have followed in China and other Jap-occupied territories.

Special areas in Mongolia have for a long time been under particular cultivation for poppy growing. The drugs that the Japs are bringing into Burma come from those areas.

The Japanese authorities aim their drug campaign particularly at the country people of Burma. Burmese peasants arriving in Rangoon recently with farm produce have found dope shops flourishing under Jap management. Many of them were crowded.

opium dens for another reason. Information received shows that they derive a large part of the profits from the sale of the drugs.

Japanese merchants—and more than 700 Jap traders and their families have just arrived in Moulmein from Rangoon—who deal in canned goods and medicines, often use this as a screen. They are opening shops in Burmese towns to sell their ordinary merchandise, and in another part of the town—in some cases in a private room in their own shops—they are opening dope dens where for a few annas the Burmese can buy opium or heroin.

Siam and Japan

THE question what has Siam gained by her alliance with Japan is now easily answered if one accepts the German and Japanese definitions of what constitutes "gain," observes *The Times* diplomatic correspondent. Rulers of both these totalitarian States insist that living under a strict system of control, paying heavy taxes and sacrificing freedom of speech and election is so beneficial to their own subjects that vassal nations, for their own good, must lead the same life. They are also to have the honour of supplying the needs of the herrenvolk of Europe and Asia.

Such has been the burden of numerous messages broadcast by the German Trans-Ocean agency and the Japanese Domei agency. Last spring the Domei agency informed the world that the number of Siamese newspapers was to be reduced by half in conformity with a new press law; the Siamese official wireless broadcast from Bangkok on June 19 that, according to the new decrees, newly elected members of parliament could take their seats only after they had been approved by the Prime Minister, Cabinet and Legislative Assembly.

After this insertion of the thin or political end of the totalitarian wedge, the Japanese began to hammer it into the economic butt. Rationing was introduced in early summer. A law imposing strict control of foodstuffs was passed, apparently in July, for at the end of the month Trans-Ocean announced that it empowered the authorities to search buildings, stores and ships and provided for fines of 10,000 ticals (roughly £1,000) or ten years' imprisonment, which might be doubled in case of serious violation of these regulations. On August 13 Trans-Ocean went on to say that breaches of these regulations would now be dealt with by military instead of civil courts.

Further confirmation of increasing Japanese pressure came from the Bangkok wireless on August 2. After informing listeners that forced labour had worked well in Germany, it continued: "Government is contemplating introducing forced labour in Siam. All labourers would thus become Government workers and be subject to the new military law regarding derelictions of duty."

But Bangkok has sometimes shown less enthusiasm for "Co-Prosperity" and its consequences than the broadcast mentioned above would seem to indicate. While the Japanese had been boasting of large shipments of rice which they had received from Siam, Bangkok sounded a plaintive note on July 31: "Japan is now the sole foreign source from which we receive goods. We cannot get everything from Japan because there is even greater shortage of goods in Japan itself than in Siam. The Japanese have no time to manufacture goods for Siam."

PRODUCTION OF PRESERVED MILK IN INDIA

The difficulty of importing tinned and preserved milk and milk foods from overseas simultaneously with the increase in the demand for these commodities has led to the starting of Indian ventures to meet the need, but such enterprises should not be launched without a careful study of the methods of milk utilization and the securing of properly trained men, according to the Annual Report of the Imperial Dairy Department for 1940-41.

The department handled a large number of inquiries from the milk trade and private and public institutions, Provincial Governments and Indian States.

At the Imperial Dairy Institute, Bangalore, research work was done on indigenous methods of making butter, the preparation of Indian cottage cheese and the manufacture of rennet casein for plastics. Fifty-eight students from all parts of India, Burma, Ceylon and Malaya underwent various courses of training at the Institute.

DO YOU SPEAK JAPANESE?

Many do.

They repeat wild rumours

Causing unrest and grave distress,

Stock market panics and reckless loss.

They come from Japan, these rumours.

Do not heed them.

Do not pass them on.

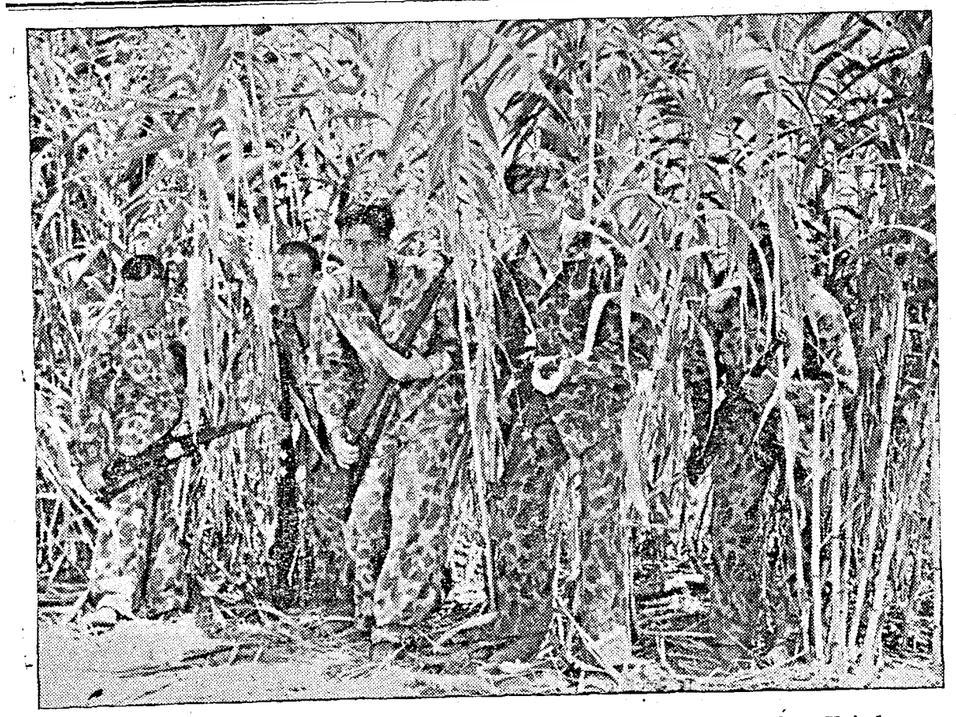
DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Art of Jungle Fighting

AUSTRALIAN troops in New Guinea are now beating the Japanese in the art of jungle warfare, cables the *Daily Mail* Melbourne correspondent.

Tricks and tactics of Japan's specially trained soldiers which served them so well in Malaya are now being applied against them in the rain-soaked tangled growth on the slopes of the Owen Stanley Mountains.



THE SPOTTED MARINES.—Wearing mottled uniforms for jungle camouflage, United States Marines train for jungle fighting.

Lessons of Malaya have been absorbed and Australians, specially trained to fight in the thickly wooded islands of the South Pacific, are now beating the Japanese at their own game. They are putting into practice ideas of their own which have improved on the Japanese tactics and are no longer a prey to surprise attacks, ambushes and cunning infiltration and encirclement.

One of the Australian innovations is wearing green uniforms. Mr. Forde and Mr. Drakeford, Australia's War and Air Ministers, have just returned from a visit to the war zone with a few "wrinkles" which are likely to result in the relaxation of some of the service regulations governing troops defending Port Moresby.

BEARDED SOLDIERS

Soldiers for example may be allowed to grow beards.

Mr. Forde said that he had seen many Americans who had given up the attempt to keep their chins clean but Australians as yet were clean shaven because rules insisted on it.

Mr. Drakeford announced that slacks and shirts with long sleeves may replace the traditional dress of airmen in battle areas. This reformation was based on medical advice, economy and utility.

Royal Australian Air Force's medical advisers say that sickness can be minimized by covering legs and arms as protection against dengue, malaria and bush sores. Gaiters would be worn with long trousers and boots would replace shoes.

Mr. Forde and Mr. Drakeford will report to the Federated Parliament at a secret session.

Motor Vehicles Manufactured in India

◆

THE assembly and body-building of unarmoured motor vehicles has expanded considerably during the past year and efforts are being made still further to increase the rate of production. Many thousands of vehicles have been completed and delivered so far and output is steadily mounting from week to week. An index to the rapid expansion that has taken place in this field is the fact that whereas before the war the Indian Army possessed only 5,000 of these vehicles, to-day there are in service or on the way more than 60,000.

A large number of firms all over the country are engaged in the work of body-building. One workshop alone is building several hundred bodies per month. The material required for these operations also run to huge proportions. Large quantities of steel, timber, canvas, and other components are delivered to the workshops every week, while train-loads of chassis are despatched to them from the various assembly plants almost every day.

The manufacture of tyres also has correspondingly increased, and plans are in hand for a further large expansion. Most of the special types of heavy tyres required by the Army are now made in India.

German Quarrel with Denmark

◆

IT is not a coincidence that Germany has threatened Denmark with the same treatment as Norway while treating the Norwegians worse than ever, remarks the *Daily Telegraph*. Hitherto the Germans have pretended that the State of Denmark showed how much a country had to gain by not fighting against German occupation. The Danes have been ruthlessly plundered, but they were allowed to keep a parliament and government and king of their own. Now Herr Buhl, the Prime Minister, tells them that the hour is grave, and hints that saving their independence and freedom may be impossible.

Denmark was forced into the Anti-Comintern Pact last year which amounted to formal acceptance of the Nazi "New Order." Now a quarrel is forced on her. German motives are plain enough. Nothing more can be obtained from Denmark without violence, but, as Goering announced at his harvest festival, all occupied countries must suffer to feed the Germans.

Controllers of German policy and strategy have become nervous over the state of things in North-West Europe. Wails about sabotage and disrespect for German authority in Denmark betray alarm no less clearly than the proclamation of a "state of emergency" around Trondheim and 400 miles to the north. "Oderint dum metuant" (let them hate provided they fear) is the essence of the Fuehrer's creed. Germany now finds that terrorism will not subdue a brave people, and still dreams of averting retribution by more brutality.

MADRAS CASUALTIES

We regret to announce the following Madras casualties which occurred on various dates :—

L. No. 139.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Died.

R.I.A.S.C.

N.Y.A.	W/C	Narayana Naidu.
MT/ 985341	Sep.	Vasudevan Pillai.

L. No. 140.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

I.A.O.C. **Wounded.**

O/71433	Sep.Dvr.	Battamsetti Venkataratnam
O/71468	Sep. Dvr.	Munuswamy.

Missing, believed "Prisoners of War."

I.A.O.C.

O/72391	Sep. Dvr.	Appala Shanti, K.
O/71446	Sep. Dvr.	Atchanna.
O/105232	P/A/Hav. B/S/P/A/ L/NK.	Papa Raju.
O/32521	Ftr. III Sep.	Naidu N. R.

Fortunes of War

◆

THE part sometimes played by luck in war was described by General Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander-in-Chief, Persia-Iraq Command, in an address to the British Institute, Baghdad. Introducing General Wilson, Al-Fariq Ismail, Namiq, the Iraqi Chief of the General Staff, observed that it was indeed an honour to have as guest such a distinguished general whose reputation as a brilliant strategist and tactician was so well-known to them all. History would surely tell of his destruction of Graziani in North Africa, his great rearguard action in Greece, and his systematic reduction of Vichy Syria.

The Leningrad front. An infantry unit occupying positions on the firing line.

General Wilson on rising to speak was greeted with enthusiastic applause by the audience which included members of the Cabinet and the diplomatic corps.

General Wilson chose as his subject the theme "Fortunes of War." He recalled General Wavell's famous speech on generalship in which he stated that "one of the requisites of a good commander is that he should be lucky." The fortunes of war, observed General Wilson, meant the manner in which events worked to the advantage of a belligerent by such trivial agencies as the action of an individual, the character of the adversary, the finding of a piece of paper or the weather. He cited the changing wind to which Joan of Arc owed her success in Orleans; Moltke's illness, which contributed to the halting of the German army before Paris in the last war; and the calm weather in May 1940 which allowed the embarkation of the B.E.F. at Dunkirk.

Summing up his deductions from a study of the subject, General Wilson affirmed that where the fates of nations and the lives of individuals were at stake, one could not rely for certain on winning a battle. On the other hand, if the plan for operations was too rigid, it could not be rapidly adjusted to meet changes of fortune. A commander's plan should, therefore, be sufficiently flexible to enable him to take full advantage of any good turn, and at the same time to counter any bad turn in the fortunes of war.

PRESS INTERVIEW WELL RECEIVED

Great satisfaction is expressed by the Baghdad press over General Wilson's interview on September 30. *Alam-ul-Arabi* declares that no one can fail to appreciate his sincerity or the earnest desire of Iraq's ally, Great Britain, to satisfy Iraq's needs.

Al-Zaman compares General Wilson's assurances with the intentions and conduct of Axis commanders who rob and starve friend and foe alike. The British commander, it says, regards it as his duty to take every possible care for the welfare of Iraq, and to assist in solving the supply problem and make the population happy. The British Army, it says, is permeated with the same generous spirit. That is why Iraqis have never at any time found anything in the army of their ally to offend them. These troops mix with the inhabitants and always behave as perfect gentlemen—a behaviour which differs completely from that of Fascist armies, with their violence and oppression.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

9th Oct.—Two enemy aircraft dropped bombs at a place on the south-east coast in England.

There was a British Commando raid on Sark, a Channel Island.

The German Radio stated that British Dieppe prisoners had been put in chains. A statement issued by the British Government declared: "His Majesty's Government will be compelled, in order to protect their own prisoners of war, to take similar measures upon an equal number of enemy prisoners of war in their hands."

It was disclosed that the total number of German and Italian prisoners in British hands was 285,000—23,000 Germans and 262,000 Italians. The total number of British prisoners in German and Italian hands was 115,000—90,000 in German hands and 25,000 in Italian hands.

10th Oct.—Five hundred fighters of the Royal Air Force swept over France. United States bombers raided Lille.

Two enemy aircraft flew over south-west England and dropped bombs.

A German communiqué stated that 107 British officers and 1,269 N.C.O.'s were fettered.

11th Oct.—A short alert was sounded in London.

12th Oct.—Allied bombers carried out an air blitz over western Europe. Forty-eight German planes were shot down.

More United States forces arrived in Britain.

13th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked Hanover, a manufacturing centre of tanks and locomotives.

German raiders were over a north-eastern town of England.

14th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked industrial targets in northern Germany. High explosive bombs caused damage in several Baltic towns.

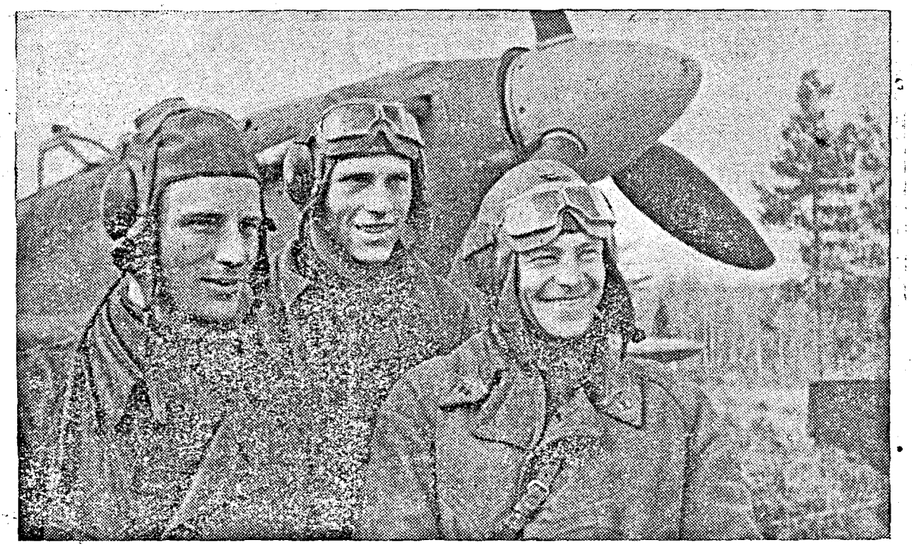
Four enemy aircraft were over the south coast of England.

15th Oct.—The Royal Air Force raided Kiel.

The Duke of Devonshire, speaking in the House of Lords, said that during the coming winter, there would be a serious danger to England from aerial attacks.

16th Oct.—The Royal Air Force swept over Holland.

A German supply ship was sunk in the Channel.



The North-Western front. Flying "Hurricanes," Major Kondratiev, Senior Lieutenant Krikunov and Junior Lieutenant Volkov encountered ten Messerschmitts. Engaging the enemy, the fighters shot down six planes and safely returned to their ærodrome. Left to right: Senior Lieutenant Krikunov, Junior Lieutenant Volkov and Major Kondratiev.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

9th Oct.—Senator Mead stated that the United States Navy was "gaining very rapidly on the submarine menace."

12th Oct.—The Canadian Department of National Defence in full agreement with the United Kingdom, put in chains German prisoners equal in number to the Canadian prisoners in the Dieppe raid.

13th Oct.—Six naval vessels including four 'special ships' and two submarine chasers were launched at three shipyards.

Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Alaska.

An alert was sounded in Reykjavik.

14th Oct.—Two more American destroyers were launched.

15th Oct.—Five ships for the navy were launched from a new yard at an eastern coast port.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON.

9th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked Akyab.

10th Oct.—Targets in central Burma were attacked. The railway bridge south of Mogaung was destroyed. Japanese barracks south of Tingka were attacked.

14th Oct.—The Royal Air Force raided Burma. Japanese base at Kalewa was bombed.

15th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in the Gangaw area of the Myittha Valley.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets between Derna and Sidi Barani, including the seaplane base at Bomba.

The British forces occupied Sakaraha and Tongobory in Madagascar.

10th Oct.—Ethiopia joined the ranks of the United Nations.

12th Oct.—Allied bombers attacked enemy landing grounds in Egypt.

13th Oct.—American forces arrived in South Africa.

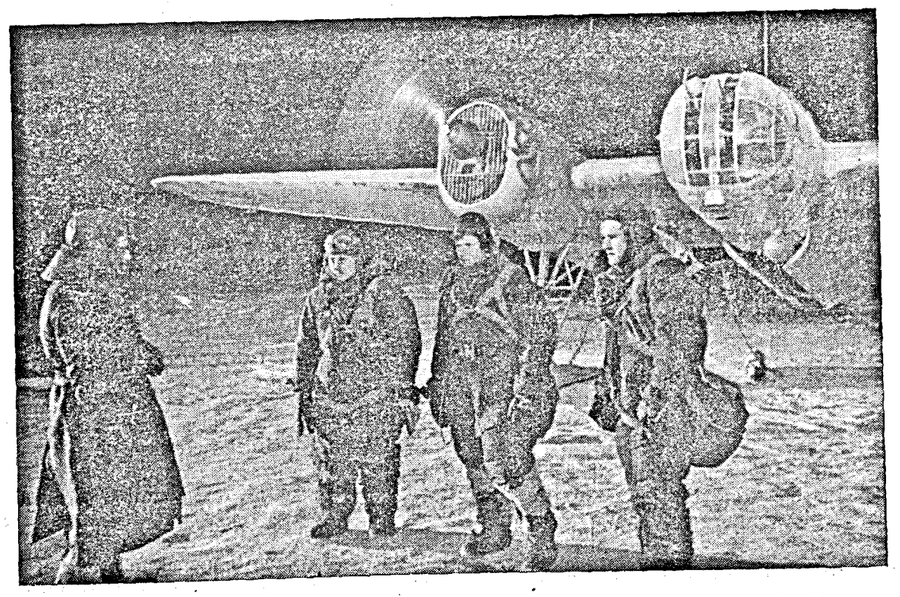
The Allies bombed Cretan airfield. Fifteen German planes were shot down over Malta.

14th Oct.—Tobruk and the landing grounds in Daba were raided. A huge fire was started in a petrol dump.

There were continuous air raid alerts in Malta for two days. Many enemy planes were shot down.

15th Oct.—Allied bombers attacked Tobruk and El Daba.

16th Oct.—Rommel returned to Egypt. Twenty-three enemy planes were shot down over Malta.



On the south-western front: An officer congratulating a bombing crew on a successful raid.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

9th Oct.—Rzhev city was in flames. German drive to Volga was checked. Russian position improved at Mozdok.

10th Oct.—The Russians broke through. The Don was recrossed at several points.

11th Oct.—Von List replaced Von Bock. Non-stop attacks were lanuched by Timoshenko.

M. Stalin issued a new decree creating a single military command.

12th Oct.—Nazi attacks were held. The Russians advanced in north-west. Soviets were on the offensive at Rzhev.

A decisive stage started in the battle of Stalingrad.

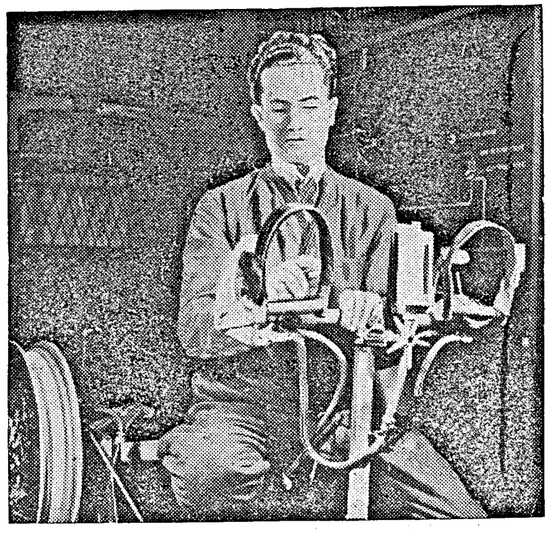
* * * *

SHIPPING

10th Oct.—H.M.S. **Coventry** was sunk. It had a displacement of 4,290 tons and a complement of 400. It was launched in 1917.

12th Oct.—The United States Navy Department announced that a medium-sized United States vessel was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine off the Pacific Coast.

13th Oct.—An American coastal vessel was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine.



Arms production forms an important item in the great contribution India is making to the Allied war effort, and increasing numbers of young Indians are under training now in England. Photo shows a young Indian munition worker.

13th Oct.—Artillery duels took place at Stalingrad and German pressure slackened. The Red Army wrested initiative at Mozdok.

14th Oct.—A tank battle raged near Tuapse. Repeated attacks by Nazis were repelled.

15th Oct.—Nazis regrouped their battered forces for what may be the final assault on Stalingrad.

According to unconfirmed information, Field Marshal Von Bock was arrested on Hitler's orders.

16th Oct.—The Nazis launched a drive to Grozny.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

9th Oct.—A new Iraqi Cabinet was formed with Nuri Es Said as Prime Minister.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9th Oct.—Germany gave an ultimatum to Denmark that the Danes must co-operate in the proposed "Great Germany."

13th Oct.—An air raid alert was sounded in Oslo.

16th Oct.—Four-thousand followers of the Croat peasant leader, Doctor Matchek, revolted against the Quisling Government.

THE FAR EAST

9th Oct.—The Japanese abandoned Attu and Agattu in the Aleutians. There were more allied raids on Kiska.

The allied troops occupied the Owen Stanley area. Three Anglican British Missionaries were killed in Papua.

11th Oct.—Mr. Wendell Willkie left Chungking for the United States.

12th Oct.—The Kiska seaplane hanger was bombed.

Japanese continued to land in Guadalcanar. An enemy destroyer was sunk and a cruiser hit.

13th Oct.—The Australians were 12 miles from Kokoda. A Japanese seaplane tender was hit.

14th Oct.—Two Japanese cruisers were damaged in the Solomons by United States bombers. The Allies advanced in New Guinea. Enemy positions in Buna were bombed.

It was revealed that a big Japanese fleet was headed towards South Pacific.

15th Oct.—In the naval engagement off the Solomons, six Japanese warships were sunk. An American destroyer was lost.

United States planes bombed Kiska. Japanese fighters were driven out of the Aleutians.

Heavy damage was inflicted on the Japanese base at Rabaul.

United States submarines sank one heavy Japanese cruiser in Far Eastern waters. Four Japanese auxiliaries were sunk, one probably sunk and two damaged.

16th Oct.—The Japanese reinforced Guadalcanar.

Japanese attempt to land in Kowloon was foiled.

A Wish—And the Result

The Soviet Navy newspaper *Red Fleet* tells the story of an American naval lieutenant who insisted that he and his men be allowed to operate the anti-aircraft guns on a Russian ship when they were picked up after their own boat had been torpedoed. The Russians granted his wish as soon as a Nazi plane appeared. Hall promptly dow ed it.

ARE YOU SPREADING INFECTION?

There is a dread disease in the land. It poisons man's mind and robs him of his courage. The disease is RUMOUR. It was started by the common enemy, Japan. Don't help to spread it by infecting your friends.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

IN A NUT-SHELL

[We are indebted to a Rasipuram Correspondent for this neat acrostic—Ed.]

NEVER BELIEVE or broadcast unconfirmed news.

Aid to your utmost the country's War-Effort.

Think in terms of world peace and democracy.

India should be strengthened to defy and defeat the Axis forces.

Our rich and hoary culture and civilization must be saved.

No effort should be spared to stamp out Nazism.

Actively promote internal peace and unity.

Labour assidiously for a just and lasting peace.

Whatever your lot in life do your duty in this period of world's crisis.

Abandon all your petty differences and unite in serving the common cause.

Responsibilities, great and grave, should be cheerfully borne by all of us.

Forge ahead in the hope and faith of certain victory.

Recognize the gravity of the war situation and act manfully.

Obey the call of the country, the dictates of prudence and do your bit for victory.

No sacrifice is to be counted great in securing the total defeat of our enemies.

Think of these perils and problems and build the National War Front against the Japanese.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, " VICTORY HOUSE ", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1942 No. 7

A CRADLE OF HEROES

H.E. LORD LINLITHGOW

WHEREVER in the world there is talk of brave deeds and soldier-like qualities of endurance and fortitude, the men of this land are brought to mind. Here for centuries, generations of sturdy farmers have won their harvests from the hard earth, and have defended their heritage with courage and resolution. Since the dawn of history, India has bred famous soldiers ; the hills and plains which surround us can justly claim to be a cradle of heroes, a soil which has nourished the flower of India's armies. There are among us to-day brave men who fought for freedom and civilization in the last world war, and now that these two precious jewels are in peril once again, their sons and grandsons are keeping bright and sharp the sword they forged and are facing our common enemies with the same stout shield

—His Excellency **LORD LINLITHGOW** *in a speech at Rawalpindi on Monday, October 19*

Running Commentary

India Debate in the Lords —Britain's Policy and American Opinion

The debate on India in the House of Lords on Tuesday (October 20th) has once again drawn attention to the fact that the Cripps offer stands. The Duke of Devonshire, Under-Secretary of State for India, said, "The Lord Privy Seal went to India with the full and comprehensive offer of Self-Government for India. He made a great and sustained effort to get the offer accepted. He overstayed his original time-table by a long time, but it was not accepted, *not because it was not sufficiently comprehensive.* We offered India all that we had to offer. . . I believe that the next move must come from India. When that fact is realized, the next move may come; but, until it is realized, the deadlock will continue."

Britain's policy towards India was emphasized in the House of Commons by Mr. Amery a few days ago. He said the Government policy was not one of reluctant retreat, but willing advance; not one of enforced abdication; but freely proffered partnership in freedom. "That is a fact," reiterated the Government spokesman in the House of Lords, and added, "Self-Government for India was the ultimate goal of British statesmanship long before there was any conscious demand for it from India, long before there was such a thing as the Congress Party." Winding up the debate in the House of Lords Lord Simon, the Lord Chancellor, said, "I claim to say on behalf of the Government that the aim of the Government's policy is that Indians should themselves mould the destiny of India, free from external dictation and control." He pointed out that the great fact about the Cripps proposal was that it recognized that a great patriotic development in a great country must come from within. But the Cripps negotiations broke down and, in the words of the Duke of Devonshire, "stuck upon the sand-banks of the Congress Party's unwillingness to come to any compromise with the Indian parties and with the Government." The Duke added: "Since the breakdown which the Congress Party deliberately brought about, the Government of India had been confronted with a formidable conspiracy designed to paralyse the Government of India." The disorders staged in India with a view to gaining this objective were principally directed against communications, such as railways, buses and telegraphs, and were most serious in those parts of India where such activities would have been most paralysing in the event of a Japanese invasion. The Under-Secretary for India said that there was "evidence, strong evidence, that the Congress Party has so directed its campaign as to do maximum damage to India's war-effort and render India vulnerable in the most dangerous quarter." And Lord Simon said, "It is *quite plainly revealed that the Congress Party* has been engaged, though it said that it is supporting a policy of non-violence, in some of the most shocking violence and has committed some of the most frightful crimes." These crimes and the methods of the Congress Party at the present time do not command approval or support of American public opinion. America has no doubt taken a good deal of interest in Indian affairs and shown a sincere desire for positive steps to end the deadlock, but American opinion has almost unanimously condemned the Congress Party's attitude and approved the Government's action.

SPECIAL ARMY SUPPLEMENT

With this Number is issued a Special Army Supplement of

28 PAGES

THE Editor wishes to express his thanks to the Military authorities who have contributed articles and pictures to this Supplement, and would welcome any further suggestions that may increase mutual respect and good fellowship between the Military and the civil population

British Mission to China—Allies' Gesture of Friendship

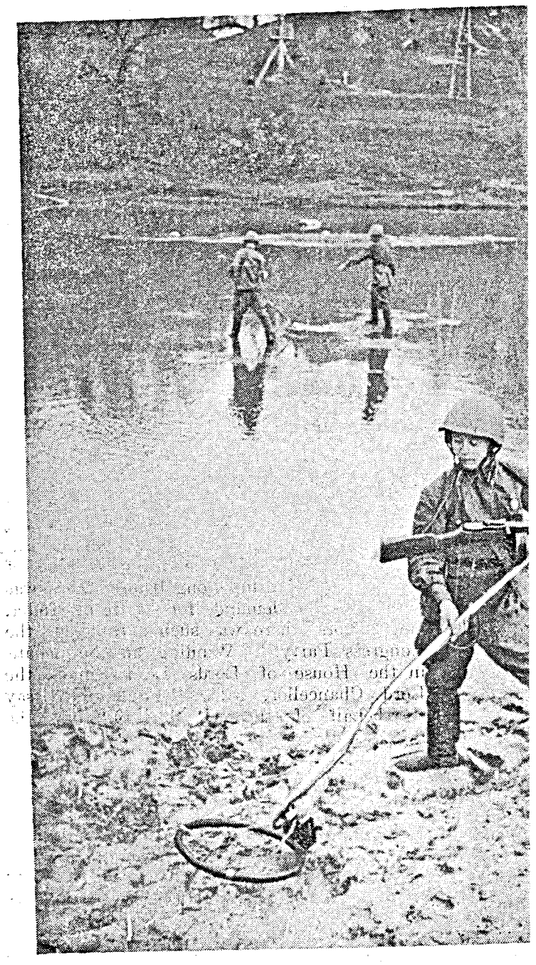
The British Mission to China is on its way. It consists of two members from the House of Lords and two from the House of Commons. The Mission has been sent in response to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's expressed wish that such a delegation should visit Chungking this autumn. It passed through Lisbon on Saturday last. The delegation will have a particularly warm welcome in China, which deeply appreciates the great gesture of friendship which Britain and America have extended to her by renouncing their extra-territorial rights and privileges in that country. An official *communiqué* issued on October 10th in London recalled that in public announcements made on January 14, 1939, July 18, 1940, and June 11, 1941, His Majesty's Government declared that they were prepared, at the conclusion of hostilities in the Far East, to negotiate with the Chinese Government for the abrogation of extra-territorial rights and privileges hitherto enjoyed by their nationals in China. A similar announcement was made by the United States Government that in order to emphasize their solidarity with the Chinese Allies, they would relinquish extra-territorial rights and privileges in China and settlement of questions intimately connected with it.

* * * *

Three Important Implications: The 1926 Pledge

This declaration has three important implications. Firstly, it is a fulfilment of the pledge made by Britain many years ago to surrender such rights and privileges. Secondly, it represents the first formal announcement of Anglo-American co-operation in planning the future of the Pacific. Thirdly, it is a direct challenge to Japan's "Co-prosperity sphere" and a psychological spear-head of the forthcoming Anglo-American offensive against the Japanese. Drawing attention to these implications, *Reuter's* Diplomatic Correspondent recalls the 1926 pledge, which declared that Britain was prepared to make the British residents in China subject to new Chinese law codes and courts. In accordance with that pledge, the British concessions at Hankow, Chinkiang and Kiukiang were handed back to China. The abolition of extra-territorial privileges in China is not a sudden and isolated act, but the end of a process which has long been under the favourable consideration of the British and American Governments. The first step of this process was the admission of China into the League of Nations, and the second was America's handing over to China her share of the Boxer indemnity, which greatly helped in building up a new educational system in China. The third step was, as stated earlier, Britain's return of Hankow and other concessions 16 years ago. There is a long history behind the principle of extra-territoriality, which is merely an arrangement by which strangers living in a foreign country are allowed to live as a separate community, observe their own customs, and administer their own laws and their own codes.

* * * *



THE WESTERN FRONT.—Sappers clearing a river-bed of mines.

Extra-Territoriality: Encroachment on Sovereignty

In modern times, extra-territoriality was recognized by the Ottoman Turkish Empire under which non-Muslim communities, such as Greeks and Armenians, were allowed to govern themselves by their own law. This administrative convenience became a serious political danger when the Turkish power declined. What was intended to save trouble came to have the impress of political inferiority.

The same thing happened in China. Extra-territoriality which was first granted as an easy way of dealing with unwanted foreigners led to the growth of a series of compact foreign settlements, supported by formidable power, in the midst of China. Extra-territoriality sometimes came to be considered as an encroachment on sovereignty.

* * * *

Significance of Abolition: Atlantic Charter and Asia

The justification of extra-territoriality lay in the vast differences of law and custom between nationals and foreigners, but in modern times the tendency has been towards amalgamation of law and custom, and this is the result of the free movement of ideas. The Code Napoleon, which was inspired by the principles of Roman law was generally the basic inspiration of all new systems of law. It may be said that the whole non-Anglo-Saxon world acknowledges the principle of Roman law, while the Anglo-Saxon law is itself deeply influenced by Roman concepts. The abolition of extra-territorial rights and privileges is a recognition that a common standard of public conduct and justice exists. Further it has also another significance. Along with similar action in Persia it means that the principles of the Atlantic Charter are being applied to Asia. These significant features of unity and closer friendship will be further strengthened by the visit of the British Mission to China.

* * * *

Russia: Germans to Adopt New Defensive Technique

Reuter's Special Correspondent, in a despatch from Moscow on October 20th, says that the issue of the whole Stalingrad battle hangs dangerously in the balance, and that if the Germans once install themselves in the northern part of the City, the position in the centre will become very precarious. The situation looks extremely critical, but it is well to bear in mind that, whatever may be the ultimate result of this battle, Germany has failed to break up the Soviet Union or to destroy the Red Army as a fighting machine. It is significant that surprisingly frank admissions on this point have been made by General Dietmar and other German military commentators in recent weeks. Germany now seems to feel confident that the original purpose of her attack on Russia can be secured by an alternative method. The Germans have gained considerable experience in fighting in the Leningrad and Moscow sectors, and afterwards in holding the Russian counter-offensive last winter. That experience seems to be responsible for the emergence of a new defensive technique. The Germans have learned that a web of fortified positions, protected by minefields and supported by mobile field and anti-tank batteries, can offer formidable resistance to tank formations. During the winter, the German army which had almost reached the limit of endurance, escaped disaster by this network of fortified positions at key points such as Rzhev, Briansk, Vyasma, Orel and Kharkov. Again this summer, this defensive network of the German Command prevented a break-through by Russian diversionary assaults.

* * * *

Hitler' Boast: Weaknesses in the German Plan

Hitler boasted that once Germans were in Stalingrad they would never be got out of it. This indicates that the German plan is to extend this defensive wall to the Volga and then rely on it to hold the Red Army indefinitely. The Germans think that the striking power of the Russian forces would steadily diminish as a result of the lost resources of oil, iron and coal, and that this would help the progressive reduction of the German garrison in Russia. But this ignores the fact that the loss of fuel and raw materials can be temporarily met by increased Anglo-American supplies by way of Murmansk and *via* Persia and by reserve stocks accumulated in Central Russia and the Ural regions. These reserve stocks were steadily built up as a matter of precaution, as the Russian Command had, at an early stage, envisaged the possibility of having to withdraw to the line of the Volga. There are also other weaknesses in the German plan.

AN A.R.P. WARNING

"IT WAS NOTED AFTER THE Japanese air raid near Chittagong (some months ago) that a yellow or yellow green powder formed around or near the bomb craters," says a Training and Operations Circular issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India, for the guidance of A.R.P. Services which deal with the disposal of unexploded bombs. The Circular continues:

"It has been confirmed that this powder is part of the high explosive filling. This powder, if it comes into contact with the skin, will cause acute Dermatitis with extreme irritation which, in some cases, may result in serious secondary infection. Any such powder found near the bomb crater should not, therefore, be touched with bare hands. Gloves or other suitable protection should be used."

The German assumption that they would be able to contain the Russian armies in the south by means of a continuation of the fortified belt down to Stalingrad does not take into account that the enormously long lines of communication on the Stalingrad sector and in the Caucasus are dangerously exposed to Russian attacks for several hundreds of miles along the upper Don southwards from Voronezh. As a matter of fact, the scale and weight of Russian counter-attacks all along this line have been increasing instead of diminishing.

* * * *

Western Front: British-American Offensive

Now let us turn to the Western front. The Germans are expecting a fresh and extremely formidable enemy attack to appear at any time in Western Europe. And here also they are putting their faith in the same sort of fortified network as in Russia. Just as they are relying on the progressive weakening of the Russian military machine by depriving it of necessary raw materials, so also they are counting on their U-boats to starve off the British-American offensive. But the submarine menace is now being steadily mastered on account of new devices and stronger escorts. It is true, however, that Germany saved itself from defeat this summer on account of the losses she inflicted on Allied shipping.

Now the broad feature of the German plan is to harness the whole enslaved Europe to their own war-machine. They have already bolted and barred the doors leading to Europe from east to west and from the Mediterranean. They have seized so large a part of Russia that they command sufficient wheat, iron, coal and nickel (though not yet oil) to carry on indefinitely. It was to this that Goering referred when he said in a recent outburst, "Do not forget that we have taken from the Russians their best territories. Swamps do not interest us. There they may remain. We did not intend to expand in this direction and become reptiles. But we have planned properly and taken that part which is useful."

* * * *

Enslaved Europe to Supply More Man-power to Germany

Now the Germans want more and more man-power. They are determined to convert all Europe into an enormous Nazi workshop manned by helots. Poland, Czechoslovakia and France particularly are under a regime of terror. France has been asked to give 150,000 skilled workers and Laval is trying his best to find the required men for Germany. Ruthless action is being taken and the brutalities perpetrated in Norway and Belgium may be repeated in France. The idea is to carry out the German plan of increasing her labour-power by a scientific and carefully planned terror in the enslaved lands of the west. As one observer has remarked:

"It will consist in breaking up European nations, and it means the physical destruction of the recalcitrant, systematic starvation of the useless, and mass deportation of the useful rest on an hitherto unimagined scale. Its agents will be Himmler and his henchmen, and its instrument had been created in the armed Waffen *SS*."

The Germans thus want to harness the whole conquered Europe's man-power, raw materials, food and factories with modern scientific precision and cold-blooded savagery. They want to make Germany and German-occupied Europe into a self-sufficient fortress capable of withstanding the Anglo-American siege for an indefinite period. In other words, **The Germans who won their conquests by offensive strategy are being constrained to hold them by defensive measures.**

* * * *

United Nations: Perilous Stage of War has Passed

Hitler's recent speech was a tacit but clear admission that the German plan of achieving decisive and final victory by concentrating on each opponent singly, and in turn, has failed, and that Germany is now about to adopt a policy of strategical defence. That is to say, **Hitler has lost the race against time and now wants to make time his Ally.** So far as the United Nations are concerned, the most perilous stage of the war has passed. This is certainly good ground for solid satisfaction. But it does not mean that victory is yet within our grasp. It is the immediate task of the British and American military authorities to work out new combinations and devices which will break the back of the German military machine and bring the eagerly hoped-for victory much nearer.

Troops Entertained

BRITISH and American soldiers and civilians ate Indian foods off plantain leaves with their fingers when they were entertained by the Bangalore City Y.W.C.A. A three course dinner was served in the quadrangle of the Medical School and this was followed by music and an exhibition of Indian dancing.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER GERMANY AND ENGLAND

17th Oct.—The Royal Air Force bombed Cologne. The docks at Le Havre were attacked.

Hess, it was stated in London, was a military prisoner of war and not a prisoner of State.

18th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Holland. An enemy ship was sunk off the French coast.

A large Atlantic convoy arrived safely in Britain.

20th Oct.—Three air raid alerts were sounded in London. Two German bombers were brought down over East Anglian and the Thames estuary towns.

Mr. Churchill, in a message read at the Wembley Stadium, stressed the possibility of "heavy and menacing" German raids on British towns.

21st Oct.—Scattered German planes were over England.

The Admiralty announced that two new British battleships, sister ships of the ill-fated *Prince of Wales*, were now at sea.

22nd Oct.—Addressing the Parliament, Field-Marshal Smuts (South African Prime Minister) said: "Once the time has come to take the offensive, it would be folly to delay, overpare and perhaps miss the opportunity."

23rd Oct.—An enemy supply ship was torpedoed off the Norwegian coast. Targets in northern France were raided. Factories and barges were attacked in western Germany.

Army Religious Teachers

RELIGIOUS teachers are now authorized by Government for all units of the Indian Army. The scale is one teacher for each religious group, provided the authorized establishment of Viceroy Commissioned Officers and Indian other ranks in the unit is not less than 120.

EXEMPLARY CONDUCT

THE MADRAS FORTRESS Command has, in a press note, appreciated the exemplary conduct of RAJU, son of SENI CHETTIYAR, and CHINNAPPAN, son of MURUGAPPA CHETTI, life-savers and watchmen of the Madras Bathers' Protection Association.

At a recent accident at Elliots' Beach on the 24th September 1942, both RAJU and CHINNAPPAN rushed, without fear or hesitation and at considerable risk to themselves, to the assistance of 2nd Lieut. R. M. SHEPARD, 25/16 Punjab Regiment, who was being attacked by a shark. Their prompt action almost averted a fatal accident.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

17th Oct.—Reykjavik had its fourth air raid alert in five days.

It was revealed that a new weapon against the U-boat called "Fairmiles" was in operation with the Canadian navy. They are submarine chasers.

The possibility of post-war development of flying motor cars—travelling both on land and in the air—was pictured by Mr. E. E. Wilson, President of the American United Aircraft Corporation.

18th Oct.—Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Prime Minister, stated in a speech in Montreal: "After three years of war, nowhere is the balance turned decisively against the enemy."

21st Oct.—Mrs. Roosevelt was expected to go to London at some future time.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

17th Oct.—United States Army aircraft raided the Japanese aerodrome at Lashio in northern Burma. Several hits were scored. Fires were visible for 40 miles.

General Wavell inspected the forward positions on the north-east frontier.

19th Oct.—Mr. Li Shao-ta, a Chinese leader from Johore, who arrived in Chungking reported large-scale systematic killing, plundering and burning by the Japanese in Malaya.

20th Oct.—The presence in New Delhi of Generals Wavell, Auchinleck and Stilwell was interpreted as connected with an Allied drive against Burma.

21st Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked enemy transport vehicles in the vicinity of Kan in the Myittha valley.

23rd Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives at Monywa.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17th Oct.—The British troops advanced in Madagascar and occupied the town of Ambositra.

Tobruk was attacked by the Royal Air Force.

It was revealed that Greek troops were fighting on the Egyptian front.

Three Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

18th Oct.—The Royal Air Force again raided Tobruk. Ships in Benghazi were attacked by United States bombers.

According to the Vichy Radio, absolute calm prevailed at Dakar.

19th Oct.—United States troops arrived in Liberia and occupied several points.

20th Oct.—Rommel lost his reinforcements.

More than 230 Axis planes raided Malta four times yesterday.

21st Oct.—The British forces took prisoner the French Commander in Madagascar.

Enemy targets at Tobruk and Fuka were bombed.

22nd Oct.—Four enemy ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

A few Italian planes flew over Gibralter.

Enemy ships in Tobruk were attacked.

23rd Oct.—Landing grounds in Fuka and Daba were attacked.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

17th Oct.—The Red Army withdrew from the north-west suburb of Stalingrad. The Germans suffered heavy losses in men and tanks. Timoshenko's "Relief Army" succeeded in breaking down enemy resistance.

According to a report from Zurich, Field Marshal Mannerheim of Finland sent a letter to the Pope discussing the possibilities of a separate peace for Finland.

18th Oct.—Soviet troops withdrew in the north of Stalingrad. Fierce fighting raged in the city.

Russia and Luxemburg agreed to re-establish relations and exchange diplomatic representatives.

19th Oct.—Timoshenko's armies hammered at the German left flank. The Soviet army consolidated positions north-west of the city.

20th Oct.—The Germans did not make any progress in Stalingrad. The decisive stage of the battle began.

Five German transport ships were sunk in the Baltic.

21st Oct.—The situation was extremely critical in Stalingrad. The Germans won some slight gains near Novorossisk.

22nd Oct.—The Germans made a bid for Grozny, but their attacks were repelled. Stalingrad's defences were still intact.

23rd Oct.—German assault slowed down. The defenders improved their positions. Over 2,200 German tanks were destroyed in the eight weeks of battle.

* * * *

SHIPPING

17th Oct.—A west-bound merchantship was torpedoed and sunk off the south shore of the St. Lawrence river. The 4,000-ton ship was one of a small convoy.

21st Oct.—A German ferry boat was torpedoed by a submarine between Germany and Sweden.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

17th Oct.—According to the Stockholm correspondent of the Independent French Agency, tension was mounting between Berlin and Vichy.

18th Oct.—Countrywide disturbances took place in France. There was an explosion in the Lyons railway station. Another bomb explosion took place in M. Doriot's District Headquarters.

BE A SCEPTIC!

A sceptic is a man who believes nothing

Unless he knows it to be true.

Be a sceptic over rumours.

Most of them are made in Japan

With intent to mislead you.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

19th Oct.—In the heaviest daylight raid of the war, the Royal Air Force attacked the Great French armament factory at Le Creusot, about 170 miles south-east of Paris.

20th Oct.—An attempt on the life of the Croat Quishing Premier, Pavelitch, was made at Zagreb.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands warned the Dutch of serious consequences for those who assisted the Nazi terror regime.

Registration took place for work in Germany of all male Frenchmen between the ages of 18 and 50.

21st Oct.—Three Belgians were executed by the German Court Martial.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

17th Oct.—The Allies raided Kiska. United States troops occupied another Island in the Aleutians.

Enemy positions were strafed in the Owen Stanley area.

A large number of Japanese troops landed in Guadalcanar. American positions were shelled.

A big air and naval battle was being fought out in the Solomons Islands.

18th Oct.—The Japanese were forced back in the Owen Stanley area. The Allies raided Timor and Buin. Japanese assaults were held by the American forces in the Solomons.

19th Oct.—The Japanese met with reverses in East Chekiang. Enemy forces were attacked east of Canton and heavy casualties inflicted.

There was a heavy raid on Kiska.

20th Oct.—United States bombers put two Japanese destroyers out of action north-west of Kiska.

Three Japanese cruisers were hit in Allied bombing raids on Northern Solomons.

Japanese advance on Hupeh was checked.

21st Oct.—There was another attack on Kiska by United States bombers.

The Japanese took the offensive in the Solomons. An Allied counter-offensive against Rabaul in New Britain was expected.

The Tokyo Radio announced that punishment in accordance with military regulations had been meted out to United States fliers captured after the raid on Japan on April 18.

22nd Oct.—The Japanese were pushed back in New Guinea.

23rd Oct.—United States lost two destroyers in the Solomons. The Japanese retreated in New Guinea.

An alert was sounded in Chungking.

A town in Yunnan was bombed by the enemy.

LOCAL INHABITANTS *need not apply!*

In occupied China the Japanese have ousted the Chinese from every decent job from the top to the bottom of the business world. There are no Chinese industrialists any more, no Chinese shopkeepers, no Chinese professional men or stenographers or clerks, not even Chinese street-vendors. These jobs are for the Japanese, the rewards of conquest. This is what happens when the Japanese come. Do not stand by and see this happen in India! The energies of every man and woman are needed to make our defences sure.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT
against the Japanese

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, " VICTORY HOUSE ", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

SPECIAL ARMY SUPPLEMENT

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1942 No. 7

ATTACK!

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1942 No. 7

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Recruiting and Recruits	3
The Modern Recruit	5
Three Months' Experience	8
Training at the O.T.S., Bangalore	9
Southern Army Manœuvres	12
Madras S. & M. Jemadar's Story	14
Rare Devotion to duty	15
The Madras Guards: A Retrospect	16
The Madras Guards A. F. I.	17
The Madras Regiment	19
A Visit to a new Madrassi Battalion	20
"A Proud Moment:" H.E. Sir Arthur Hope's Speech	21
The Travelled Indian Soldier	23
Faithfulness and Courage	24
Siege of El Adem	26
How to be happy in India	28

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

New recruits at rifle drill	3
"Thirty-eight inches! Fine!"	4
New recruits doing physical training, with instructor in foreground.	5
The Assault course: A touch of realism—Shell fire in foreground; beyond, cadets work their way through a barbed-wire obstacle.	6
The Assault course. The assault is met by tear gas	7
The Obstacle course. The double stride water jump	7
The Obstacle course. Across poles over water obstacle	7
What's wrong with soldiering?	11
Infantry advancing during manœuvres	12
Infantry on the march during manœuvres	13
Tank in action	13
Tank during manœuvres	13
The famous Sappers' Band	14
Building a post round the camp	15
Wiring in	17
The Messenger	18
Madras Guards: The crossing	19
His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras with Lieut.-General Sir Noel Veres Ford Peirse, K.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C., Southern Army.	21
"Boys of the Old Brigade"	22
Keshav Bhosle	24
British Officers and Indian sepoys together in the water, enjoying a most welcome bath and swim.	28

Recruiting and Recruits

A recruit is a volunteer and he is not suddenly snatched out of his village. For months he has probably come across some form of Recruiting Propaganda such as talk of or seeing a poster. Most probably he has heard described the experiences of some one who has already joined up and has returned on leave to his village to describe the wonders of the Indian Army.

He makes up his mind to join the Army. He settles his affairs and then goes to the village headman or perhaps to a paid recruiter of the Recruiting Organization.

The paid recruiter feeds him and pays for his travelling until he produces him before the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer.

There is an Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer's office in every district in the Madras Presidency; some districts have two, if not three offices and no recruit has to proceed farther than 70 miles before he comes to one of these officers. The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer is constantly touring and so the prospective recruit can meet him in his own village if he wishes to.

New recruits at rifle drill.

Paid recruiters number several hundreds who constantly tour all the villages of the Madras Presidency and are known in most of them. They are easily distinguished by their khaki uniform and the green band on their arm. After the meeting the paid recruiter who gives him information regarding pay, etc., the recruit proceeds with him to the Office of the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer.

From the moment the recruit decides to join the paid recruiter he is provided with food and has to think no more of money.

WITH THE E.A.R.O.

The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer is an Indian gentleman of a high standing such as a retired Subedar or Subedar-Major or a Tahsildar lent by the Madras Government for the time, i.e., an honourable civilian. The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer questions the would-be recruit as to his wishes, measures him, weighs him and has him examined by a doctor. He then tells the recruit that he thinks that he would make a sapper, or a gunner, or an infantry man, or any of the various branches that are open to him.

on anybody. They did it in a storm of pouring rain, lightning and thunder, and the result was astounding.

Regimental pride is closely connected with "morale" and that is why every recruit is taught the history of his regiment. Every Officer should always have one great object in view, to see that his own Battalion has the highest morale and the best fighting spirit in the whole army.

Curiously enough morale is connected with such apparently minor things as saluting, a clean kit, shaving every morning, and personal pride.

It is an astonishing thing how quickly new recruits assimilate the morale of their new regiment. Famous battalions have been cut to pieces over and over again, and new batches of reinforcements have rapidly become just as good as the original soldiers. It is the spirit of the regiment that counts.

There are many other things that go to make up the spirit of the regiment. Regimental sports, the band, regimental concerts, regimental customs and personal connections between the Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

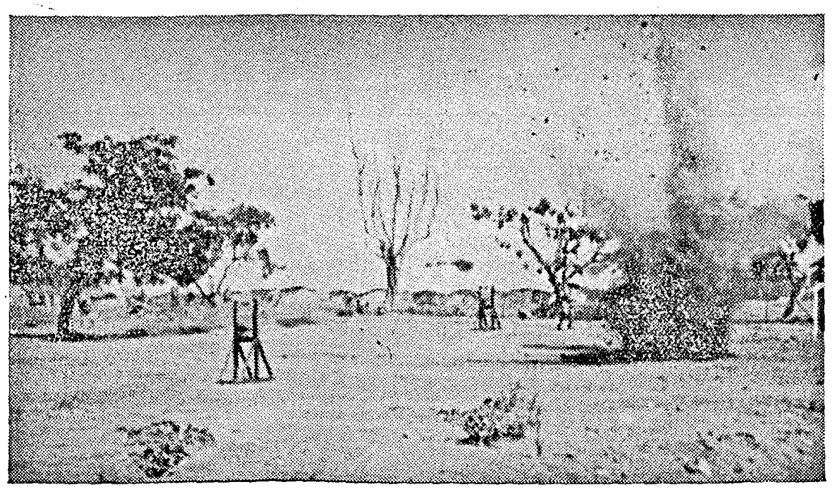
It should be the aim of every Commanding Officer to see that when the war is over his men are much more fit for a useful position in civil life than they were as recruits. He cannot, in war time, give them training in civil occupations but he can give them a mental training which will stand them in good stead all their lives.

Any man who learns properly how to obey orders easily learns how to give orders. This means that his mind has been taught to think properly and see things clearly. Therefore, he will learn to adapt himself to whatever occupation later comes to his hand.

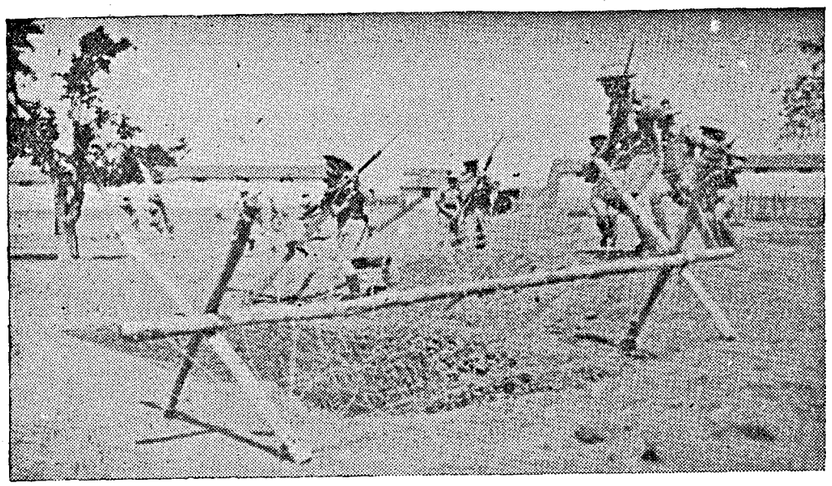
It is in this respect that the modern army is so different from the old army, wrong ideas about which are still in the minds of so many people. There is nothing fixed or stereotyped in the army to-day, and originality is always encouraged. When it comes to real war, a man is expected to use his imagination and by every ruse or stratagem to get the better of his enemy.

Stolid ignorance can always be defeated by intelligence. It was soon found out that tough bad characters were no use as Commando Troops. For all types of Guerilla or Commando fighting, high discipline and education are required, since it is the brain that has to be used and physical fitness is attained because the brain directs it.

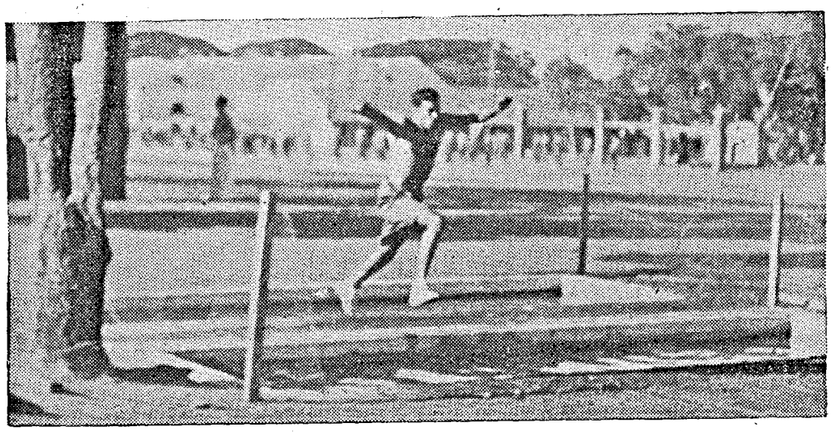
What is the conclusion that experience of modern Military training brings to the young soldier to-day? It is that it is the finest thing he has ever known. It combines the glamour of the Boy Scouts, the team-spirit of a college side, the friendship of good companions, with the faith in his leaders and in the great cause for which he is fighting. It makes him in truth, healthy, happy and a magnificent citizen for the peace that we all see in the far distance and which we know is coming to us in full and good measure some day.



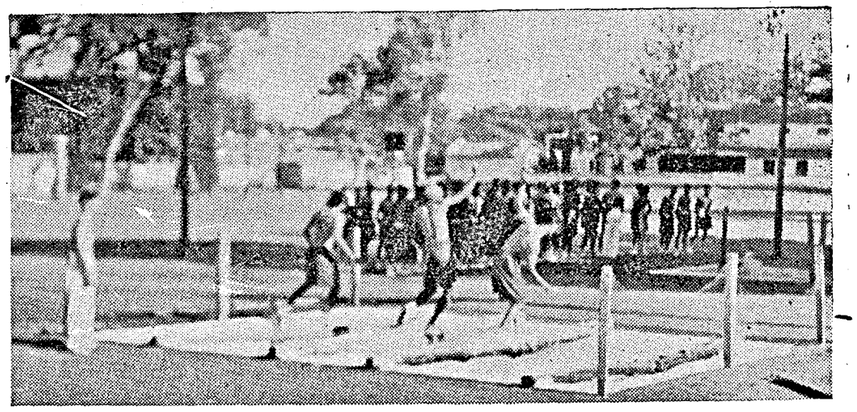
The Assault course: A touch of realism—Shell fire in foreground; beyond, cadets work their way through a barbed-wire obstacle.



The Assault course. The assault is met by tear gas.



The Obstacle course. The double stride water jump.



The Obstacle course. Across poles over water obstacle.

of further experience with their unit, to be competent to take over the command of a company. Most Cadets will be seconds-in-command of companies on joining their regular units and this means that at any moment they will be required to step into the shoes of the Company Commander and do his job.

For the bulk of the Cadets attending Courses, map-reading, tactics and leadership are the things in which proficiency is more particularly demanded, and in which the Cadet, if he fails at all, is least likely to reach the required standard. Some there must be who, however good their scholastic qualifications may be, lack this quality of being able to exercise leadership and display power of command. Without these qualities, however, it is impossible that they can be entrusted with the lives of those whom they will be called upon to command in the field.

As much opportunity as possible is given to all Cadets to show their capacity for leadership. They are given a variety of commands from section to company, and of duties both routine in barracks and field in tactical exercises. Naturally a very high standard is not demanded, and it is only those who show themselves to be possessed, not even in the smallest degree, of initiative, and power of command, who are reckoned to have failed in this respect. A certain definite alertness and toughness is also required, and the obstacle course and the assault course feature both in ensuring that a definite standard of toughness is obtained and also is assessing a Cadet's standard of physical courage, without a good share of which it is impossible that any one can stand up to the trials of war and continue to exercise effective command. Perfect performance is not demanded, what is looked for is determination, which will carry the individual over somehow no matter how exhausted he may be. When a Cadet has mastered the obstacle course in full fighting kit, on top of a short forced march, and can pass his swimming test in the same full kit, he is well on his way to reaching the desired standard of toughness which every young officer should possess.

INTELLECTUAL SIDE

While rightly insisting on toughness of mind and body, the more intellectual side of soldiering is by no means neglected. Over and above the usual lectures and tactical exercises, the latest methods in warfare are clearly brought home to all by means of the excellent series of training films which are now available. Periods are also set aside for questions and discussions on the course of the war, and in fact on any subject which has a bearing on the military or political situation, or on military training or doctrine in general. All the schools, and Bangalore is no exception, have well-stocked libraries, in which are books giving all that is most up-to date in military and political thought, at the same time not neglecting the romance or the thriller which provides a welcome mental relaxation, or works on Art or Letters, a boon to those who may feel cut off from the more gracious and intellectual Arts of Peace.

A maximum of six months is a short time in which to make a competent reliable commissioned officer, and it requires a considerable amount of hard work and good-will on the part of all concerned to make the training a success. The training is intensive in every way, there is an element of the survival of the fittest about it, but it is the fittest that we require to lead our men in battle if we are going to win this war.

A MIRACLE

During the War I was privileged to watch the famous French doctor, Lemaitre, in his treatment of the wounded. One night I entered the waiting-room to find a huge French soldier with one of the most terrible wounds I had yet seen. He was being dressed, preparatory to operation, and in the exhaustion stage of hæmorrhage, he was deathly pale, his eyes lustreless, his hands icy, his pulse running 180 and hardly perceptible. To my utter surprise, Lemaitre, after feeling his pulse, roughly threw aside his hand, and fell into a terrible rage, calling the poor suffering man a coward in every barnyard term in the French language of abuse.

Astounded, I walked away with Lemaitre. When we were out of hearing, he said: "Go back and take his pulse, and let me know what it is." I went back and found that a miracle had been worked. The man had half risen on his elbow and was shaking his fist in the surgeon's direction. I could not believe my watch: pulse rate only 120 per minute! I returned and made my report, whereupon Lemaitre remarked: "You may have him brought in now."

And he was successfully operated on
—Col. Bailey K. Ashford,

A Soldier in Science.

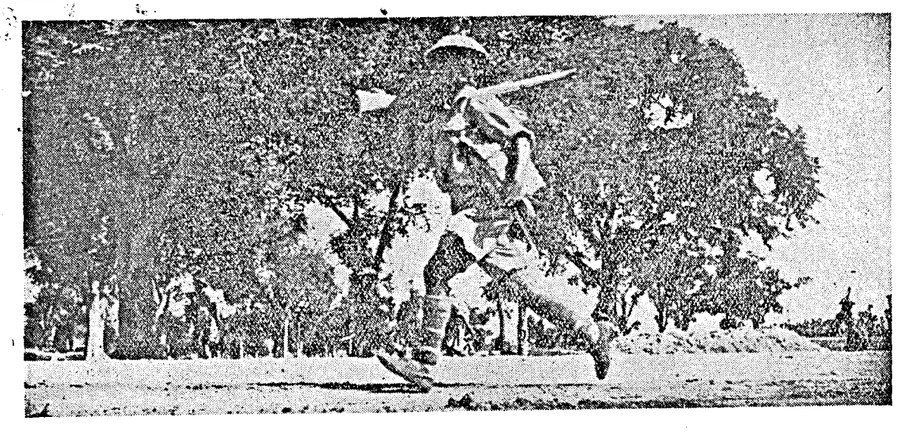
What's wrong with soldiering?

Southern Army Manœuvres

A Spectator's Impressions of Final Operations

ON Sunday morning (on the occasion of His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope's visit to the scene of action), we were routed out early by the mess boys and after breakfast, took the road to Arcot. Near Kalavai, an officer (who had had no sleep for three nights running), told us that if we hurried up, we might see the grand sight of tanks going into action. A word of thanks and we scrambled in, and off went the trucks jolting and bumping, over bad roads full of pot holes—all in a thick cloud of dust, which our driver compared to a London fog in November—and reached a terrain where the forces were about to join battle.

In the evening, down Timiri road, we saw tired British troops preparing for mopping up operations and cutting off the enemy's retreat to the coast. Men caked with dust and clay, fatigued beyond all reason, sweat pouring down their unshaven chin, tramp, tramping on the sides of the road to the next camping place—despatch riders in crash helmets and goggles, dashing in and out of the dust—supply transport moving in a never-ending column, blazing a trail through unchartered fields—a steady stream of vehicles pouring down the road taking men and munitions to the front—men bivouacking in the open, labouring to set a fire



Infantry advancing during manœuvres.

The Blue or enemy forces, in gas masks, held a broken ground with a good cover, facing the advance of the tanks and behind them, on elevated ground we stood—officers, Advisers to His Excellency the Governor and visitors. We had a grand stand view—free of cost and free from danger.

Soon from a belt of dark trees, there began to roll out tanks and more tanks. They spread out like a fan across the open and advanced on the enemy followed by the infantry.

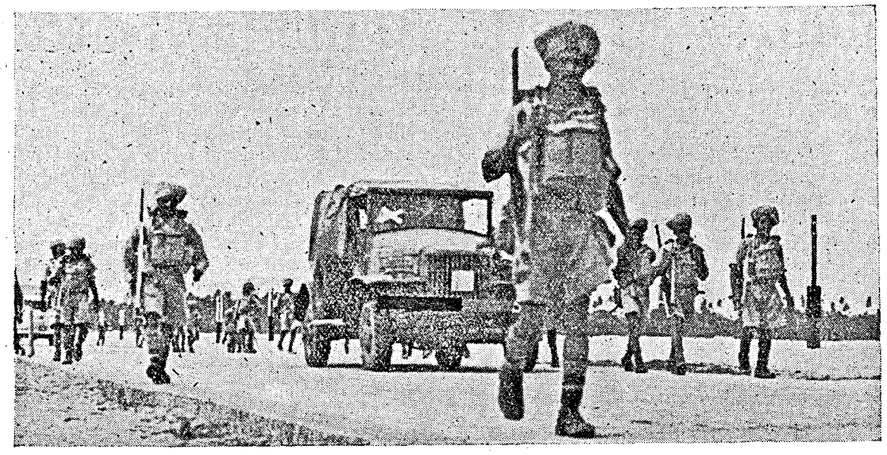
This was the fitting end to a long drama of manœuvre and counter-manœuvre. The tanks began to fire—red and green pellets—and pit, pat went the enemy rifles. The Blue force wavered, broke, and were lost. The tanks cut through them in the flanks and the middle and the captured Blue force (Jats) sat down under the trees for a well-earned rest and smoke.

The tanks won the day, magnificent creatures as they are. Nothing daunted them, hill or dale or water course. They crashed their way to victory.

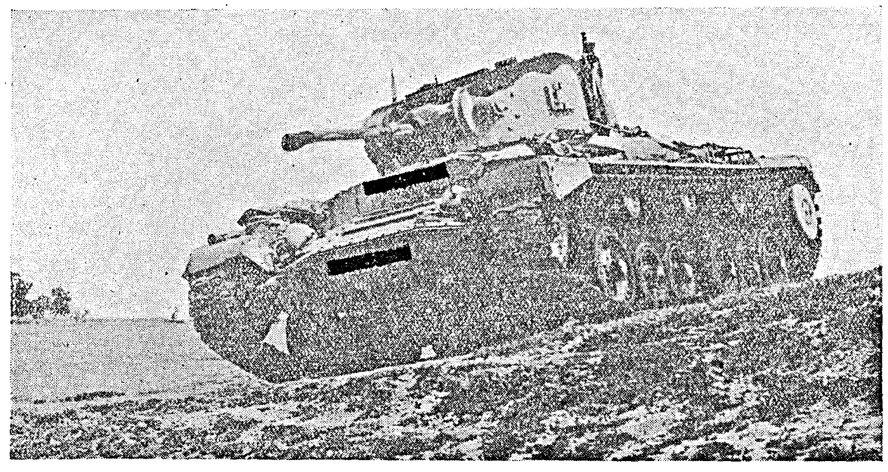
going, collecting fuel, preparing a tub, fishing for the tooth-brush and shaving tackle (at 5 in the evening!)—*THIS IS WAR*!

Thus we witnessed the spurts of development and the *denouement* of the drama. The army was on its toes all the time—fighting engagements during the day, moving up to new positions during the night. Here was army life in all its nakedness—work, work, and yet more work, with no sleep, no rest—until the Blue force was crushed!

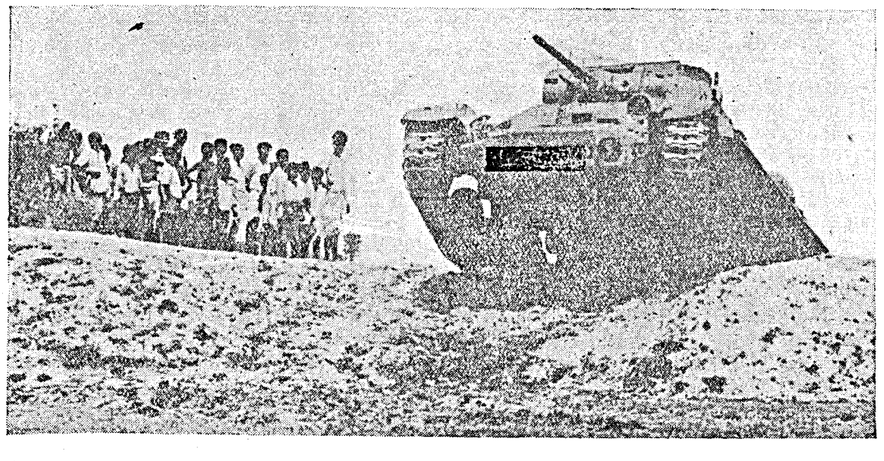
We were under canvas for three days and experienced life under war conditions. The Governor's Advisers also lived in tents along with us and we sat at a common table. It was time of good fellowship and utmost friendliness. Where everybody endeavoured to see that we had a pleasant and profitable time, we must also raise to the ranks of the exalted our cheerful Cockney truck driver (a grocer in London before he joined up—only 22, with a young wife and kid at home). Good luck, Private Banks, *CARRY ON*!



Infantry on the march during manœuvres.



Tank in action.



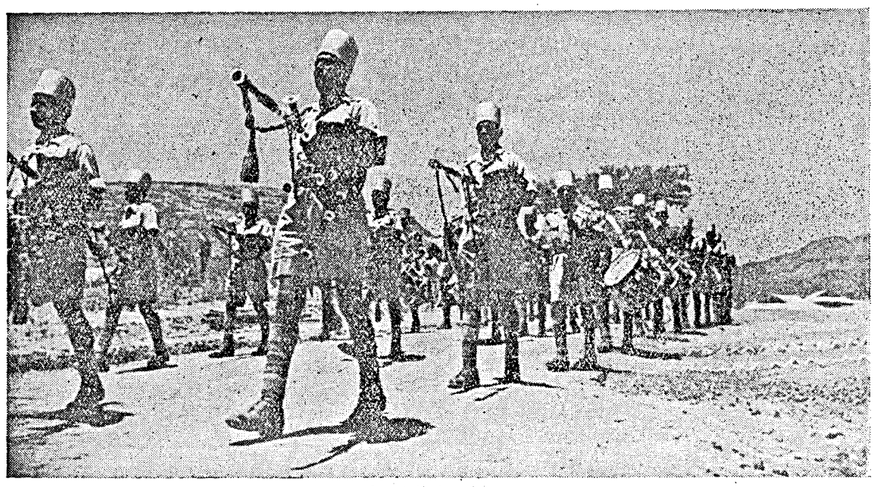
Tank during manœuvres.

Madras S. & M.—Jemadar's Story

ON 30th January 1942, Jemadar Maligarjunan was Section Jemadar of 3rd Section under Command of Captain X of a Fd. Coy., Q.V.O., Madras S. & M. The Section was detached from the Coy., and worked on demolition and essential services at Moulmein under Command of C.R.E. During withdrawal from Moulmein—night, 30th/31st January 1942—after completing his demolition, Captain X placed Jemadar Maligarjunan and his Section on a steam launch preparatory to moving off to Martaban. At this time the Japs were filtering through and pressing hard. Just as the boat was about to leave off, a party of stragglers arrived. The Brigade Major of . . . Brigade ordered Captain X to unload his men and hold the top of the jetty in order to make room for and allow the unarmed stragglers to get away. Captain X said, " Yes, Sir," jumped off the boat with Jemadar Maligarjunan and his Sappers, went to the top of the jetty, made a sangar out of bedding rolls from a lorry parked close by and kept the enemy at bay while the boat got away. Soon after, Captain X became a casualty from a sniper perched in a house overlooking the top of the jetty, and Jemadar Maligarjunan took charge. A little later Commandant of a Burif battalion, O.C. Burif, arrived on the scene and here is the story of the events that followed as told by the Commandant of a Burif battalion to C.R.E. :—

" We stayed in the sangar and kept the enemy away until it was obvious that the ferry boats were not coming back. I decided it was no good staying where we were, indefinitely. So I, with the Sapper Jemadar and his men, hid under the jetty where we stayed knee-deep in mud, hoping to make our get-away under cover of darkness. An hour or so later the Japs placed their mortars on the jetty and shelled Martaban while we were hiding immediately below, not daring to move lest our presence below should be detected. Darkness fell and a title later I hear odd sounds emanating from the yard (Steel Brothers') adjoining us. When I looked around, the Sappers with their Jemadar had disappeared. I thought they must have tried to get away and had been probably discovered by the enemy. However, the sounds persisted; so I decided to investigate. On advancing cautiously and peeping round a wall, I was staggered to find the Sappers industriously building a petrol barrel raft with their Jemadar standing on a packing case, conducting operations and giving instructions and orders in loud whispers. Having completed the raft, they launched it, but the Jemadar apparently not being satisfied, they pulled it ashore, took it down to pieces, replaced a leaking barrel and re-launched it. The Jemadar still did not appear happy about it, so on re-building and re-launching the raft for the second time, he smiled his satisfaction came up to me and saluting smartly, said, " *Raft tayar hai, Sahib.*" We climbed on to the raft and gently heaved off. We didn't dare use paddles for fear of attracting attention by the noise, so the Jemadar ordered his Sappers to remove their clothes and with them he slid off the raft into the water and gently guided it to safety.

" Jemadar Maligarjunan certainly distinguished himself by keeping calm and cool in the face of the enemy, thinking clearly, and, by setting the fine example to his men not only saved me, two other officers and his men from being captured, but by his initiative led them all to safety."



The famous Sappers' Band

Rare Devotion to Duty:

A Madrassi's heroism

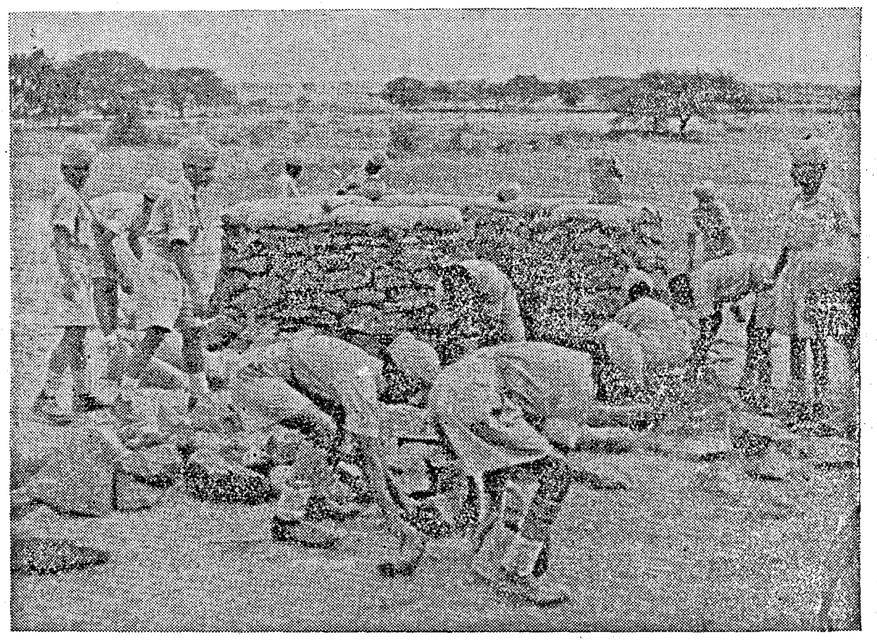
ON the morning of the final withdrawal from Moulmein on 31st January 1942, Coy. H.Q. and No. 2 Section of a Fd. Coy., Q.V.O., Madras S. & M. were employed at Martaban.

Detachments were responsible for running launches and flats for troops and stores crossing from Moulmein.

Several ration stands and kitchens were run for civil personnel and stragglers. Cook Laxmanan was on duty at one of these kitchens. 1851 Laxmanan ran his ' cook house ' for six days under difficult conditions during which he not only provided food for his own men but for any stragglers that came through.

Finally on 31st January 1942 the last boats leaving Moulmein were actually fired upon by the enemy with Machine Gun and Mortars. When these boats arrived at Martaban, complete chaos reigned as every one pushed everyone else in order to get off the boats quickly! To ' finish it off ' the Jap at this moment shelled the jetty. Whereas chaos reigned a few minutes before, now, in a twinkling, and with little or no noise, the whole place was cleaned out and not a soul could be seen anywhere. I collected as many of my sappers as I saw coming off the boats and took them to my Coy. area. Later I took these men to the jetty area for the purpose of ' denying ' the launches of the I.F. Coy. and the destruction of the jetties when to my very pleasant surprise I found 1851 Laxmanan—Cook I. T. still at his post, ready with rice and a pot of steaming hot dholl. He had stayed at his post throughout the confusion of the morning and the shelling and calmly carried on with his job of cooking a meal. I said a few hasty words of ' Shabash ' to him and took him back to our lines where the whole of the Coy. Equipment had yet to be loaded on to 4 railway trucks! I had 6 sappers to do this with—all the available remainder being employed at the jetties. These six sappers ably assisted by 1851 Laxmanan—Cook I.T. in spite of the continuous shelling of the area in which the unit lines were, got down to it and finished the loading in time for the trucks to be attached to an outgoing train.

" 1851 Laxmanan—Cook I.T. under difficult conditions, trying circumstances, and continuous shelling, showed a rare devotion to duty and stuck to his post like any brave soldier would be proud to have done."



Building a post round the camp.

The Madras Guards: A Retrospect

THE Corps was first raised as a separate unit of the Madras Army in 1780, when Lieutenant Moorhouse of the Madras Artillery, then Commissary of Stories, was ordered to form a Corps of Pioneers of two companies, each 115 strong, for the better execution of the pioneer and road-making duties required in the undeveloped country in which the Madras Army had to operate and for the siege operations entailed in the reduction of the numerous fortresses. This Corps, whose officers and non-commissioned officers were drawn from Artillery and Line Regiments, replaced the temporary pioneer companies of native civilian labourers, known as "Mamootie Men"—which had hitherto been raised as demanded by the exigencies of the campaign.

The Corps of Pioneers expanded rapidly, until in 1823, it consisted of two Battalions, each of eight companies—a total strength of some 2,400 men. By this time the scope of its activities had widened and become more technical; thus demanding a higher standard of skill both from officers and rank and file. Reorganization was accordingly decided upon, and effected in 1831, by the conversion of the eight companies; the 2nd Battalion remaining as Pioneers until 1833, when it was also absorbed into the new Corps.

Captain Lawe of the Madras Engineers was the first Commandant of the new Corps; and it was intended that all officers should also be drawn from the Madras Engineers. After the initial appointments, the shortage of engineer officers necessitated a reversion to the old system of posting officers from other regiments. It was not until 1885, that the present system, whereby the Corps is officered by Royal Engineers, was finally established.

The introduction of technical training of the rank and file known as Sepoys until 1885, when the present designation of Sapper was adopted, was a feature of the reorganization of 1831. To this end, maistries were authorized, both at headquarters and with companies, and the equipment of tools was gradually extended and improved. For the better execution of field works and bridging, the European non-commissioned officers of the Corps were sent from time to time, to Chatham for training until, in 1861, the present system of posting trained non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers was adopted.

In 1876 Her Majesty Queen Victoria conferred on the Corps the title of "Queen's Own" with permission to wear the Royal Cypher within the Garter upon its Colours and appointments. His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales was, at the same time, appointed Honorary Colonel, which appointment he held until 1903, when, as King Edward VII, he was pleased to become Colonel-in-Chief. Minor alterations to the title of the Corps have been made from time to time. Its best known form of "Queen Victoria's Own" Madras Sappers and Miners was adopted in 1923; to this was added in 1941 "Group Indian Engineers." Indian ranks have been enlisted into the "Corps of Indian Engineers" since 1933.

On the disbandment of the Madras Pioneers in 1933 their Colours and Records were handed over to this Corps and 930 men were absorbed into the ranks.

In its 162 years' service, companies of the Corps have served in three continents. Among other honours, the Corps is entitled to bear the commemorative badge of "a Golden Dragon wearing an Imperial Crown" for service in China, 1840–42; and is the only non-British regiment awarded the device of "Egypt"; with Sphinx for Sir R. Abercromby's Egyptian Campaign in 1801.

In India, in addition to the numerous wars of the Honourable East India Company, the subjection of Burma and loyal service throughout the Mutiny, companies of the Corps have taken part in the many campaigns in Afghanistan and on the North-West Frontier. During the 1914–18 War, units served in the separate theatres of France and Flanders, Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, East Africa and North-West Frontier.

In 1780, the strength was some 250 men. In the 1914–18 War, the strength rose from 1,816 to 7,000. Units of the Corps now serve in every theatre where the Indian Army is represented and its strength is very many times greater than the 3,300 of September 3rd, 1939.

Men are enlisted from all parts of the Madras Presidency. During training, in addition to military training and field engineering, all are taught the rudiments of a trade and those with aptitude are given artificer training. A percentage are taught to drive and maintain motor transport.

The reputation, which the Corps has been fortunate enough to acquire, is very largely due to its Indian Officers, non-commissioned officers and men. To them, in conclusion, no more fitting tribute can be paid than that of General Viscount Wolseley in 1888:—

> "The best Native soldiers, taking them all round, with whom I ever served in India, were the Madras Sappers. Their coolness under fire, indifference to danger, their discipline and pride of regiment, marked them, on all occasions, as first-class soldiers."

The Madras Guards A.F.I.

IT is now over 420 years since the Portuguese first settled in San Thome, near Madras, and it is over 320 years since Francis Day first landed on the strip of sandy beach near the River Cooum and built a fort on the ground given to the East India Company by the Raja of Chandragiri. From those early days Anglo-Indians have played an important though often unnoticed part in the development of Madras and of South India, and there have been many Anglo-Indian names famous in the various wars that took place in all the early days until peace came to South India at the time of Wellington. Since then the Domiciled European and Anglo-Indian Community has held its place in all forms of administration, enterprise, police, railways, trade and labour, and has ever wished someday to take its proper place in the defence forces of the Crown.

In 1857, at a time of emergency, Lord Harris, Governor of Madras, felt the need for a volunteer force in Madras, and on the 2nd of July of that year he founded a volunteer regiment from the Europeans in Madras. It was the first volunteer regiment in India and bore several successive names, "The Madras Infantry Volunteers," "The Infantry Volunteer Guards," and has not for many years been "The Madras Guards." Its composition has long included Anglo-Indians as well as Europeans, and it has had important off-shoots.

The Madras Artillery Volunteers were founded by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos when he was Governor of Madras, in the seventies, and bore the title "The Duke's Own" which name is carried by its descendant, the Madras Coast Battery to-day.

The Mounted Company of the Madras Guards went to the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles about the year 1910.

Another off-shoot was the Madras Signal Company which was separated from the Artillery about 15 years ago.

In the old days, "A" Company was a Cyclist Company, composed mainly of medical students but it ceased to be a cyclist composed company in 1904. The Military medical students formed an important part of the Madras Guards until its embodiment earlier in this war and there must be many distinguished I.M.D. officers who remember their happy days with the unit.

"B" Company was the European Unit, while "C", "D" and "E" Companies were composed of Anglo-Indians. To-day of

Wiring in. —W. J. Moylan.

course the Battalion is European and Anglo-Indian entirely and happily inter-mingled, with efficiency as the only object.

The South African War saw individual members going on service, while in the war of 1914–18, the Madras Guards mobilized two companies immediately after the raid on Madras by the German Cruiser "EMDEN." Two companies continued serving throughout the war with re-drafts, the Officers taking part-time employment. No actual detachment went on active service though individuals went. The Madras Artillery Volunteers, however, sent a detachment to make up the Anglo-Indian Battery which went from India and fought in Mesopotamia.

The present war has, for the first time, seen real active developments in this famous Infantry Unit.

The emergence of a full fighting battalion has awakened the unanimous wish for general service—the long-felt desire of the whole Anglo-Indian community. Hard training and discipline over nearly three years have had their effect, and when the day comes for the Army in India to require their services for greater things, there will be an unhesitating answer from all ranks.

The Messenger. —W. J. Moylan.

The headquarters of the Madras Guards was in Chepauk in 1898. In 1903 a building near Egmore Station was bought with a loan from Government, and the Headquarters remained there until it was taken over as a Police office in more recent years when the Madras Guards moved entirely to Fort St. George.

An interesting episode in the regimental history was the close and happy association with the Maharajah of Venkatagiri.

BLACKED OUT!

There is true humour in the Tommy who, completely lost during a London black-out, upon realizing his plight remarked to his pal, 'Lor' blime, Herb, I think we're in a night club.'

—BOB DAVIS *in The New York Sun.*

Madras Guards : The crossing. —W. J. Moylan.

The Madras Regiment

TO-DAY, September 23, an event took place which is of great interest to all people of Madras. That great and famous Regiment—the 3rd Madras Regiment—has again come into its own after a lapse of 15 years curiously enough on the very day when the old Madras Army won the famous victory of Assays.

Many honours were carried in the past, and who can doubt on seeing the splendid material in the Training Centre, that the men will be worthy of that great tradition?

Once again we saw the Colours for which the Madrassis died, bearing amongst many others, the battle honour of *Kenandine*—a unique honour held by no other Regiment. Once again we saw the name of *Seringapatam*.

On parade to-day, honoured by His Excellency, was a veteran Indian Officer, aged 92, Jemadar Ismail Khan—and with him were many other Indian Officers of the Old Madras Army. Who would not have been moved when a British Officer of the old 3rd Madras Regiment handed over the old colours to the new reconstituted regiment with the stirring words, "As the representative of the old Madras Army I hand over these colours to you, the Training Centre of the new 3rd Madras Regiment, for safe custody."

Already, there are in existence a number of battalions of this famous old Regiment and though the figures cannot be disclosed, all people of Madras must be proud of the extent to which the Madrassi has come forward in this short period.

To-day, His Excellency honoured the Training Centre of the Regiment by attending the official opening of the Training Centre. He saw the training of the future representatives of the Madras Presidency who will take their place in the fighting line when the time comes. The Training Centre is the home of the Regiment. In it are men who are proud of the great traditions handed down to them. They learn to work and to make themselves efficient guardians of India in association with their Officers in work and in play. Thus, they help to keep the tradition of friendship between the Officers and men of the Indian Army.

It is too early to say now whether these men will defend the Empire in the desert, on the North-West Frontier or on the Eastern Borders of the Indian Empire. But we know that wherever they are called and whatever their duty may be, they will carry it out with the old spirit and valour which earned the old Madras Regiment its great name.

To-day is a great day. Once again the Madras Regiment under its old number and its old colours is ready to take its place alongside the many other Madrassis who are already in the fighting line.

A Visit to a new Madrassi Battalion

THERE are very few people in my village who have ever been in the Army from whom I can enquire, and so if I join the Army I wonder if I shall like the life? Shall I be fed all right? Shall I be beaten every day?

These are questions hundreds of young men in Madras Presidency must be asking themselves to-day.

I visited a Battalion, consisting entirely of Madrassis, only a few days ago, and I will leave you to judge the answers to those questions after you have read about what I saw during my visit.

I stopped and spoke to the first man I saw. His name was *D. Baskar* from KADAPA village, CUDDAPAH district. He was wearing a stripe on his arm and was in charge of about twenty recruits who had just arrived from the Recruiting Officer. He was assisting them to draw from the stores an enormous pile of brand new clothing, boots, blankets and the dozens of things that a new recruit is given within a few hours of arrival, and was showing them how to wear the many types of clothes not usually in use in the villages. I spoke to him and he said he had been in the Army exactly two months and was very happy. That was quite clear from his face, and the very smart salute he gave me made it very clear that he had not wasted a moment of his training and that he already knew how a keen man can make his way quickly.

A FINE OLD SOLDIER

Next door happened to be the Ration Store. There I saw a very fine old soldier, with two rows of medals, waiting to issue rations. I asked him his name and found it was Havildar RAMISAMY of Mysore Police Lines, Bangalore. A veteran of the last war, he has come forward again and, in spite of his age, is fit for Active Service and not only medically fit but fit in every way. In fact to quote his own words "I look forward only to the day I can go out again and fight for my King-Emperor."

My next visit was to the Parade Ground where I saw No. 214474 HUSSAIN KHAN of VADASAIRY village, KOTTAR, TRAVANCORE State. He was being taught how to be an instructor which, considering he has been in the Army only five weeks, struck me as pretty quick work. He was very good too and, from the way he was getting his squad to move about, I am sure it won't be long before he is going to the tailor to have a stripe or two sewn on his sleeve.

Several squads of recruits with bare chests were playing leap frog and similar types of games as part of their Physical Training parade. Their faces all one large broad grin, their obvious happiness, and their physique already improving with large regular meals and extra meals, were perfect answers to the questions as to how men are treated and fed. In spite of myself also being a veteran of the last war I felt how much I too would like to be joining in their games and sharing in their comradeship which was obvious to even a casual observer.

A BUSY HIVE

Some of the men had already had several months training, amongst them being quite a number of evacuees from Malay and Burma. I found them busy on the rifle range, learning to drive lorries, building roads, learning how to handle explosives and to ride cycles. In another part tradesmen were busy at their trades. In fact everyone was as busy as in a hive of bees and were far too interested in the hundred and one things which go to make up the life of a modern soldier to worry about any doubts they may ever have had about life in the Army.

I could not help but be impressed at the obvious keenness and cheerfulness of everyone I saw and felt that if these men I saw are typical of the Madrassis, and I have no doubt they are, who are being enrolled in such large numbers to-day, then the Madrassi will not only add fresh laurels to the glorious military tradition of Madras of days gone by but will retain in the Indian Army of the future a place high amongst those classes who have been fortunate enough to have had greater opportunities in recent years to cement their military reputations.

AN HONEST DOUBT

Into the cosy cottage of the dear old lady came two billeted soldiers. She greeted them with a friendly smile, showed them to their room, and watched them dump their belongings—tin helmets, gas respirators, packs, kit-bags, etc.

Then a worried look came into her faded eyes as she asked, "Young men, are you sure you came by all those things honestly?"

—PORT ARTHUR, *News-Chronicle, Canada.*

"A Proud Moment"

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope's Speech

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, with Lieut.-Gen. Sir Noel Beresford Peirse, K.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C., Southern Army.

THE following is the text of His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope's speech on the occasion of the Reconstruction of the 3rd Madras Regiment at Madukarai on 23rd September:

It is a very proud moment for me as Governor of Madras to be here to-day to celebrate the reconstruction of the old 3rd Madras Regiment. As you know the policy in days gone by was to stop recruiting down in the South and it is only the exigency of war that has made people realize what the Army has lost in the intervening years.

There are people who said that the Southern Indian did not make a good soldier. That is untrue. It has been proved time and time again both in previous wars and in this war that the Southern Indian—the Madrassi—makes as good a soldier as anyone coming from any part of the world.

Ever since I have been Governor here I have been doing all I could to get the authorities to reconstitute not only one Regiment but many units of the old Madras Army and here to-day we have gathered together to celebrate this reconstitution, the presentation of the old colours and the re-union of the old Madras Officers, N.C.Os. and men with those on the present Madras Army.

Now Officers, N.C.Os. and men what we are visualising at the present time in this battalion—in this 10th Battalion is the training of people to go out as V.C.Os. and N.C.Os. to other battalions to other Madras units and also to throw off from this battalion other battalions which will go on to make more and more battalions of the Madras Regiment. But owing to the old policy in the past, there is great difficulty at the present time in getting V.C.Os. and N.C.Os. from South India. We have had to draw from a very meagre stock indeed and that is our great difficulty—to get V.C.Os. and N.C.Os. to officer the various units.

There are people who say that it is difficult to get recruit in India at the present time. That is absolute nonsense and absolutely untrue. Recruits are coming forward in a magnificent manner from all parts of India, to defend their own country and fight for a common right. But the difficulty is to officer them and to get non-Commissioned Officers and it is the primary job of this

battalion at the present time, as I have said to produce the right type of men who will be V.C.Os. and N.C.Os. of various Madras Units.

Everybody in the Army has got an equal chance. It does not matter who you are, where you come from, what your religion or caste is. You can all go right up to the top and I have not the slightest doubt that many of you whom I am addressing here this morning will before very long earn glory and earn distinction in the Army and long may you continue in its service. It is impossible to say what will happen in the years to come; but as long as anything can be permanent I have every hope that this Madras Regiment now newly constituted will be a permanency. You have had a great tradition in the past. You are living up to that tradition now and I exhort everyone of you in the days and months and years that come, wherever your lot may take you, whatever your task may be and whatever the dangers and difficulties, I know you will do your duty. Do it cheerfully for your own sakes, for your families' sake, for your country's sake and above all for the sake of your Regiment, the 3rd Madras Regiment—a regiment which has had a famous history in the past and which I know will have a famous history in the future.

I have all along been watching Madras Units with great interest, and anything that I can do to help this battalion, I will do. If there is anything that I can do your Commanding Officer will of course inform me.

I once again repeat how grateful and proud I am to be here to-day to celebrate this occasion, which also happens to be the anniversary of the famous battle of Assaye, in which the Madras Battalions were the only Indian troops present. I congratulate you on the progress you have already made. I look forward to seeing you again and I wish everyone of you from the Commanding Officer to the latest recruit the very best of luck and good fortune and happy return when victory is won.

The Perfect Camouflage.

"What are your men supposed to be doing, Mr. Forescue? Some crawling in the undergrowth, others climbing trees."

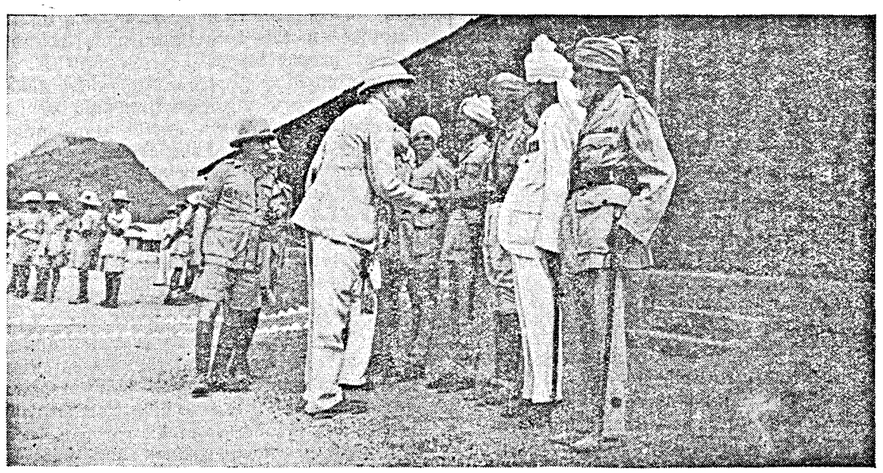
"Well, Sir, we camouflaged a machine-gun this morning and now we can't find it."

The Evening News, London.

FIGHTER'S PRAYER

O Lord, Thou knowest how busy I must be this day. If I forget Thee, do not forget me.

—Spoken by LORD ASTLEY, *before the Battle of Edgehill* (1642).



"Boys of the Old Brigade."

The Travelled Indian Soldier

Influence on Post-War Village Life

(*By* An Indian Observer)

THE impact of wide travel on the Indian soldier has scarcely been visualized. Before coming out to the Middle East, I saw and spoke to a number of our men at the ports of embarkation. And I have seen and spoken to them now after a year or more of a varied life here. Gone is that shy uncertain look that many a recruits had in Bombay or Karachi. Some had never seen the sea. Others had been astounded at the hurry and bustle of a big city.

That is all past history to them now. They have an assured self-confident attitude about them that speaks volumes. They are sturdier after a year of campaigning and both in their gait and bearing there is a new air of independence. They seem to be conscious of good and valiant deeds done and the praise bestowed on them by their Commanders has encouraged them in their efforts to keep clean and healthy.

This education by travel of thousands of our men in the Middle East and elsewhere will be one of the most enduring after-effects of the war and is bound to have a deep influence on the development and progress of Indian village life.

Our forces have seen many new peoples and new lands. They have come in contact with modern civilization in various stages of development. In Cairo and Alexandria they have seen a life-pattern, rich with a mixture of the East and West. In Palestine they have admired the industry and perseverance of the Jewish race that is turning that country once again into a land of milk and honey. They have been impressed by the contrast in Iraq where the village people are perhaps poorer than in their own motherland.

THE VALUE OF TRAVEL

Travel teaches unconsciously. The daily kaleidoscope impresses scenes on the mind more vividly than any book or picture. And as troops—including the thousands behind our actually fighting front line forces—have been shifted from one point to another, they have seen the conditions of life in various lands and have also learnt the value of frugality and industry and of thinking for tomorrow.

Recruitment in India has been widespread throughout the country and not confined to the martial races or provinces as in the last war. Almost every taluka has given its quota. Men have joined from Kashmir and Nepal in the north to Cochin and Cape Comorin in the south. The Bengali and the Baluchi have been in the field together with the Deccanese and Madrasi. The benefits of this education will therefore be felt all over India when they return to their valleys and fields and their mud villages.

In far Cyprus—not far from our swift and expanding army, but for peacetime India—I came across a peasant lad from a little Satara village in the Bombay Presidency. Laxman Bhosale was born of poor farm labourers. He had had no education except the little Marathi he had been taught in school. The lad would have continued to live the dull and uneventful life of an Indian peasant, working in the fields from morning till nightfall to eke out a bare subsistence. He would have soon set up a little hut for himself where he would have lived with his young wife as his forefathers did before him. The great event of his life would have been a visit to Poona or perhaps even Bombay.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGED

All this has now been changed. Laxman has not only seen Bombay. He has been overseas and has visited many important cities of the world. He has yet but a dim idea of the great progress made by mankind from his small primitive village to the metropolis of Cairo. His stay for several months in Egypt and in Cyprus, however, is teaching him how far behind the elders of his village were in their pontifications.

When he returns home after the war, that little village in the Satara district is going to profit by his varied experience. He will tell his co-villagers something of the agricultural economy in Cyprus—how trees are being planted there, how new types of ploughs are being used, drawn by horses or moved by motor. Travel has broadened his outlook, making him more respective to new plans and to reforms. His Army training has given him initiative and power of command. He will surely endeavour to improve the condition of life in his village, accustomed as he has been to a higher standard of living.

And there are thousands of such young men who will take their experience and knowledge back with them to their village homes. The discipline, courage and powers of endurance instilled into so many of them by their Army training will be valuable influence of India's future village life. The wider outlook, engendered by travel, will be one of the major beneficial factors in the solution of our problems of post-war reconstruction.

Faithfulness and Courage

Story of a Prince and an Orderly

KESHAV BHOSLE

KESHAV'S mother died when he was 8 years old and Keshav's father married again which did not make it happy for Keshav.

The Ruler of the State where Keshav lived was a certain Maharaja who took pity on him and took him into his own house to be brought up amongst his own household. As he grew up Keshav became very much attached to the Maharaja who taught him to shoot and ride and when he was old enough Keshav began to accompany the Maharaja in all his expeditions for shikar and pig-sticking. In fact he became the Maharaja's shadow and devoted servant.

Then this war broke out and the Maharaja left the care of the State in the very capable hands of his Maharani and went off to train as an officer of the Indian Army.

He first studied at the Cadet School at Indore and Keshav accompanied him. He then went to the Officers' Training School at Mhow. Again Keshav accompanied him. Finally the Maharaja passed out of the school and was given His Majesty's Commission, and went down to the Regimental Training Centre.

KESHAV'S REQUEST

After a short period there he was detailed to proceed overseas, and joined the battalion to which he was gazetted. The Maharaja was allowed to take a special orderly from his own State with him. So he took a few days leave up to his State to settle his affairs and collect an orderly. He decided to take an old and experienced Havildar of his own Bodyguard.

Keshav hearing of this went to the Maharaja and asked to be taken instead. Of course the Maharaja answered that it was quite impossible as Keshav knew nothing about soldiering and anyhow was still much too young. Young Keshav begged of the Maharaja to take him. But the Prince was adamant. Keshav said nothing but went away broken hearted.

Next day he came back to the Prince and said he had come to say good-bye as if the Prince would not take him with him he would not be in the State when the Prince came back. Questioned he explained that people would say that he was always with the Prince when he went shikar, pig-sticking and generally a jolly life but when the Prince was going into danger he had stayed behind, and he was not prepared to face that. The Maharaja was so touched by this that he finally agreed to take him. Keshav overjoyed rushed off to get ready, and returning to the Training Centre with his Maharaja he was sworn in, collected his kit and went overseas with him as his personal orderly.

When he joined his battalion in the Western Desert the Maharaja was given a dug-out to live in and his orderly a separate one. But this was not Keshav's idea. He protested loudly and said that any bullet that was likely to hit the Maharaja must hit him too. It was an unheard of thing and quite outside military custom for an orderly to sleep in the same dug-out as his Officer. But Keshav's devotion was so apparent that a special case was made of it and he was permitted to do so and from that time on, he always slept at the Maharaja's feet while they were overseas together.

AT THE POST OF DANGER

On one occasion, the Prince in the course of duty as an officer of the battalion was sent with an anti-tank gun to guard a pass about eight miles away against a possible enemy tank column. Knowing the hazards, the Maharaja decided to leave Keshav behind and say nothing to him about it.

About sunset, Keshav began to worry as to what had become of the Maharaja and started asking questions. Finally, being very suspicious that the Maharaja had gone off to some dangerous job and had told him nothing, he went to the Subedar-Major and asked him point blank. Mildly amused, the Subedar-Major told him where he had gone and the nature of the duty. He promptly demanded to be sent out to join the Maharaja. He was told that that was not possible. However young Keshav made such a fuss that finally the Subedar-Major allowed him to jump into a passing vehicle which was going out there and about 9 p.m. he arrived at the pass and in his haversack, he brought food and drink for His Highness, and there he spent the night on guard watching over His Highness to see that he got into no danger.

After this episode it became an accepted fact that wherever the Maharaja went Keshav accompanied him.

NARROW ESCAPES

Shortly after this, the battalion became seriously engaged with the enemy and it was noticed by every one that from whatever direction the bullets seemed to be coming Keshav always managed to get on to the side of the Maharaja to cover him. They had one or two narrow escapes but fortune favoured them and they subsequently arrived back into the rest area both of them completely unscathed. From this rest area, the Maharaja was permitted to return to India by air on leave, to settle some affairs of his State. By that time, every one had got so used to Keshav being wherever the Maharaja was that he automatically was given a seat in the same aeroplane and both are back happily again in India.

The little story is an epic of faithfulness and courage which should not go unrecorded. The Maharaja who temporarily foresook the luxury and comfort of a ruling Prince and went through the rigorous training necessary to become a fighting Officer and then shared with the Battalion the discomforts and dangers of a fighting leader in the true tradition of his ancestors and the Great Shivaji was Lieut. Sir Vikramasingrao Powar, K.C.I.E., Maharaja of Dewas Senior and of Maharatta Light Infantry and the devoted orderly was Keshav Pandurang Bhosle of Dewas Senior, Maharatta Light Infantry.

Primarily this is the story of Keshav Bhosle the orderly. But, in it, there is another lesson. In time of danger to his country, His Highness laid aside his high estate, took his training as an ordinary cadet to equip himself for the fighting leadership of those tough soldiers the Mahrattas and was content to accept the lowest officer's rank and so gain experience and fit himself for higher things.

He realized that to lead men in War was an entirely different matter to his exalted avocations in peace, and that it was necessary to learn from the beginning in order to fit himself to lead without unnecessarily risking the lives of the fighting Mahratta soldiers. As long as this spirit survives amongst the Mahratta leaders we need never fear that the spirit inculcated by Shivaji the Great will ever die.

DUTY OF INDIAN CITIZENS

"I should also like to impress on all in India that what the soldier of any nationality appreciates even more than comfort, more than clubs or canteens, is the feeling that he is welcomed, that he is appreciated, that he is treated as a fellow-countryman and a friend, who is making some sacrifice for the common cause. All that any of you can do to make the soldier, whatever his nationality, rank or creed, feel at home and welcome will be deeply appreciated our common effort by helping to maintain the high morale of our army in India, which I have the great honour to command."

—GENERAL WAVELL, *in a speech on October 3rd.*

Siege of El Adem

Indians' Successful Defence and Withdrawal

THE performance of Indian troops in the El Adem "box" during the recent campaign will long be remembered as an example of tenacious defence against great odds.

El Adem was a strong point of great importance in the defence scheme we had organized to meet any emergency. It lies about 30 miles south of Tobruk, on the bypass to Derna, and was the terminus of the desert railway built by New Zealanders and Indians (writes an Indian Army Observer). There is a fine aerodrome here, and about three miles from the aerodrome was the defence position known as the El Adem box. While this box held out no attack could develop on Tobruk itself.

The box had been carefully prepared, but it was overlooked by an escarpment. The garrison was originally intended to be maintained at brigade strength, but at the time of the German advance it consisted of two battalions, one of the 5th Mahratta Light Infantry and the other of the 2nd Punjab Regiment.

Between May 27 and June 16 El Adem was besieged thrice, and repeated assaults were beaten off with heavy enemy losses. Up to the time of our withdrawal no enemy penetration had occurred in any sector.

In the first rush German tanks occupied Ed Duda and even Belhamid (on the El Adem-Tobruk road), but they were thrown back almost immediately. An attack on El Adem proved abortive, too.

After the evacuation of Bir Hacheim the 90th Light Lorried Infantry, supported by tanks of the 21st Panzer Division, again surrounded El Adem, and put in a furious assault. They were beaten back, and when the Garhwalis counter-attacked from the north, the German infantry fled in confusion, leaving behind them a number of British and Indian prisoners taken from intercepted convoys. It was here that ten unarmed Garhwalis prisoners came back with 11 German prisoners, and a Mahratta L/Naik was entreated by 12 Germans to allow them to accompany him as his prisoners!

SUCCESSFUL WITHDRAWAL

When on June 13, as a result of an unfortunate engagement, our armour suffered a crippling blow, and troops had to be withdrawn from the Gazala line, the enemy's full pressure was exerted against El Adem. The box was completely cut off. Heavy guns poured in shells continuously. Planes bombed and machine-gunned the garrison, and then tanks advanced to crush the battered (as they believed) Punjabis and Mahrattas.

On June 14 the first two attacks were directed against the Mahratta's sector. The attackers must have had a rude shock, for instead of coming up against demoralised and shell-shocked troops, as they had expected, the Germans received a hot reception from alert defenders. The Germans went back and tried the Punjabis' defences. Here they discovered that they were even less welcome, and they retired to think it over.

The garrison was not entirely on the defensive even in these circumstances. A Mahratta patrol went out and spotted a gun which had been proving troublesome. Jem. Raja Ram Nikam, who led the patrol, was wounded, but he brought his men back safely, and reported the position to our artillery. The enemy gun position was shelled to pieces.

At night patrols went outside the wire and kept watch. They even took the opportunity to raid and harass the enemy. A Punjabi patrol saw a tank prowling about in the dark. The tank was ambushed and destroyed with bombs, one prisoner being taken. A truck and an armoured car accompanying the tank managed to escape at top speed. This, the Punjabis thought, was a poor show, but they pleaded to be excused as poor visibility had hampered them.

Mahratta anti-tank guns claimed two tanks for sure and one probable. Hav. Sakha Ram Sawant got both tanks, but at a cost of his own life. Next day these guns came in for heavy shelling by the enemy, and two two-pounders were destroyed by direct hits. No attack developed in this sector, however.

HEAVY AXIS CASUALTIES

Enemy sorties continued, but were all beaten back. Axis casualties in these futile attacks can be gauged from the fact that in one day alone the German and Italian ambulance fleets made six trips towards the wire to pick up their dead and wounded.

On June 16 orders were given for a withdrawal, but soon afterwards they were cancelled. The battalions were told that they would hold El Adem regardless of cost. The decision was greeted by the men with wholehearted enthusiasm. They did not relish the idea of running away after having foiled all the enemy's thrusts.

Later, the same night, it was decided not to sacrifice these two valiant battalions, and they were ordered to withdraw as soon as possible. Methodically the men set about destroying everything they could not carry. At about 0100 hours on June 17, the battalions sallied out into the night, and began the hazardous passage through the enemy concentrations.

Such transport as was inside the box had to pass through the main gaps. The original scheme was that the Royal Air Force should come over at the same time, and bomb and machine-gun the enemy, making as much noise and causing as much confusion as possible to cover the sound of the withdrawing vehicles. This was not found practicable. The result was that the withdrawal was discovered quickly, and the gaps came under heavy fire. Vehicles were damaged, or were set alight, and only a few of them managed to get out of the box.

The Infantry went out on foot through specially made paths across the minefields. They had a comparatively easy time to begin with. Once outside the box, however, they ran into enemy lagers and camps, and most of the way back—they had to walk about 20 miles—they kept encountering enemy columns. In this withdrawal, the Punjabis had only some casualties and the Mahrattas a number of men missing.

A WEIRD MARCH

It was a weird march, a night full of incidents and accidents. Queer things happened to each of the small parties into which the battalions had split up in order to make the withdrawal easier for us, and more difficult to tackle by the enemy. A general idea of the happenings of that night can be had from the experiences of Subedar Dera Singh, I.O.M. (2 Punjabis) and his party of about 30 men. Soon after leaving the box, the Subedar Sahib contacted the enemy. He organized his party in the form of a rough circle and ordered them to go through, firing as they went. The first enemy position was passed without difficulty. Then came a greater concentration. The Punjabis went straight into it, and emerged with their bayonets reddened and rifle butts dented. It was hot work while it lasted. One L/Naik grappled with two Germans. He quietened them with the spare barrel of a Bren gun he was carrying.

The Germans were in very shallow trenches (the Subedar Sahib commented on this as showing their inefficiency). Dera Singh stepped on a German hiding in one of these trenches, and another German tried to get hold of his legs and pull him down. The Subedar Sahib, who was in the centre of the circle, had not drawn his pistol, as he was afraid of hitting one of his own men, but he had a stick in his hand. He put one foot on the neck of the German, and beat him unconscious with the stick. The German had a thick skull, it broke the stick. Dera Singh complained that the action had cost him 16 piastres, and claimed that he should be indemnified by the authorities. The other German received a bayonet thrust.

GERMANS SURRENDER

The Subedar Sahib asserted that he saw Germans standing up with their hands raised high. "My men urged me to take prisoners along with us," he said "but I protested, and argued that we could scarcely take so many being so few ourselves. I explained that guarding them would hamper our progress, and the men finally agreed with me, though somewhat half-heartedly."

Some of the Punjabis were wounded. Most of them kept up, still firing, but at least one man was seriously hurt. The Subedar Sahib had carried him about 200 yards when the wounded man insisted that he be left behind. "I will curse myself always afterwards if on my account you are captured," he told Dera Singh. He did not budge from his resolution, and remained where he was.

The Punjabis had been instructed to shout and create as much noise as possible in order to give the impression that they were a powerful body. This had the desired effect in the immediate vicinity, but attracted more and more enemy forces towards them. Carriers and tanks rushed to the conflict and began to chase the Punjabis. The darkness prevented them spotting Dera Singh and his men as long as they remained quiet, but the sound of movement could be heard by the carriers, who were close to the party. These carriers then signalled to the tanks with Very lights to come up.

A game of hide and seek went on throughout the night. The Punjabis would move a little distance and then keep quiet, while the carriers tried to follow and bring up the tanks. At 0400 hours, the enemy was still close, and the Punjabis were worried for the first time.

At last, growing tired of the game, they decided to risk everything on a final rush. Throwing caution to the winds, they set off at top speed. Their courage was rewarded. They had doubled two miles when they fell in with one of our motor brigades.

Special Army Supplement

How to be happy in India

[*The following unofficial memorandum throws an interesting and humane light on the importance attached by British officers to the study of their men and to their feelings and behaviour in a strange country.*]

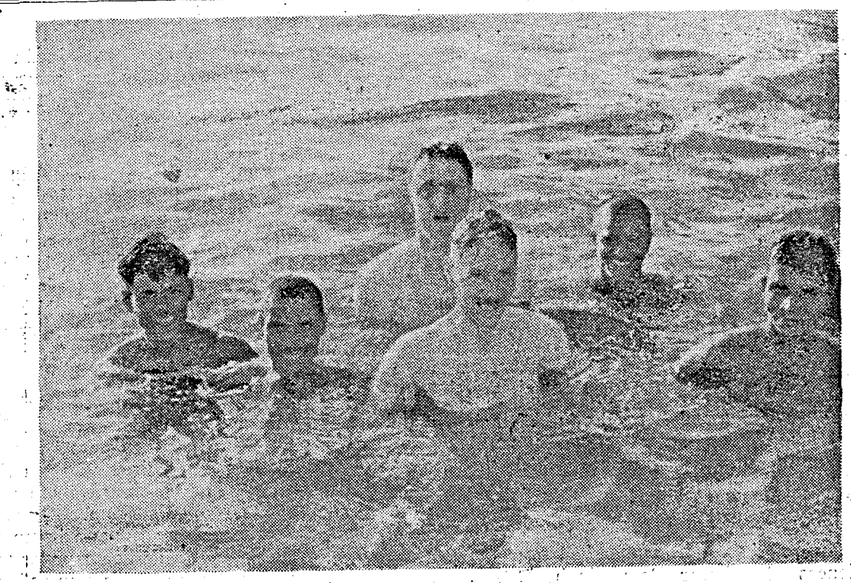
THE British soldier, who may previously have never left his native land, enters a new world on arrival in India.

His happiness depends to a large extent upon himself. It depends on whether he intends merely to lament his enforced absence from his home, or whether he proposes to extract from new surroundings the maximum of enjoyment.

"But what about the language difficulty" the reader may ask! Well, in the Madras Presidency very many Indians speak English, while soldiers in the Bombay Presidency should have little difficulty in picking up sufficient Urdu to make themselves understood.

No British man need hesitate to be on good terms with Indians and the British Officers of the Indian Army are proud to regard their men as personal friends.

Each man when abroad in his country's ambassador, and much depends on how each one of us behaves in India. Every instance of rudeness detracts from the War efforts, each example of courtesy helps our own country.



British Officers and Indian sepoys together in the water, enjoying a most welcome bath and swim.

Provided the soldier adopts the right attitude, he will find himself embarked on a great adventure which becomes more interesting as time passes, and his knowledge of the country increases.

First of all he will want to know something about the inhabitants of India. The Indians are, it is true, a different race from the British, but not an inferior one. Their customs are unlike ours and so are their manners, though no one can deny they are among the politest people in the world. Of course there are good and bad in every race, but I have never known a case where an Indian has failed to respond to politeness and kindness. Intensely sensitive they know at once if you like them, and will be only too pleased to talk to you about their customs, other than purely domestic, and manners.

The Army is trying to help every British soldier, by providing information on Southern India but you on your side remember, "God helps those who help themselves." If you do so you will find yourself amply rewarded, for the cities are rich in buildings of architectural interest, while the country provide scenes as beautiful as any in England—but they are often beautiful in another way and again it is a case of not inferior but different.

One last word don't talk politics. And if any Indian wishes to do so with you, tell him you are a soldier and not a politician, but none the less a man who, when victory has been gained over the Axis, looks forward to seeing India prosperous and free.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1942 No. 8

A start has been made

General Bernard Montgomery, Commander of the Eighth Army (right), with General Sir H.R.L.G. Alexander, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in the Middle East

★ A start has been made on what General Smuts has called the offensive. In this battle the Eighth Army and the Air Forces supporting it are one. In this I believe lies their great strength. I have always found in my long association with British troops that they will never let their leaders down

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *General Officer Commanding the Eighth Army, in an interview to Press correspondents at Cairo on Friday last (October 23)*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
The Eighth Army strikes!	7
Grow more food: His Excellency sets an example.	9
Why people run away: Lack of familiarity with danger.	10
A Sizzle in the Frying Pan: Jap Admirals' visit to Ankara.	12
An Uneasy Partner: Siam, the Enigma of Asia.	14
Two Epic Defences	16
Air War over Mediterranean	17
Importance of the Air-Raid Warden: Public's Guide, Philosopher and friend.	18
Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

Stalingrad: Sprawling City Stands Like Prepared Fortress

Bitter fighting is going on in Stalingrad, and the Russians are inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. The return of good weather has helped the Germans to launch another heavy assault on one of the factory forts of Stalingrad, and over 25,000 men, 100 planes and powerful tank forces are battling at the area. Under continual shelling and bombing, underground workshops are functioning, repairing guns and tanks, day and night. During the last few days, strong reinforcements have been shipped across the Volga by the Russians. Soviet troops have gained ground and improved their positions north-west of Stalingrad, and German reports emphasise that Marshal Timoshenko's attacks against the Panzer wall north-west of Stalingrad are increasing in violence. Berlin's spokesmen are saying that the capture of Stalingrad must not be expected within the next few days. After more than two months of heavy and continuous assault, the Germans have yet to capture the City of Stalin, which has been converted into a huge fortress. The astonishing thing is that when Stalingrad appeared to be almost within the German grasp, a campaign of rapid movement was halted and converted into a long-drawn-out siege, as though the sprawling industrial city, forty miles long, was by nature a prepared fortress like Gibralter.

* * * *

Astounding Feat: Clausewitz's Saying Comes True

The prolongation of the defence of Stalingrad is one of the greatest and most astounding feats in the world's history. It demonstrates the truth of the saying of the great strategist, Clausewitz, that the final factor in any military engagement is the *Will*. Russians willed that the City named after their great leader should not fall into German hands, and so they found ways and means every time to repulse the German attacks. The tactical weakness of the Russian position lies in the fact that they are fighting with their backs to a river which is a mile wide and across which the bulk of their supplies and reinforcements must be ferried and their wounded evacuated. Smoke-screens and the fire of the Volga gunboats were hitherto keeping the pontoons and ferries going. But recent reports seem to show that they are now within range of German field-batteries on high ground overlooking the river. The capture of ruined Stalingrad, according to some commentators, is of little more than prestige value, as the Volga supply route between Trans-Caucasia and Central Russia has already been closed. But this is a misconception. The Germans are desperately in need of the City for their winter quarters. They also require it as a protective bastion for their long and precarious line of communication, trailing through northern Caucasia to the Grozny and the mountain passes.

A Soldiers' Battle

"We all realise what a tough proposition we are up against in turning upon an enemy so well dug in and who so recently appeared to be marching victoriously on Cairo. But we also know that air co-operation has been on a scale which our soldiers have not previously experienced and that the Royal Navy has done exceptionally fine work in the Mediterranean, where submarines and bombers have taken a big toll of Axis supply ships. Above all, we know that the morale of the Eighth Army is very high. Once again it is a soldiers' battle."

—LORD CROFT,
Joint Parliamentary Secretary of War, on October 28.

"Hey—you're dead!"

A recent news is that von Bock has been sacked by Hitler. (Reproduced from the "Daily Mirror" of September 21, 1942. The above cartoon was radioed from London to Cairo and flown to India.)

Stalingrad and Caucasus: German Blunder and Timoshenko's Chance

Looking at Stalingrad from a general point of view, we find that Marshal Timoshenko has achieved outstanding successes in stemming the great offensive, which the Germans have attempted on the Russian front this year, and to which they devoted a million men, with tanks, aircraft guns and supplies in proportion. The Germans departed from their usual method of tackling one objective at a time, and committed the blunder of attempting simultaneously the capture of Stalingrad and the penetration of the Caucasus range. This gave Marshal Timoshenko his chance. His offensive against the German left flank was intended to relieve the pressure on the Stalingrad garrison. His drive has been slowed down, but not halted. Every day that Stalingrad's defenders can hold on is of the greatest value in assisting an offensive which, if it continues its momentum, will threaten the whole German position in the Don elbow. It would be unwise, however, to under estimate the strength of the Axis forces and expect Marshal Timoshenko to achieve a decisive break-in

behind the army massed in front of Stalingrad, but it must be recognized that Russian pressure against the German left flank all the way from Vorenezh to Stalingrad is steadily mounting, and *it is not impossible that the German invasion of the Caucasus may be defeated along the banks of the Don.* It is said that Hitler dismissed Von Bock because the German General wanted to follow up Stalingrad with a northward drive against Moscow, while Hitler wanted to switch on to the south —still hankering after the Persian and Iraqi oil fields. The Russian Command was faced with the task of preventing the Germans from doing either, and this it has done exceedingly well. Now both the German and Russian armies are fully extended in an all-out struggle for mastery.

* * * *

Stalingrad A Stalemate: Russian Victory of Great Importance

The war in the Eastern front has reached the decisive stage. The Russian chance of holding Stalingrad has now greatly increased. The autumn rains have begun, and they are sufficient to turn the Steppe, which in the summer is one broad highway for mechanised transport, into a vast quagmire. The prospect of wintering outside the City is most unwelcome to German troops, for this region is much colder than the Ukraine, and the Germans have to face the bitter Siberian winds, the coldest winds in the world outside the Arctic regions.

The recent announcement by a German military spokesman that instead of infantry assaults on Stalingrad there would be systematic devastation with heavy artillery is a clear indication that the Germans want an excuse to have a breathing space rendered necessary by the terrible losses inflicted on them by the Russians. This breathing space seems to be a prelude to what the Germans hope will be the final assault. Now it appears that Stalingrad has become a stalemate. This amounts to a Russian victory of great importance.

* * * *

Field-Marshal Smuts' Trafalgar Day Address

The Trafalgar Day address of Field-Marshal Smuts, South Africa's veteran Premier, was a unique event in Parliamentary annals. It was a unique event in the history of the British Empire as well. He is one of the last survivors of Britain's first World War Cabinet and he spoke in the presence of Britain's present war leader to a united meeting of both Houses of Parliament, which was presided over by Mr. Lloyd George, his own old chief and Britain's leader in the last World War. There is only one precedent for a statesman of his calibre addressing the British Parliament. It may be recalled that, on the eve of the war, President Lebrun addressed the Lords and the Commons in Westminster Hall. The place, the gathering, and the occasion lent a unique importance to the Field-Marshal's great speech. The speech and the occasion

A Front on which you can all fight.

"The National War Front, which is gaining so steadily in strength throughout India, is a front on which you can all fight. Scotch idle rumour and scorn the insidious and lying propaganda of the enemy. Build up a strong bulwark in your hearts of confidence and resolution. Take courage from the certainties which are before your eyes. We have been swimming against a strong current. But the tide is surely turning now. At one time we fought alone, but look now at the great peoples and armies of our Allies who are by our side: the people of the United States, of Russia, of China, and many others. Consider the mighty armaments which we are accumulating day by day and with which we shall soon outstrip and overwhelm the enemy. He is still strong and formidable, but he is becoming desperate and his days are numbered. His strength is the strength of ruthlessness, oppression, cruelty and treachery, but our strength is the strength of all free men and our cause is just. Hold on then grimly and with determination. Put every ounce of your strength of body and mind into a supreme effort and you will find that the day is not far distant when we with our Allies shall sweep forward like an irresistible flood, which will drown deep the forces of evil and wash the memory of their foulness for ever from the earth."

—H.E. THE VICEROY, *at Quetta, on October 22.*

emphasised the continuity of the present and the past, for a veteran of the old World War had come to the Allied counsels at a time when tremendous decisions were being taken. The Field-Marshal said that this war was really a continuation of the last war and that the intervening Armistice was a "period of feverish rest or unrest and dreams and delusions".

* * * *

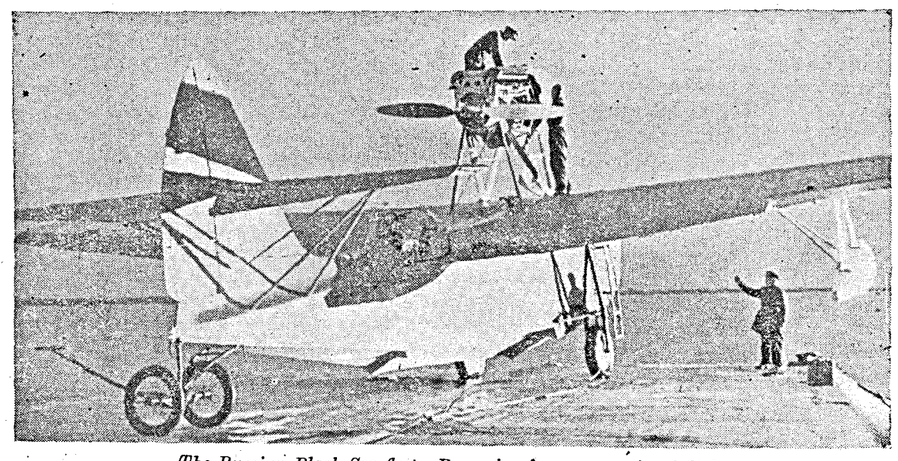
Remarkable Career of a "Foremost Statesman of His Generation"

Mr. Lloyd George who presided, introduced the Field-Marshal as "one of the foremost statesmen of his generation", and said: "He has had his experiences of conducting this great war, and no one knows better than myself his value and his judgment on that occasion". That judgment has ripened as a result of experience in the years of war and in the years of peace. During the Boer War of 1899–1902 he won his spurs as a Boer guerilla leader. Then he joined General Botha, one of the signatories of the peace treaty, in the policy of responding by co-operation to the British Government's grant of self-government to the ex-Boer republics in 1907. In 1910 South Africa became a Dominion of the British Empire under the title of the Union of South Africa. In 1913 Smuts became the second man in General Botha's Ministry. In 1915 he conducted a campaign in German East Africa which left the German General Lettow Von Vorbeck, a hunted guerilla commander for the rest of the war. In June 1917 he joined Mr. Lloyd George's War Cabinet, and only retired when victory came with the Armistice. In September 1919 he became Prime Minister of South Africa on the death of General Botha, and held office for five years. Then he retired into private life and studied philosophy, like Lord Balfour. In 1932 the great depression called him back to General Hertzog's National Cabinet, where he remained till the outbreak of the present war. Then once again he stepped forward to save his country in the new world crisis, just as he did in the old.

* * * *

Stage Set for an Offensive: Smuts' Important Declaration

An elder statesman of the British Empire, Field-Marshal Smuts spoke to Britain and the world with unrivalled authority. "The fourth year of the war had now been reached" said Smuts. "The defensive phase had ended, and thestage was now set for an offensive. The Allies' resources had been mobilized on a large scale, while the enemy's were declining." This represents a formal declaration from the United Nations that the war is entering a new phase, and the declaration has in fact been put into practice by the new offensive launched in Egypt last week. One of the moving passages in his speech is that which proclaims this struggle to be one of the spirit. "It is a struggle of life and death, between the contending systems and ideologies which now divide mankind." "Which do you choose," he asked; "—the free spirit of man and the moral idealism which has shaped the values and ideals



The Russian Black Sea fleet—Preparing for an operational flight.

of our civilization, or this horrid substitute, this foul obsession now resuscitated from the underworld of the past ?" "Decency, sympathy and mercy are not words found in this new code". The Field-Marshal contrasted the Cross of Christ with the Crooked Cross and referred to Christian principles and Nazi *Kultur*. But this should not be understood as a narrowing of the outlook or excluding other religions and cultures. As he was addressing a Christian audience, he has spoken in that manner, but a perusal of his whole speech clearly shows that the principles to which he appealed were those which are universally acclaimed by all the major religions. A Nazi attack on these principles threatens the root of all the religions, and attempts to drag mankind back to the jungle.

* * * *

Post-War Problems : Blend of Idealism and Realism

In his address the Field-Marshal dealt with the post-war problems with an admirable blend of idealism and realism. He said :

"We have agreed on certain large principles of social policy involving social security for the citizen in a matter which has lain at the roots of much social unrest and suffering in the past. Certain patent social and economic evils could be tackled on modest practical lines on an international scale almost at once."

Referring to the "United Nations, he said that it was a new conception much in advance of the old concept of the League of Nations. It was a fruitful conception, he said, on the basis of which the practical machinery for the functioning of an international order could be ordered.

Referring to the Atlantic Charter, he said that certain large principles of international policy in the social and economic sphere had been accepted and it marked a great step forward by laying the foundations of a world Magna Carta. His idea was "Justice and Fairplay or All." He said, "We cannot hope to establish a new Heaven and a new Earth in the bleak world which will follow this most destructive conflict in history", but we can hope to attack social and economic evils and bring about a better state of things. Thus spoke the true statesman who reminds one of Pericles and Asoka, Richelieu and Akbar.

ARMY POSTAL VACANCIES

Civilian recruits are being accepted for employment as havildars in Indian Army Postal Units for the duration of the war, with a likelihood of permanent appointments in the Posts and Telegraphs Department when victory has been won.

Recruits, who must be between the ages of 18 and 25 (in special cases 30), will be enrolled in the Indian General Service Corps. During a training period extending over three or four months they will receive the basic pay of a sepoy, plus a training period allowance of Rs. 29 per month. Candidates who undergo training as postmasters will have their training period allowance increased to Rs. 44 per month after the third month.

Immediately they have completed their training, recruits will fill vacancies in war establishments of Army Postal Units. They will be granted the war substantive rank of havildar, and will receive pay of rank, plus grade pay. Candidates filling the appointment of postmaster will receive grade pay at grade 1 rates. Clerks will be paid at grade 2 or grade 3 rates.

Minimum educational qualifications for employment in Army Postal Units will be matriculation, or any equivalent examination, but in exceptional circumstances these may be waived.

After discharge from the Army, personnel with one year's satisfactory service in the field will be eligible for permanent appointments in the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Fifty per cent of the vacancies in this Department are being reserved for such personnel. The condition of one year's field service will be relaxed in the case of those who do not fulfil it due to an earlier end of the war.

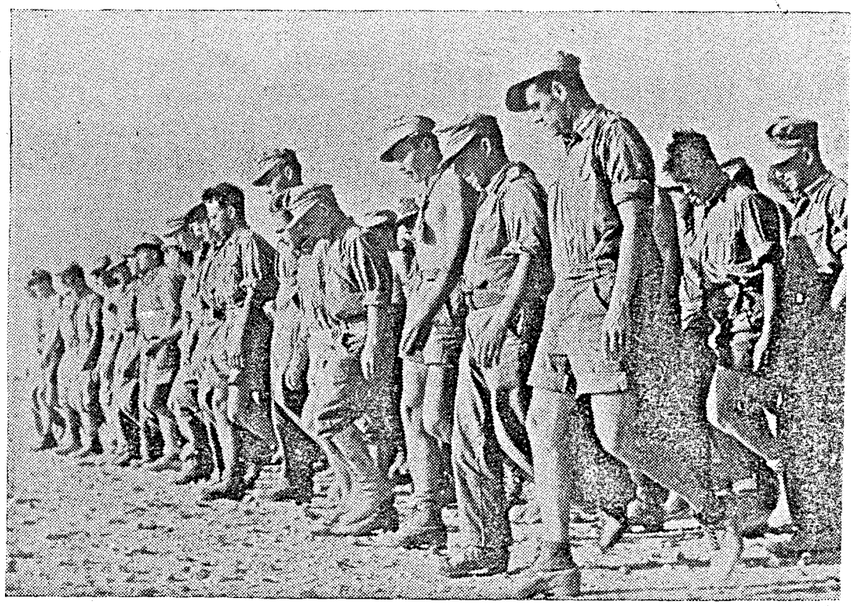
Prospects of rising to Rs. 300 per month, with free rations, clothing and accommodation, exist for capable men, and fuller details may be obtained from any Technical Recruiting Officer.

The Eighth Army Strikes!

"*GOOD show, keep it up.*" This was a message sent by the Eighth Army to Allied bombers which carried out a terrific bombardment of the Axis ground forces on Monday last, within full sight of the Allied troops in the northern area of the battle-front in Egypt. This can well be a message from the freedom-loving world to the Eighth Army as a whole on their opening successes. The Eighth Army's vigorous assault in front of El Alamein is really an all-out attempt to smash the Axis positions. The operations which are of a massive character appear to be along the whole front. The Axis was expecting such an offensive, and this was evident by the increased air attacks on Malta and the attempts to rush reinforcements and supplies through at all costs.

The Offensive Starts

THE Allied offensive was launched on Friday night (October 23), in bright moonlight under cover of the greatest artillery barrage ever seen in North Africa. "A start has been made on what General Smuts has called the offensive," said General Montgomery, Commander of the Eighth Army, to pressmen before the launching of the attack. He observed that in this battle the Eighth Army and the Air Forces supporting it were one, and therein lay their great strength. The offensive which has behind it such strength is taking place almost on Egypt's front door, and it represents a great and mighty effort which will have consequences of a far-reaching character. For it will be a real trial of strength between the Allied and the Axis forces. The severity of the attack of the Eighth Army has already cracked the hard crust of the enemy's defences, and the gaps created are now being widened by steady and increased Allied pressure.



Reuter's Special Correspondent reports that a number of Italian and German prisoners were ta by the Eighth Army during its advance last week. Photo shows German prisoners capture by the Eighth Army a few months ago being lined up and marched away.

A Thrilling Feat

IT may be recalled that the Eighth Army did a magnificent job in halting Rommel's headlong offensive and regaining the initiative sometime ago. Its achievement in

turning at bay and pinning down the Axis forces in front of El Alamein after heavy defeat and long and exhausting retreat is one of the most thrilling feats of the war. A very ugly corner was turned at a time when defeat of the first magnitude appeared to be imminent. By clever counter-attacks, the Eighth Army prevented Rommel from putting through his favourite device of massing a numerically superior force at a given point and following it up with a swift enveloping movement. These counter-attacks inflicted the maximum punishment on the enemy's striking power. "Rarely or never," reported the *Times* Cairo Correspondent, "has any Army in the field taken such a beating from air as has been the lot of the Afrika Corps . . . the moral effect has been shattering." The Eighth Army was then suffering under serious disadvantage. The depressing effects of defeat and continuous retreat and a sense of impotence due to serious weakness in tanks might have deteriorated the *morale* of any army, but not of the Eighth Army. As against this, the Axis forces had the encouraging effect of successful advance and the exhilarating prospect of a dazzling victory and the hope of rest and refreshment in Alexandria and Cairo. Though desperately weak in tanks and depleted in field and anti-tank guns, the Eighth Army dug its toes in along the front of about 35 miles between the sea and the edge of the Quattera depression.

Race for Reinforcements

THE situation was thus one of deadly peril, and there was an hourly danger of a sudden enveloping movement by tank formations which Allied guns and tank units could not ward off. The Germans were dangerously close to the Nile Delta area, and the temptation on Rommel's side to rush the short last lap to Alexandria must be very great. But lack of reinforcements forced a lull on a situation fraught with dangerous possibilities. What was once mobile desert warfare became a battle of positions. This was only a temporary phase, and behind an apparently static front there was high pressure activity on both sides to build up full-scale striking power. Neither side was strong enough to undertake a great offensive, and the whole issue depended on who won the race for reinforcements. During his short stay in Egypt, Mr. Churchill told the troops, **"You have done magnificently. Plenty of stuff is coming."** And plenty of stuff came to start the new Battle for Egypt. Mr. Churchill told the Egyptians that Britain was "*determined to fight for Egypt and the Nile Valley as if it were the soil of England itself.*" And that fight is now on with the greatest vigour possible.

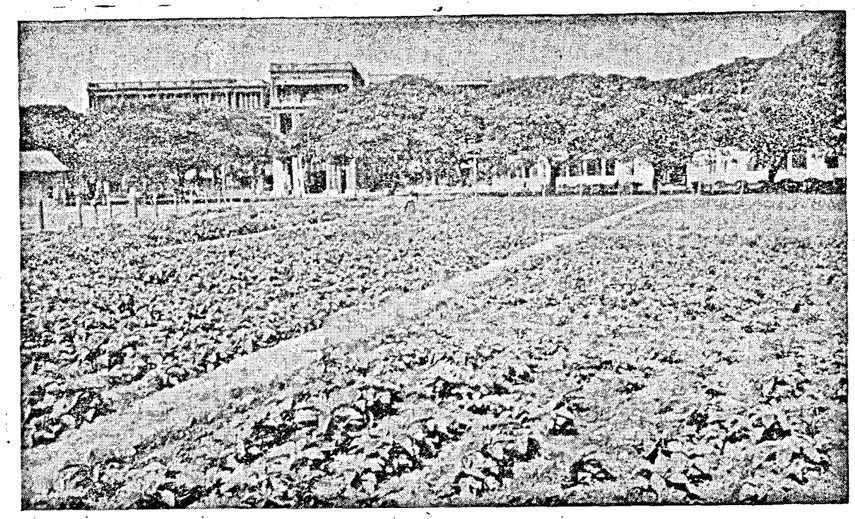
THE Battle for Egypt has been going on for the last two years. It was in June 1940 that Italy thought fit to enter the war and began to dream of a great African Empire. It was on September 15, 1940, that Italians began to advance across the Egyptian border. Marshal Graziani predicted September 18, 1940, as the date for his entry into Alexandria. Neither Graziani in September 1940 nor Rommel in September 1942 could achieve the feat of entry into Alexandria.

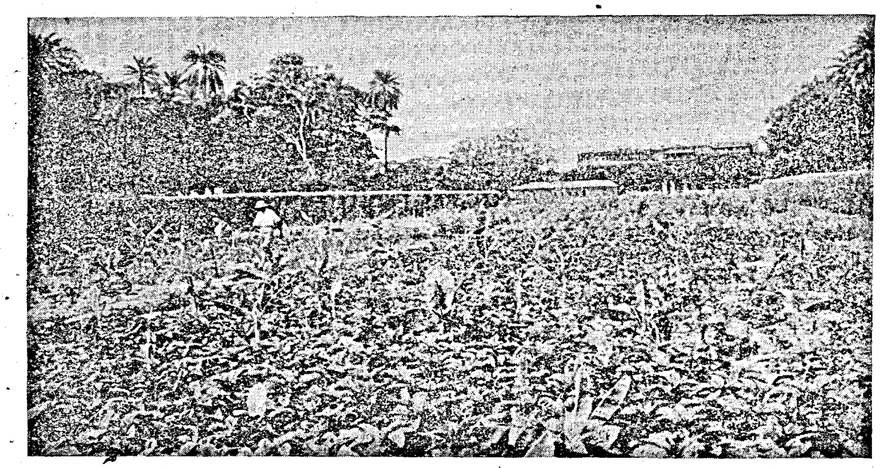
THE Eighth Army which was built up from scratch stands in the way. It is one of the most efficient fighting entities of this war and stands guard at a crucial theatre of the world—a theatre which is the southern hinge of the Russian army and the front-door to British East Africa and the Union of South Africa. It is holding apart the Axis powers in Europe from the Japanese in Asia.

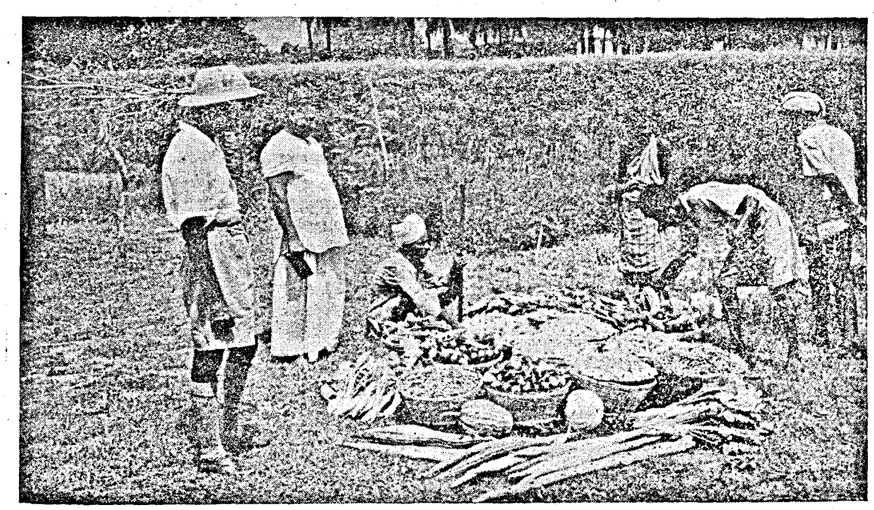
Has a good hand

GENERAL MONTGOMERY has a good hand, and is playing it with courage and confidence. On him and his great army depends the future of the southern front of the Allies.

Grow More Food—His Excellency Sets An Example







Government House Gardens, Madras.

Why People Run Away

◆

Lack of Familiarity With Danger

◆

BY

THE HON. MR. JUSTICE S. WADSWORTH

HAVE you ever noticed what happens when an old woman is crossing the street and suddenly hears the horn of an approaching motor? She gives a start and then begins to run forward and, more often than not, she changes her mind and dodges back again, with the result that the driver of the car has to jam on all his brakes to prevent an accident. Of course if the woman stopped to think, she would realize that she only has to stand perfectly motionless, or better still, walk steadily forward, for the driver to avoid her with ease. But all of us have a natural tendency to run when scared. We call it the instinct of self-preservation, but too often it results in self-destruction.

Nowhere was this seen more clearly than in Belgium and Northern France in May 1940. Perhaps you have read some of those terrible books which described the flight of the refugees from those parts. They make grim reading, the more so because they are true. It was the same everywhere—long before the Germans were anywhere near a town, rumours started that the enemy was at hand. The whole population was seized with panic and this treacherous instinct of self-preservation led it to its doom. In their thousands they poured out on to the congested roads—cluttering them up with hand-carts and wheel-barrows and perambulators, laden with luggage. The roads were so jammed with panicky crowds and uncontrolled traffic that the troops moving up to the front could not advance, thus enabling the Germans to push forward with little resistance. If the hordes of refugees showed any signs of stopping, enemy planes swooped down with bombs and machine guns, butchering the helpless people and stirring up fresh panic. Families became separated in the confusion, and old folks and little children were left to die by the road side.

The irresistible westward flow of this great torrent of suffering humanity did more than anything else to hamper and demoralize the defending forces. But when the advancing forces of the enemy eventually caught up with the jam of refugees, they quickly cut a path through it with machine gun bullets—a method which the Allies could not contemplate. What the loss of civilian life was in those tragic weeks, none will ever know, but it must have been enormous. What is quite certain is that, if these millions had stayed quietly in the shelter of their homes, the vast majority of them would have been perfectly safe and the defending armies would have had a far better chance of arresting the German advance.

RUNNING AWAY— ARRANT FOLLY

Running away from an invasion is dangerous enough; but running away from an air raid is arrant folly. We now know that the very heavy casualties caused by the first Japanese raid on Rangoon were almost entirely due to the madness or ignorance of the people who streamed into the streets and tried to run away while the enemy planes were still overhead. The result was a death-roll which would have been almost entirely avoided if the people had had the sense to stay within the shelter of their houses. Did you see the figures of the casualties from air raids in England during the first three years of the war? When you think of the thousands and thousands of bombs which have been rained down indiscriminately upon the London area during this period, the figures of deaths due to enemy action were amazingly low. It is difficult to say what would be the percentage to total population, because there has been a good deal of evacuation of children and non-workers from the most vulnerable areas; but certainly the death-rate for the whole period cannot be more than a small fraction of one per cent. Compare this with what happens when cholera strikes an Indian village and often decimates the population in a few weeks. Yet people take cholera almost for granted but are prepared to run away in tens of thousands if half a dozen bombs are dropped in the neighbourhood. It is not that the people of this country have less courage than the citizens of London.

COURAGE OF AN INDIAN VILLAGER

The courage of the Indian villager in a cholera epidemic is sometimes remarkable. I shall always remember an incident which happened in Malabar, where a prisoner was being taken by road in the custody of a constable to stand his trial before the magistrate. They had about fifteen miles to walk and when they had got about half way, the constable was suddenly taken ill with cholera. A fine chance for the prisoner to escape, you will say. Not a bit of it. What that poor criminal did was to put the constable on his back, vomiting and purging as he was, and carry him several miles to the nearest town, where a doctor saved the man's life. I have heard a few braver or nobler acts than that and I am glad to say that it was rewarded. No, it is not lack of courage that makes people run away from bombs. It is lack of familiarity with the danger. I hope that the occasion will not arise, but I have little doubt that if air-raids on Madras became frequent, the people of this city would get used to them and would carry on their daily tasks with an imperturbability not much inferior to that which has earned for the citizens of London the admiration of the world.

We all have the feeling that the United Nations are getting the upper hand in the air, both in the east and in the west. We do not know what the future may bring forth, but we have reason to think that a serious attack on our coast is far less likely now than it was a few months ago and that, if it did come, we are much more prepared to meet it. But this is a war in which the unexpected has been almost the rule. It would be very foolish of us to bank on the belief that the danger to our coast-line is past and to be unprepared for what may happen if we are wrong. Suppose the unexpected happens and there is a recrudescence of attacks on the Madras coast. What is the duty of us ordinary citizens who are not engaged in A.R.P. or other defence duties? I venture to think that it can be summarized in two words—**stay put.**

AFTER THE FIRST AIR RAID

Don't start rushing about looking for a safer place. Get into the nearest building or trench, and stay there. If our fighters go out to engage the enemy, don't run into the middle of the street to see the fun—the chances are that, if you do, something unpleasant may drop on you. Above all when the first raid is over, don't dash to the railway station with all your family and belongings and clamour wildly for a ticket to the other end of India. To do this is to let your instinct for self-preservation get the better of your common sense, just like the old woman who dances about in front of an oncoming motor car. If enemy planes are about, railways and roads are places to avoid and probably your own house is as safe as anywhere else, especially if it has a shelter trench handy. Moreover we have all got a duty in this matter. Not only ought we to resolve to do nothing to spread panic, we ought also to make up our minds to do nothing which will in any way impede the defence of our country. Nothing helps the enemy more than the disorganization of our communications. A mad stampede for railways and roads impedes the movement of the defence forces and may be fatal to their success.

We who live in South India have, in the past, been so far removed from the dangers of war that we have grown up unfamiliar with warlike men and warlike things. Many of us have been brought up to regard sepoys and soldiers as dangerous animals like tigers and lions, to be avoided by peaceable folk. Now most of us have grown more familiar with the sight of the Indian sepoy and the British soldier and we are beginning to recognize him for what he is—an ordinary decent fellow made of the same stuff as ourselves and sent here for our defence. Those of you who have mixed much with the soldiery will know that most of them have wives and children at home whom they are missing dreadfully, they are suffering constantly from home sickness and respond gladly to any little bit of friendliness they may receive from the strangers they have come to defend. We can do much to make the lot of our defenders easier. We may not all be able to entertain them in our homes, but we can at least show them courtesy and friendliness whenever we meet them. Let not our political views blind us to the fact that these

Greetings to Greece

"Outside their own country the armed forces of Greece—Navy, Army and Air Force, are now once again in the field, already testing their growing strength in the face of the enemy anxious for the day, not far off now, when they will be with you in avenging your present sufferings. The British people greet you in admiration and sympathy and in the firm confidence that the day of freedom will surely dawn."

—MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL,
the Prime Minister, in a message to the Greek people on October 28, the second anniversary of Mussolini's attack on Greece.

FROM BRITAIN: WINTER CLOTHING FOR RUSSIANS

●

BIG SHIPLOADS of warm winter clothing for Russians will soon be dispatched from Britain, reports the ***Daily Herald.*** Garments of all kinds—some of them specially prepared for the Russian climate—will be included in the consignments

●

LAST year Britain sent to Russia more than 500,000 blankets and more than 400,000 woollen garments. The supplies Britain is about to send will be substantially greater

men, whether they be Indian or British, are strangers in a strange land, sent here for our protection. Surely they should be treated as honoured guests. They are not concerned with policies or parties. They have left their homes to fight the forces of evil and are prepared to undergo dangers and hardships in the common cause, which is our cause just as much as theirs. Let us therefore greet them as friends, whatever their community.

THREE SOLDIERS AND A DOCTOR

I was much cheered by an incident which happened in Madras a few weeks ago. Three soldiers were wandering late one night along the Poonamallee High Road, having missed the last train back to their camp and not knowing where to go or what to do. An Indian doctor returning from a professional visit, saw them, thought they had lost their way and asked them if he could help. They told him of their plight and he took them into his house, gave them a bed for the night and a cup of coffee in the morning and set them on their way with a feeling of friendliness towards India and Indians which no amount of lecturing could have given them. I venture to think that this hospitable doctor did more for the cause of Indian freedom than those who preach the pernicious doctrine of national hatred.

True nationalism is love of one's own country, not hatred of other people. It is the duty of all lovers of India to be jealous of India's good name and to do nothing which will hamper her defence. If the time of trial comes and we are once again threatened by hostile action, let the defence of our country, not the safety of our own skins, be our first concern. Let us avoid panic which reduces men to the level of the beasts and generally results in the direst peril. If bombs come, let us remember that it is our duty to our country to remain calm, to set a good example to others and to avoid any action which will hamper the movements of those who are defending us. I earnestly hope that the occasion will not arise, but if it does and if you hear the bombs falling and the machine guns rattling, keep calm, take shelter and stay put.

—A recent broadcast talk from A.I.R., Madras.

Stalingrad will not fall

"Stalingrad will not fall. The Grozny oilfields will remain in Russian hands. The Germans will not get the Baku oil region this winter."

—ADMIRAL STANDLEY,
U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, in an interview, on October 28, at Washington.

A Sizzle in the Frying Pan

◆

Jap Admirals' Visit to Ankara

◆

BY

LEONARD KIRSCHEN

REAR-ADMIRAL Nomura and Vice-Admiral Abe recently visited Turkey. They came and went with no more noise than a sizzle in the frying pan. For one day they were seen feeding their emaciated stomachs in Ankara's most famous restaurant Karpic and the next day they were sunning their newly acquired paunches on the terrace of the German-infested Parc Hotel in Istanbul. Then they disappeared as noiselessly as they had come.

It is hardly likely that these famous Admirals had come to Turkey only to tuck in a good meal which I am sure they had been badly in need of, seeing that Nomura is naval attache in Berlin and Abe fills the same place in Rome. Their trip to Turkey seems to have been an extension of a Cook's tour to the Balkans including Bucharest, Sofia, Belgrade and Athens.

The Japanese investors in the Axis company, already doomed to certain bankruptcy, have lately been asked by their already weakened partners to place some more capital in the rotten firm. It was whispered all over Europe at the beginning of this year that the Japanese were going to attack Russia in the late summer and it had been thought possible that the initial attack on Stalingrad on July 18 would coincide with a Japanese attack on Russia. This would have helped Von Bock a good deal and might have diverted to the Far East—if not the men—at least a substantial quantity of Russian war material and 'planes. The Japs, however, did not attack.

CAUTIOUS BUSINESSMEN

The Japs disappeared from the Bay of Bengal too. The famous Jap air-carriers which had at one time been having what seemed a field day all on their own have had to ingurgitate some of the bitter medicine handed them at the battle of the Midway and Solomon islands, especially in the Coral sea battle. In China too it seems that the Jap household gods are about to turn their faces away and the China incident is just beginning for the Japs to develop into something really worth calling an incident.

All this, however, does not seem to impress the European partners of the Tripartite Pact. Everyone is extremely keen in saving his own skin and even if Berlin and Rome have already had plenty of time to digest the news from the Far East, it seems to the strategists in both capitals that the fate of the whole bankrupt going tripartite firm hangs on the willingness of the Japs to do a little more, just a tiny weeny little bit more until winter is over and Mussolini has time to polish his several million bayonets and Hitler time to sew the buttons on the several million new greatcoats.

But the Japs are extremely cautious business men. They have their fingers in one or two pies amongst the most important of which is greater Asia. They would be rather unwilling to risk one venture for another uncertain one and as good business men they have sent their men to investigate in Europe what their partners are doing and whether it is indeed a sound proposition to make fresh investments in a firm that has already swallowed a good deal more capital than had at first been estimated. This is the real significance of the recent Jap visit to Turkey and Ankara.

JAPANESE DIPLOMACY

It has always been the acknowledged policy of the Japs to visit and entertain cordial relations with all the countries bordering Russia on the West. Thus the Japanese have always entertained the most cordial relations with Poland and Rumania. It will be remembered that ex-King Carol, when Crown Prince, visited Japan. The Japs have always hoped that when they would attack Russia some day the other peoples would give them a helping hand. Now it so happened that Russia was attacked by the others and the Japs feel that it is their duty now to be at least so honest and go from time to time and shake these people by the hand and tell them what honourable gentlemen they all are. But there is just one honourable gentleman who does not seem at all inclined to go and blunt a spear-head for the Tenno and that is the Turk. So the two Admirals came to Turkey in order to see why the Turk is neutral.

They must have found here a totally different atmosphere. Turkey is to-day the only country where one can get an impartial perspective of all the happenings in the world. If the Japanese diplomats and soldiers posted in the European capitals find it difficult to obtain information about what is going on in the world there is certainly no difficulty of informing oneself of the truth in Turkey. Therefore, the Japs came to Ankara to take a breath of fresh air and find things out for themselves, which they most probably did.

TURKEY'S FIRM ATTITUDE

In Turkey the Jap sailors certainly learned the truth. But there is just one more reason for their presence here. Since the expulsion of the Jap diplomats from Iran the Axis have found it extremely difficult to spy in the Middle East and especially in the Caucasus. The Japanese Legation in Teheran would inform the Axis partners immediately of the slightest development in Iran and Iraq and were days ahead with the news. It was sometimes uncanny the way Radio Berlin broadcast the day's happenings in Teheran. Now all this has collapsed overnight. If the rainy season ceases and the Japs will try another attack on India they must know beforehand what the conditions in this part of the world really are if they want to join hands with the Germans over the Gulf of Persia. The Axis information service has broken down completely and the Japs were here to try and see what can be done about it. There is, however, precious little chance that the Turks will allow their territory to be used as a sort of universal keyhole. A few high-spirited Vichy French and Italian adventurers have already paid a high price for trying to use Turkey as a convenient look-out or suitable spot to foment trouble in neighbouring countries.

ISSUE LIES IN EUROPE

Officially the Jap visitors had no contact with the Turkish Government. Even if they have had informal contact with Turkish sailors and soldiers they must have noticed how the latter were reserved. It was certainly not lost on the two visitors that the Turks do not attach much importance to the issue in the Pacific and that they consider the Japs as nothing more than potential nuisance makers. It is clear to the Turkish people and that they have expressed best in the Press that the issue lies in Europe and not in the Pacific. The Japs departed as noiselessly as they had come and the Turkish people have not even noticed their presence.

More Refugees from Burma likely

Steps are well in hand to meet the situation which may arise if there is a further influx of refugees from Burma into India after the monsoon. It is impossible to estimate how many more evacuees from Burma are likely to come into India during the next few months, or indeed whether any more evacuees will arrive at all, but the authorities feel that they should be prepared for all eventualities.

An Uneasy Partner

◆

Siam, the Enigma of Asia

◆

BY

F. WHITTINGHAM-JONES

SIAM to-day is the enigma of Asia. Sir Josiah Crosby, formerly British Minister at Bangkok, who has been repatriated, will doubtless have some revelations to make on the situation there. To what extent has Siam identified herself with Japan's "New Order" in Asia? That is the crucial question.

Reading between the lines of the meagre trickle of news which has reached the outside world during the past nine months, I find significant and growing indications that Siam is an uneasy partner in the "New Order" and indeed only participates under duress.

JAPAN'S INTENTIONS

Japan's intentions are apparent from her creation of "Ministry of Greater East Asia" on September 1. That Ministry is to provide political machinery for the largest-scale adventure in militarism that the world has seen. It will control all matters concerning Japanese residents in "Greater East Asia," all companies doing business there, and the development of natural resources such as mines, and it will protect Japanese trade. Japanese embassies and legations (and presumably, all consulates) in "Greater East Asia" will be merged in the new Ministry.

In short, at a single stroke Japan creates a vast system of extra-territorial rights for her own nationals and proclaims colonial status for all occupied territories, the pretence of whose pledged "independence" is thereby abandoned. If Japanese ambassadors are to be controlled by the Colonial Office instead of by the Foreign Office, it means that they will become civil servants rather than diplomats. From Manchukuo to New Guinea, from Nanking to Rangoon, politics, economics, trade and culture will fall more and more under the direct control of Tokyo.

FEELING THE PINCH.

Siam is already feeling the pinch of "Co-Prosperity." There is increasing shortage of food, though not yet to the point of starvation. Labour troubles are acute, and all goods are scarce. Rationing is foreshadowed. First it will be tried out on matches. Experience gained from the control of matches will be applied to bring other commodities under control.

It is evident, from the much-advertised lack of sugar and petroleum in Siam, that Japan is unable to bring these articles up from Java. Lack of shipping has killed Siam's export trade in tin, rubber and rice, on which the prosperity of the country depends.

Popular discontent was manifested by riots in Bangkok last June. The "ten-year plan" to promote "Co-Prosperity for Thailand" launched by the puppet Government in that month gives small promise of alleviating the stringency. "Revolutionary plans" are said to have been formulated to bring about "self-sufficiency" in several selected industries—tin, fuel, matches, meat and canning, vegetable and dairy production.

A MIRAGE

Meat, canning and dairy products are of little importance, and Siam may continue to make her own matches and produce more vegetables, but the prospect of attaining profit-yielding industrial "self-sufficiency" implied (though not promised) by Japan is a mirage. Siam has no heavy industries, and always had to import her metals, metal manufactures, machinery and engineering plant and tools. Large quantities came from Europe, Britain and America; now Japan is the sole supplier. As Japan cannot produce enough of such things to cover her own needs in wartime, there can be none for Siam, and the "plan" makes no attempt to supply the deficiency.

Then, too, it would take a long time before skilled labour on any scale could be provided. A new labour code introduced on August 14 "to increase industrial output and food supply" imposes compulsory service on every male, under 50 except priests and students. The main purpose of the decree is obviously to augment food supply.

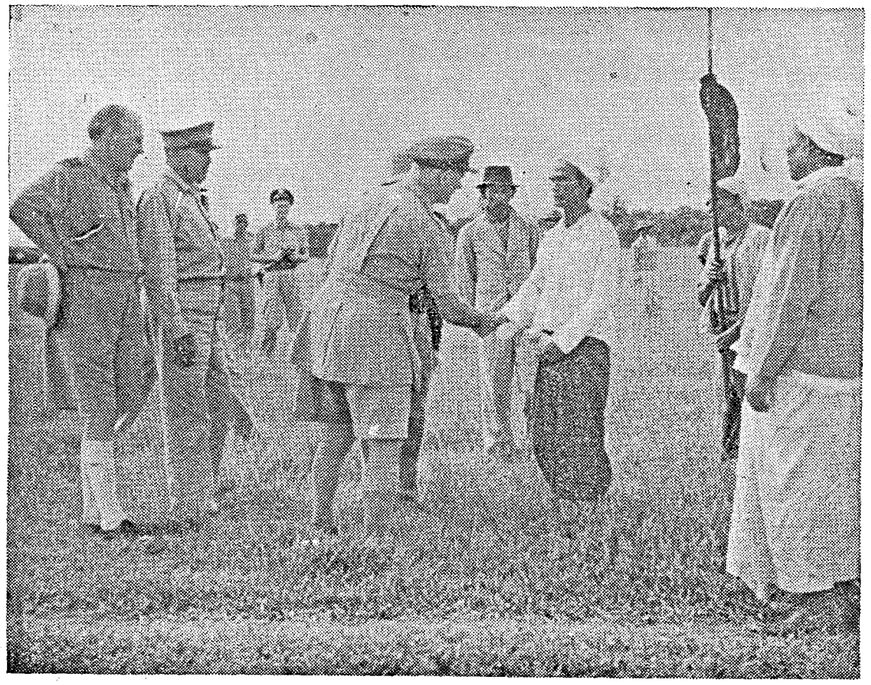
ALL TRADE LOST

Yet present conditions leave Siam with no alternative but to become "self-sufficient" even at starvation level. Total disappearance of international trade and shipping in that part of the world has thrown her wholly upon her own resources. "Co-Prosperity" in practice means just that—loss of all external trade except that enforced by Japan, who gives little or nothing in return. So little does Japan care for the prosperity of her subject States that Siam is threatened with a compulsory change-over of production from rice to cotton; and cotton, when produced, is to go to Japan. In July the puppet Government urged the population to grow more vegetables "as a country which cannot nourish itself always runs a risk of famine in wartime." Although the vegetable position was difficult before the war, it has steadily deteriorated since.

WORK OR PERISH

On the tenth anniversary of the Revolution in June, Premier Luuang Pibul Songgram issued a warning against rumour-mongering "which might produce evil effects should important articles become scarce," adding that this state of affairs "could be improved only by thrift and increased production at home." On August 26 Bangkok Radio warned the people: "The truth is that Thailand cannot get goods from abroad any more. We must make things we cannot get, or we will have to do without them and die a slow and certain death from starvation."

war when Bangkok's exposed situation was considered against the possibility of "enemy invasion." At that time the motive was purely strategic. Now Japan revives the proposal for the purpose of loosening the Government's hold on the country and breaking the influence of the large Chinese population in Bangkok which constitutes a formidable source of trouble. Tokyo, however, would still keep the banking and commercial centre at Bangkok, for she would more easily dominate that with the Siamese Government safely out of the way. It is rumoured also that Japan contemplates leasing Bangkok harbour.



GENERAL WAVELL ON BURMA SOIL.—General Wavell recently inspected forward positions on the north-east frontier. During this visit he crossed the Burma border. A High Burmese Chief greets General Wavell on his arrival.

This was followed on September 3 by a further appeal to the public "not to be extravagant and not to buy anything unless it was urgently needed."

Thus "self-sufficiency" means that Siam must stew in her own juice, with the prospect of relapsing into a poverty-stricken peasant economy which will give the Japanese imperialists greater scope for interference later on.

PROJECTED CHANGES

Even now Japan is projecting such changes as the removal of Siam's capital from Bangkok to Saraburi, a small town in the hills 124 miles to the north-east. There was talk of moving the seat of government before the

STEP BY STEP

Since the signing of a treaty of alliance between Siam and Japan on December 21, 1941, the re-orientation of Siam's policy has been pronounced in foreign affairs. As the next step, on January 27 she duly declared war on Britain and America. Then came recognition of the Wang Ching-wei regime in China and the claim that that recognition "completed the encirclement of Chungking."

Japan was always anxious to repudiate "colonial" aspirations. "Planned collaboration between Thailand and Japan does not mean that Japan will consider Thailand as a colony," said the Japanese spokesman in

Bangkok recently. "Japan does not want to repeat the mistakes of the British."

Not that the British ever did interfere in the internal affairs of Siam. In the old days we enjoyed certain treaty rights accorded to us by successive Siamese Governments, but the last vestige of extra-territorial rights disappeared with the signing of an Anglo-Siamese Treaty in 1937 when Siam achieved complete fiscal and financial autonomy.

FREE SIAMESE

Although the Siamese at home are unable to express their real feelings at this moment, the true mind of the people may be gauged from the fact that, whereas all Siamese in Britain and America were given an opportunity of being repatriated, only 18 in America and 15 in Britain availed themselves of the offer. The rest refused, and almost all able-bodied men have enlisted for the fighting services. Led by Mr. Mani Sanasen in Britain and Mr. Seni Pranoi in America, free Siamese in both countries are endeavouring to win official recognition and so throw their full weight into the Allied cause.

Down the centuries Siam has had little contact with Japan until in recent years students began to go to study in Tokyo partly because it was cheaper—though admittedly it was second rate—and partly because of travel difficulties in Europe at war. Japanese occupation of the country has intensified the hostility of the Siamese masses, and it seems unlikely that "Co-Prosperity"—even if it looked at all like prosperity—will ever command allegiance any more than it will fulfil the anxious ambitions of Japan.

—*The Daily Telegraph.*

CHINESE TRAINING IN INDIA

There is a training camp somewhere in India for Chinese soldiers, who are getting ready to fight their way back to their country through Burma. They are being trained under United States officers with arms and equipment such as their comrades fighting in China are clamouring for.

Guns used by these Chinese are among the latest American weapons, constructed after fifteen years' study. The Chinese are the first non-Americans to handle them and are taking to them with the greatest enthusiasm and thoroughness. The firing ranges and training grounds cover many hundred acres ringed by jungle-covered hills, which reverberate all day to the rattle of artillery and small arms.

Colonel Fredrick McCabe from Los Angeles is in charge of the infantry training and is Camp Commandant. Colonel George W. Sliney from San Francisco is in charge of the field artillery training section.

Two Epic Defences

NOT just by an accident do Malta and Stalingrad stand side by side in headlines each day, writes the *Daily Express*.

We see the deathless city and the indomitable island as two nodal points in one vast strategic battleline—one battle wherein the Germans are on the offensive in two directions. Both these places must be neutralized before the Germans can develop their main design which is to join up Marshal Rommel threatening the Nile with Kempff menacing Caucasia, our supply line to Russia and our own oilfields in Persia.

The Malta assault, regardless of losses, continues day and night. It cost the Axis over 1,000 airplanes and well over a hundred in the latest campaign. Our forces like the defenders of Stalingrad are outnumbered but they are far ahead in the kill. Yet the enemy comes on asking for more punishment and is getting it.

Why is this? What is afoot? You may be sure that the enemy are seeking cover for their African convoys. But their ferocity seems to mean even more. Malta was reinforced heavily by a battered convoy that got through with men, planes, fuel and ammunition. The Germans seem mighty eager to destroy or put out of use all the cargo borne by that armada.

"I heard it from a man who was actually there"

Was he? Are you certain?

Don't pass on idle rumours.

They cause uncertainty, unhappiness and loss.

They are started by the enemy

who rely on gullible people to pass them on.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Air War over Mediterranean

◆

A heavy bomber war is developing over the Mediterranean, writes the *Daily Herald* air correspondent:

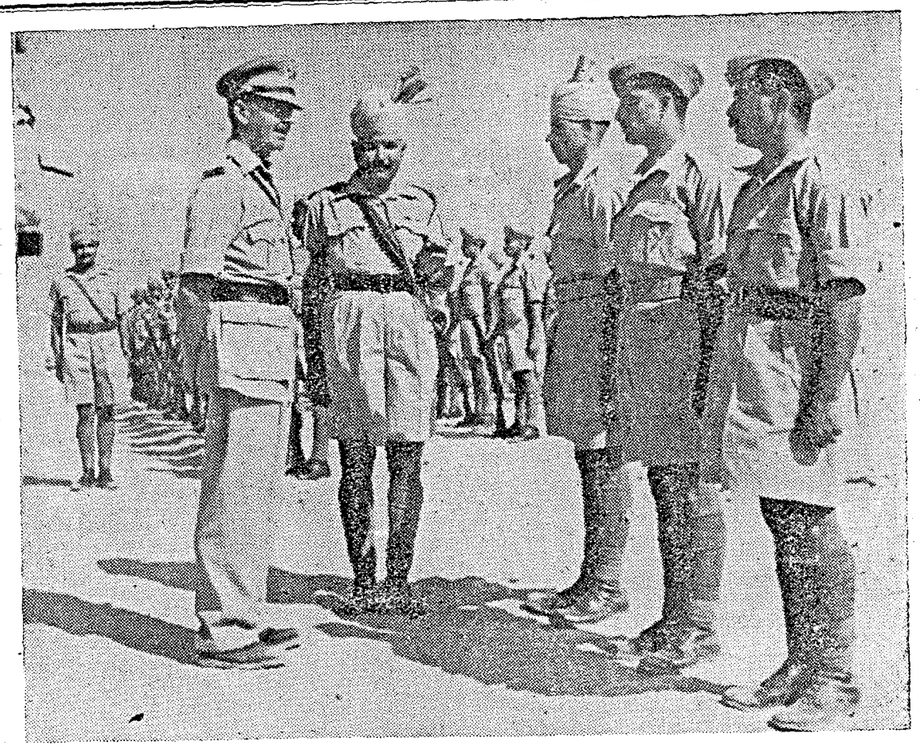
Soon the 4-engined bomber will be the most powerful air weapon of the United Nations in the Middle East as it is in this country.

Allied heavy bomber forces based on Egypt are being increased as fast as is possible. It is now recognized that every 4-engined bomber sent to Egypt makes the job of maintaining supplies for Rommel's army more difficult.

Malta's great Spitfire battle, directed by Air Vice-Marshal Keth Park fits into the pattern of this new air war. During his last limited offensive in Egypt, Rommel lost heavily in tanks. They had to be replaced. Troops could come by air. The Junkers-52 air transports, attacked by our long range fighters the other day may have been towing empty gliders back to Crete. But tanks and other heavy material had to come by sea.

Hence the 10 days of intense raiding was designed to keep the Malta defenders too busy to attack Axis convoys. Such raids would have been more effective a year ago when Malta was regarded more as a bomber than as a fighter base and the island's main defenders were A.-A. guns.

Now Malta is the Mediterranean's advanced fighter base just as we have our advanced fighter bases in the south of this island while big bomber bases are farther away from the continent.



GENERAL ALEXANDER VISITS INDIAN TROOPS.—General Alexander recently inspected Indian troops at an Indian Reinforcement Camp. Here he is seen talking to three Indian soldiers, who recently escaped from a Nazi Prisoner of War Camp in Libya.

Malta has Spitfires, long range fighters and torpedo bombers. Long range fighters can attack the enemy's bombers over their bases in Sicily, torpedo bombers can attack any ships that come within reasonable distance of the island, Spitfires can keep island secure as base for light naval forces. And the Axis supplies which slip past Malta can be attacked in the harbour and supply dumps in Libya by our 4-engined bombers based on Egypt. That is the Mediterranean air picture. Our success in the land battle depends on how far our 4-engined bombers can destroy Rommel's supplies at long range.

Importance of the Air-Raid Warden

Public's Guide, Philosopher and Friend

By Wing-Commander T. J. HODSELL, *Inspector-General of Civil Defence in Britain*

THE original charter of the Wardens Service stated, among other vice in Great Britain, things, that warden should be 'the guide, philosopher, and friend of the civil population.' How right was this idea, and how well the wardens have achieved it, experience has fully shown. I am not exaggerating when I say that the Wardens Service has been one of the biggest factors in helping us to defeat the blitzkreig against the civil population.

To realize the value of the wardens it is important to understand the nature of total war as conceived by Germany, Italy and Japan. Total war means just what its name implies; war in which everyone is personally and physically involved. And, as has been truly said, under these conditions the civil population becomes the base of the triangle of which the Armed Forces are the apex and production the sides. Knock away the base and the whole structure comes tumbling to the ground. This base can be attacked and destroyed in a number of ways. But here we are only concerned with bombing.

ATTEMPT TO DESTROY MORALE

We realize that part of Hitler's strategy would be an attempt to destroy the morale of the civil population by bombing attack both by day and by night; and that if this action succeeded all would be lost. Therefore we set about creating an organization of the citizens themselves to help defeat this strategy.

Bombing is an unpleasant form of entertainment for anyone; but especially for ordinary civilians who have received no military training, and who are, of course, under no form of discipline. We have got our police forces. But we realize that, with all the will in the world, they could not be in more than three places at once. And so we decided that we must have as well, a force of wardens to cover every street and village in the country who, because they were trained, would know what to do, and would by their bearing and steady action inspire the civil population with confidence.

They would also provide a most valuable link between the civil population and the Civil Defence organization, and indeed, between the Government and the civil population.

ACCURATE AND SWIFT REPORTING

To be a leader of the population in his area is, therefore, one of the warden's most important jobs. But there is another and equally important job—the reporting of damage caused by bombing of all kinds. In fact, on accurate and swift reporting depends the working of the whole Civil Defence machine. And I would like to say something about it.

Directly a warden hears or sees bombs falling in his sector he must listen for the explosion and watch where the bomb or bombs strike. If he hears the bomb fall with no explosion following then he will realize at once that it is a time bomb. Whatever happens he must go at once to the scene, discover what has happened; whether there are casualties, whether there are people trapped, whether fire, gas, water or electricity mains are damaged. Then he must make an immediate report—we call it an express report—giving minimum details, to the Report or Control Centre.

The officer in charge wants to know what services are urgently required—rescue, first-aid, and so on. The warden's report should give just this information so that help can be got to the scene with the least delay. If there is fire then the warden reports direct to the nearest fire station in order to save time.

It is probable that there will be more than one warden available at the scene of damage, and as soon as the express report is got away one of them will make a more detailed reconnaissance with the object of sending a second and fuller report for the information of Control, while the rest will do all they can to help with casualties—rescuing trapped people, putting out fires—until the mobile services (that is, the rescue squads, fire-fighters, and first-aid parties) arrive.

So the first thing is to report, the second to render immediate aid. And don't forget that if the raid is heavy and the mobile services are fully extended, the saving of life and property may depend on the warden. And so we train our wardens also in first-aid and the principles of rescue work and give them some first-aid equipment. We also, of course, teach them how to tackle incendiary bombs. In other words, a warden must be trained to turn his hand skilfully to any work that the immediate situation may demand.

WARDEN MUST KNOW HIS SECTOR

Now, while this training is important, there is a complementary part to it, no less vital, if a warden is to give his best service. That is knowledge of his sector. It must be a real and detailed knowledge—where everyone lives; where people shelter; the position of fire hydrants, telephones, gas mains, water mains, the nearest first-aid post, rescue depot, and so on. It is information that may make all the difference in handling the situation in the confusion, dust, and possibly darkness where a bomb has fallen. This information takes time to collect and to know, and the really good warden will carry it in his head. We encourage all wardens' posts to have a plan, on a largish scale, of the area their post covers prominently displayed. It is very useful and is always there for study. But that study must be made on the ground in daylight and in darkness.

Now I expect you will understand why it is so essential for the warden to have the confidence of the public. They must help him in his task and be ready to give him any reasonable information he wants. They won't do it unless they trust him. If they go away for the week-end they should tell the warden; if they have friends to stay, the warden should know. His information about his sector must not only be thorough but it must be up-to-date and kept up-to-date every day. Lives may depend on the accuracy of the warden's knowledge.

The wardens should also be able to help and advise the public about shelters, where is the best place in their house to take cover, and other things concerning their personal protection.

We make the wardens take an important part in the training of the fire guards and the public in how to put out incendiary bombs and deal with small fires. Again you will see how important it is that wardens should be well trained in all their different duties. We go on this principle: a warden may meet with fire, high-explosive damage, and gas and, therefore, must know just what to do in all circumstances. And he must keep a cool head.

Wardens must know how to look after themselves too. They must be exposed to risks, as to do their job they must be out during the raid. But it is most important to avoid unnecessary casualties among them.

WOMEN MAKE JUST AS GOOD WARDENS AS MEN

I have spoken of wardens and it may have been inferred that I was talking only about men. But I should like to emphasize that women make just as good wardens as men—sometimes better. And there are obviously some jobs which women alone can do successfully. We have many women in the wardens service, some of them holding positions of great responsibility. I know one, and she is not unique, who has several hundred wardens working under her. And they would follow her anywhere. As for the public she looks after, they have told me that so long as she is about and they know she is there they don't mind what happens. Could you have a finer tribute?

And that is just what you want—the public to feel that because the wardens are there helping and encouraging with a cheery word, everything is all right. That is the spirit that has helped us to stick out the raids. That is the spirit that breaks the Blitz. And that is what the wardens have managed to achieve.

CAN'T HAVE TOO MUCH PRACTICE

So may I leave this thought with you. The wardens can't know too much about the area of which they are in charge; they can't have too much practice, especially in sending messages and in summing up a situation quickly and accurately. Message-writing and sending sounds easy. But it is not quite the same thing to do it under ordinary conditions and to do it with bombs bursting and fires raging. That is where practice tells, and practice means instinctively doing the right thing however difficult the position. And also all wardens must be prepared to act on their own responsibility. We do not normally let them call out services direct. But if communications go, they may have to do it and we do not want them to be afraid to act on their own.

I have told you a little about the importance of wardens. I believe there may be a future for this organization of gallant men and women after the war. But in the meantime if they are and remain the guides, philosophers, and friends of the civil population they are making their contribution to our ultimate victory in no uncertain way.—(*Broadcast in the B.B.C.'s North American Service.*)

The caged beast.

There was, and is, no outlet for the caged beast in the west. Desperately he tries to force an outlet in the east, but the brave and indomitable Russians hold him in check.

—Sir ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR,
Air Minister, in a speech in London on October 27.

MADRAS CASUALTIES

We regret to announce the following casualties which occurred on various dates :—

No. 141.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

I.A.O.C.

O/73897	Sep. Dvr.	Perumal.
O/73252	Sep. Dvr.	Prakasam, P.
O/73265	Sep. Dvr.	Shanthappa.
O/73248	P/A/L/Nk.	Soosaynathen.
MR/895637	Sep. Dvr. / P/A/L/Nk.	Subbiah Pillai.
O/32322	Ftr. III Sep.	Swamy, Jones William.
O/73262	Sep. Dvr.	Vedanayagam.
O/73249	Sep. Dvr.	Yessuratnam.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 141.

Killed	12
Wounded	109
Missing, Believed Killed ..	1
Missing, Believed Prisoners of war.	189
Prisoners of war ..	2

No. 142.

I.O.Rs. and NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

Indian Artillery.

F/536	W/Wine III.	Chinnappan.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THE LIST No. 142.

Killed	13
Wounded	107
Prisoners of war	14

No. 143.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Previously reported "Prisoners of War"—Now reported "Killed."

Madras S. & M.

16915	Nk.	Muthu.
17023	L/Nk.	Seetharamma Reddy.

Missing, believed killed.

Indian Signal Corps.

O/5349	M/Waiter.	Darmalingam.
A/4257	Sgn.	Vedakannu, A.

Died of Wounds.

I.A.O.C.

O/72493	Sep. Dvr.	Vellasamy.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 143.

Killed	76
Wounded	201
Missing, Believed Killed ..	8

No. 144.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Killed.

Madras S. & M.

62756	Spr.	Narayanasami.

Wounded.

Indian Signal Corps.

A/8119	Sgn.	Marimuthu, N.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 144.

Killed	33
Wounded	15
Missing, Believed Killed ..	2
Missing, Believed Prisoners of War.	27
Rejoined	2

No. 145.

VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Missing.

R.I.A.S.C.

Subedar.	Rusi.	K. Satha.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Previously reported "Missing, believed Prisoners of War"—Now reported "Wounded."

Indian Signal Corps.

15059	Signm.	Jai Ram Naidu.

Missing, believed Prisoners of War.

R.I.A.S.C.

0/78833	Sep.	Doraiswami, K.
0/78832	Sep.	Venkateswarulu, N.

I.G.S.C.

GSF/8075	M/Wtr. III.	Jumman.
GSF/9803	Ck. III.	Mogan.
GSF/3864	Swpr.	Ramchander.

Died.

Madras S. & M.

63504	Spr.	Joseph.
17423	P/A/Nk.	Pidi Reddi.
67998	Spr.	Subbarayan.

Indian Engineers.

43971	Pnr.	Goinda Reddy.
43860	Pnr.	Sellappa.

R.I.A.S.C.

MT/986147	Sep.	Govinda Raja.
SR/173421	Sep.	Hari Har.

Died—*cont.*

R.I.A.S.C.—cont.

MT/957574	Sep.	Palani Appan.
50775	Dvr.	Ralla.
MT/984995	Sep.	Sankaran Nair, P. V.
MT/984974	L/Nk.	Venkanne.

Indian Hospital Corps.

41059	N/Sep.	Jagan Nath.

I.G.S.C.

GSF/27056	Ck. Mess.	Anthony, S.

Aux. Pioneer Corps.

117022	Lab.	Kandasami.
43611	Pioneer.	Kannappan.
261063	Lab.	Mathu.
255525	Lab.	Raja Ram.
255450	Lab.	Vithoba Narayan.

I.S.F.—Alwar Infantry.

1707	Sep.	Kanhiya.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 145.

Killed	1
Wounded	52
Prisoners of War	84
Died	83
Rejoined	4

No. 147.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Wounded.

Indian Signal Corps.

A/8832	Sigmn.	Murugesan.
A/8811	Sigmn.	Narayanan, V.

Died.

6th Cochin Lab. Coy. (I.S.F.).

43	Lab.	Anthony.
1	Lab.	Ayappan
6	Lab.	John.
7/8	Lab.	Kuchu Raman.
	Lab.	Papu.
35	Lab.	Parmu.
10/14	Lab.	Vasu.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 147.

Killed	2
Wounded	16
Missing Believed Prisoners of War.	3
Prisoners of War	69
Died	27

No. 148.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing.

Indian Artillery.

15455	Sig.	Gangadharan.
B/638	Sig.	Kumaran Nair, C.
15425	Sig.	Radha Kishan.
15397	Sig.	Sanjeeva Rao.
15580	Sig.	Subharao.

Died.

No. 5, Travancore Labour Force (I.S.F.).

3909	Rank not given.	Sardar S. Raghavan.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 148.

Killed	15
Wounded	24
Missing Believed Killed ..	56
Missing Believed Prisoners of War.	2
Rejoined	20
Died	12

No. 150.

OTHER RANKS AND NON-COMBATANTS.

Missing Believed Prisoners of War.

I.A.O.C.

O/74597	P/A/L/Nk. Dvr.	Angappa Naidu.
O/74581	Sep. Dvr.	Gnona Pragasam, C.
O/74520	Sep. Dvr.	Krishnaswamy, V.
MT/949278	L/Nk/Dvr.	Malappa.
MT/949569	Sep. Dvr.	Malappa.
O/74604	Sep. Dvr.	Narayanan Nair.
O/103231	Sep. Ftr.	Ram Dass.
O/72741	Sep. Dvr.	Sundara Raman.

Died.

Indian Signal Corps.

A/5667	Sigmn.	Kundunni Nair, P. K.

IN ADDITION, THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES ARE ANNOUNCED WITH THIS LIST No. 150.

Missing Believed War Prisoners.	215
Died	2
Missing	1
Rejoined Units	1
Missing Believed Drowned ..	10

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

24th Oct.—Mrs. Roosevelt arrived in England.

25th Oct.—A few enemy aircraft crossed the Channel and dropped bombs at several points.

Addressing a South African audience in London, Field-Marshal Smuts said: "The time for striking out is come."

26th Oct.—Prof. J. B. S. Haldane, addressing a Civil Defence Workers Conference in London gave warning of a possible gas attack on Britain.

27th Oct.—An air raid alert was sounded in London. Two enemy bombers were shot down over Britain.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

26th Oct.—Another United States destroyer named **Daly** was launched.

27th Oct.—Mr. Joseph Grew, former United States Ambassador said: "The Japanese work well under orders—they are disciplined. They will not bend. They will fight until they can do it no longer."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

24th Oct.—In the course of a Press interview, Maulvi Mutabir Hussain Chowdhury, Minister for Civil Defence, Assam, said that any Japanese attempt to invade India was bound to fail.

It was revealed that a powerful British battle squadron was operating in the Indian Ocean and off the east coast of Africa.

25th Oct.—The Royal Air Force dropped bombs at Prome and an enemy-occupied village in Akyab.

26th Oct.—A Japanese plane over Assam was intercepted near Digboi by an American fighter.

27th Oct.—Japanese aircraft attacked the aerodrome at Chittagong and some aerodromes in north-east Assam.

28th Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese objectives in the Akyab area.

30th Oct.—American planes raided Lashio. Japanese aircraft again attacked aerodrome in north-east India.

Seeing the dawn.

As a result of over five years of dogged resistance, China is beginning to see the dawn of victory.

—GENERAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *in a speech in Chungking, on October 27.*

Never again.

We will use our combined strength to help the world as a whole so that we may not live through periods such as this again.

—Mrs. ROOSEVELT, *in a speech at a London luncheon party given in her honour on October 27.*

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

24th Oct.—The Royal Air Force heavily bombed Genoa. The Italian naval base was damaged. Turin also was raided.

Aerodromes in Crete were bombed.

25th Oct.—Genoa was bombed again by the Royal Air Force.

Vichy air force was mopped up in Madagascar.

The Eighth Army opened an offensive in the Western Desert. Mersa Matrub was bombarded.

Three enemy aircraft were destroyed over Malta.

26th Oct.—Five Italian supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

The Royal Air Force raided Milan and bombed important arms works.

Allied troops penetrated the main Axis line in Egypt.

27th Oct.—German and Italian prisoners, 1,450 in number, were taken. The Allied air force proved its supremacy in the Western Desert.

28th Oct.—Axis ships in Tobruk were destroyed. Allied troops enlarged their area of occupation.

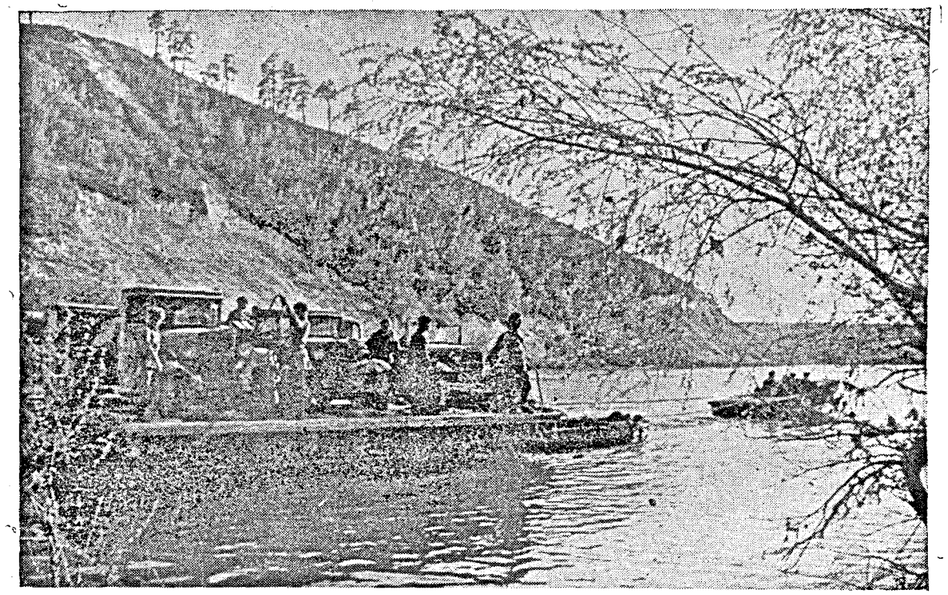
29th Oct.—A big tank battle was fought. Thirteen enemy aircraft were destroyed.

Lord Croft, Joint Parliamentary Secretary of War, described the offensive in Egypt as a "battle of great moment."

Three Axis transports and one barque carrying reinforcements to Libya were burnt at the Greek port of Navarino.

30th Oct.—An Axis tanker was sunk in the Mediterranean.

An enemy counter-attack was beaten off.



Russia: the Southern front.—Photo shows pontonier unit crossing the river N in close proximity to the front. Under the fire of enemy airforce the pontoniers transport arms, ammunition, fuel and food to their unit.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

24th Oct.—The Germans were held at Stalingrad. Enemy wedge in Mozdok area was wiped out. Fighting still raged on the outskirts of the City.

25th Oct.—There was fierce fighting in Novorossisk. The Nazis were bogged at Stalingrad.

26th Oct.—The Russians launched violent attacks north-west of Stalingrad. German attacks were repelled at Novorossisk.

27th Oct.—The Nazis attacked in factory area in Stalingrad. German advance on Tuapse was held.

28th Oct.—Fierce fighting raged in the northern factory belt of Stalingrad. The Germans were flung back in one sector. Nazi losses in the past 15 days were 30,000 men killed and 500 tanks and several hundred planes lost.

29th Oct.—German drive to Tuapse was repelled. The Russians gave some ground in the north of the city. The position was described as critical for both sides.

Admiral Standley, United States Ambassador to Moscow, in a press statement at Washington, said: "Stalingrad will not fall. The Grozny oil fields will remain in Russian hands. The Germans will not get the Baku oil region this winter."

30th Oct.—The Red Army withdrew near Nalchite. The Nazis attacks were repulsed in Stalingrad and the Russians captured a village south of the City.

A QUICKER VICTORY

"There is a possibility of a clear victory for the democracies coming more quickly than we dare hope today, coming so quickly that the essential forms of democracy may yet remain unchanged. In that victory we may be sure China will have a great share in peace, as well."

—PEARL BUCK, *in a Boston broadcast on October 25.*

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

25th Oct.—There were air raid warnings at Berne and Geneva.

* * * *

SHIPPING

26th Oct.—Two United States merchantmen were torpedoed in north Atlantic.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24th Oct.—An air raid warning was sounded in Vichy.

German authorities in Paris announced that the German occupation army would use force unless French workers left for Germany.

25th Oct.—Two air raid alerts were sounded in Vichy.

27th Oct.—Eighteen more Czechs were executed in Prague.

28th Oct.—German troops occupied the whole railway line from Oslo to the Swedish frontier.

29th Oct.—German shipbuilding yards at Flensburg near the Danish border were raided. Objectives in Holland and Belgium also were bombed. One merchantman was set on fire.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

24th Oct.—United States bombers strafed enemy positions in Owen Stanley area.

Allied air forces raided north China.

25th Oct.—Ten Japanese ships were damaged and four believed sunk in Rabaul.

Japanese forces were repulsed near Paotou.

26th Oct.—Twelve Japanese planes raided Darwin. The Allies were seven miles from Kokoda.

Allied aircraft bombed Hong Kong.

Japanese assaults on Kinhwa were repelled by the Chinese.

27th Oct.—Hong Kong was again raided and the power station was destroyed.

American airmen damaged five Japanese warships and destroyed 21 planes. Rabaul was raided.

28th Oct.—The Japanese launched a major offensive in the Solomons. Two Japanese aircraft carriers and one light cruiser were damaged. A United States destroyer was lost and a carrier crippled.

29th Oct.—In the naval action south-west Pacific, two Japanese warships were sunk and at least three damaged. Enemy land attacks in Guadalcanar were repulsed.

Hong Kong was raided again.

30th Oct.—Allied aircraft bombed shipping in Rabaul. The Chinese aircraft raided south Shansi and extensive damage was done to the Japanese airfield at Yungcheng.

THE LOVED NAMES WILL BE CHANGED

IMMEDIATELY the Japanese took Singapore, that great city was given a Japanese name. If the Japanese should capture our towns and holy places the same will happen here. Places with deep historic and religious associations will be desecrated and given Japanese labels—by law. The Japanese are not going to respect Indian sentiments. Are we of this great land going to allow such treatment without a blow? Never! Let us resist these barbarians with our combined might.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

against the Japanese

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1942 No. 9

THE ROLE OF BRITAIN

Mr. HERBERT MORRISON making an inspection from the top of a water tower of the National Fire Service. The above photo was taken on the occasion of the anniversary of the last great London "Blitz"

69510

JL V211.19(8M) 459 N42.4

BRITAIN'S war production per head is greater than that of any country in the world, ally or enemy

SOME of us in our right and proper admiration for Russia and in our wish to be associated more directly with her tremendous achievements have come to think and talk as though Britain was at present playing only a marginal part. This is indeed a superficial and misguided view. When we look at the pattern of the war as a whole and remember the real meaning of the never-ceasing struggle at sea, we may begin to realise that the role of Britain on the stage of the world conflict is as near to the heart of achievement and centre of action as ever it was in the days when we stood alone

—Mr. HERBERT MORRISON, Minister of Home Security, in a speech at Cardiff, on Sunday (Nov. 1)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
War Production in Britain	7
Britain building more ships	8
R.A.F's promising future	8
Defender of Stalingrad	9
Russia helps with submarines	10
Stalin's "Secret Weapon"	11
Ships for the Red Navy	12
Hollywood at War	12
New air route across Africa	13
"New" planes	13
Turkey's attitude	14
How Japs treat women and prisoners	16
The Eyes of India	16
Unconquered Greece	17
Officer dived for German secrets	17
Vital part of supply battle: R.A.F. attacks on enemy shipping	18
U-Boats meeting their Trafalgar	19
Plight of Italy	19
Decline in German war output	20
British women's "Win the War" competition.	20
Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

Haj Pilgrimage by Sea Route: Representation of Pilgrims and Government's Reply

Some 300 Haj pilgrims had arrived in Karachi some time ago and representations were made on their behalf to the Government of India to arrange for shipping facilities. In reply, the Government of India sent a telegram to the Port Haj Committee on Saturday last (October 28), stating that the pilgrims who had arrived in Karachi had done so in spite of the widest publicity given by the Government to their decision not to organize the Haj pilgrimage this year by a direct sea route. They pointed out that the reasons which influenced their decision applied equally to the sea portion of the Iraq route and therefore regretted their inability to undertake to provide shipping facilities. This decision of the Government is as regrettable as it is unfortunately unavoidable. The reasons for this step that the Government were reluctantly compelled to take were, it may be recalled, explained in a *communiqué* issued last month. The *communiqué* stated that "in view of the existing danger from enemy action to which pilgrim ships and their passengers would be exposed, the Government of India have decided not to arrange the Haj pilgrimage this year by the sea route." This decision was reached after consultation with representatives of the Port Haj Committee, members of the Central Haj Committee who were available in Delhi, and other representative Muslims. And they all agreed that the circumstances were such as to render the decision inevitable.

Conditions in 1940-41 Recalled: Italy and Japan—Attitude towards Muslims

It may be asked whether the conditions in 1940-41 when the Haj pilgrimage was performed safely and successfully were different. The conditions in those two years were not fundamentally different. In 1940 Britain was fighting Germany and Italy. The dangers to shipping came mainly from the latter. There were many Muslims under the domination of Italy, and Mussolini was then playing the role of "Protector of Islam." It was therefore not in Italy's interest to alienate Muslims by attacking pilgrim ships, but with the coming of Japan into the war, conditions have changed. Japan has few Muslims in her own territories and is quite indifferent to the feelings of Muslims in its occupied areas. There is, therefore, danger to the pilgrim ships from Japanese submarines, which are known to be operating in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea, and it is on account of that that Government decided to discontinue facilities for Haj pilgrimage by the sea route this year.

* * * *

AIR LETTER CARD SERVICE

PROVIDING A MUCH LARGER space for correspondence at a cost very little more than that of an airgraph, an air mail letter card service for British troops in India came into operation on October 26.

The cost of sending an air mail letter card will be four annas, as compared with the three annas which is the special concession rate for airgraphs. The ration of air mail letter cards is one per man per week.

These will not be issued by civilian Post Offices, but Commanding Officers will indent for supplies on a scale appropriate to the requirements of their units.

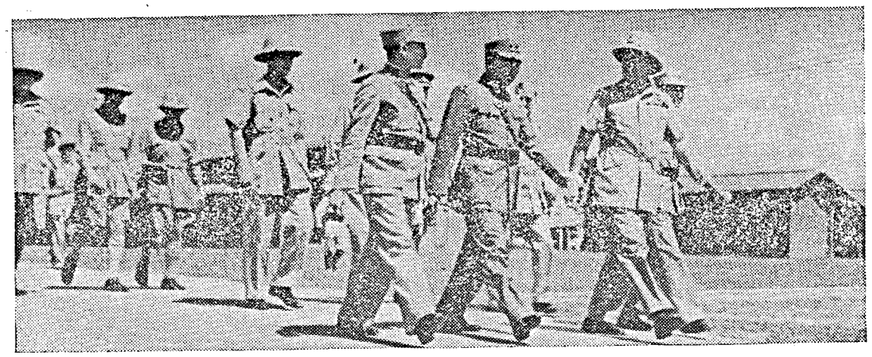
The new service will be restricted to Service personnel, and in the first instance it will be available only to, and not from, the United Kingdom.

The advantage of the new service from the operational point of view is that, whereas an air mail letter weighs half-an-ounce, nine or ten air mail letter cards weigh only an ounce.

Battle at El Alamein: Rommel's Troops in the Net

The Battle at El Alamein has entered a decisive stage. It is clear, says *Reuter's* Military correspondent, that Allied troops have broken through the Axis defences and established themselves west of Rommel's extreme left flank. The correspondent goes on to point out that a considerable number of Rommel's troops are thus in the net but, he adds, it remains to be seen whether the net will be strong enough to hold the catch. Rommel's heavy tank attack was launched in the hope of relieving the situation. But some of his tanks have got into the net and will find it difficult to make their way out again. There is no doubt that a stiffer battle is ahead of General Montgomery. He is wrestling, as a *Daily Express* correspondent says, with a military jigsaw in a battle with flanks and trying to fit a flank into it through a maze of mines, trenches and traps, so that he can hit the enemy on two sides.

The most difficult operation in war, namely, trying to destroy an army by frontal assault is being attempted by General Montgomery. The fight is bound to be long and arduous, but there are four encouraging preliminary signs. One is air mastery. An idea of the Allied concentration of air power can be gathered from a brief review of the activity of the Allied airforces in the Mediterranean area. Ever since Rommel's failure in September, enemy ports and supply lines were being hammered by Allied heavy and medium bombers destroying reserves and aircraft, petrol,



H.E. the Commander-in-Chief photographed with General Lo Cho-ying and other staff officers, British, Chinese and Americans, during a visit to the training base of the Chinese Forces in India. General Wavell was much impressed by the training of the Chinese soldiers.

Axis Radio Propaganda to Mislead Muslim Opinion

The enemy radio has been making much of the decision of the Government of India and trying to mislead Muslim opinion against the British. An Italian broadcast in Arabic on October 4 said that "last year also, the British prohibited the Muslims from performing the pilgrimage on this very pretext that they could not guarantee safe passage owing to the danger from Axis submarines." But a day earlier the Rome Radio gave the more superficially obvious but equally untrue reason that this decision was due to shortage of shipping. It may be pointed out that there were nine Haj sailings in 1941 as compared with five in 1940 and that 10,713 Muslims sailed from India last year to fulfil their holy vows.

ammunition and transport vehicles and a number of Axis vessels were sunk on the way across the Mediterranean.

* * * *

Air Attacks on Italian cities: Part of General Allied Action

The air attacks on Genoa Turin and Milan are also part of the general Allied action against Axis supplies to North Africa. Genoa is the chief Italian port from which Axis supplies go to Sicily and thence to Libya. Turin is an industrial city and Milan is the main junction from which German landborne supplies are directed to Genoa and South Italy for shipment to North Africa. The bombing of Maleme aerodrome, south-west of Suda Bay in Crete, was intended to hamper German airborne reinforcements to Rommel.

The second favourable preliminary sign is the ability of the British infantry to stand their ground against the worst that Rommel could send against them.

Thirdly, there is a growing gap in the first two lines of the enemy's defences. The gaps created in the minefields by Allied sappers and the destruction of some strong points by a concentrated artillery barrage and aerial bombing have enabled British and American heavy tanks to move forward in support of the infantry, but mass attacks in mobile sweeps are not possible within the present battle area between the sea and the Qattara depression until the forward Axis defence positions are destroyed by the infantry. Such sweeping mechanised movements cannot take place.

* * * *

Use of Tanks: Revolution in Tactical Handling

The Times refers to the revolution that has occurred in the tactical handling of tanks. The object of this new weapon, when it was first introduced into war, was to break through fortified positions, which bombardment could not wholly demolish. But now it has been discovered that tanks which are not baulked by entrenchments can be halted by minefields and then destroyed by enemy's guns.

LETTERS TO PRISONERS OF WAR

There appears to be some misunderstanding as to how letters to prisoners of war in German and Italian hands should be addressed. The following methods will ensure that letters reach prisoners of war with the minimum delay.

If the camp address in enemy territory is known: First line—Regimental number (in the case of other ranks only). Rank, name and initials in block letters. Second line—British prisoner of war number (if known). Third line—Camp address in full. Fourth line—Country.

If the camp address is *not* known: First line—Regimental number (in the case of other ranks only). Rank, name and initials in block letters. Second line—British prisoner of war in German or Italian hands (if known), C/o Agence Centrale des prisonniers de guerre. Third line—Palais du Conseil General. Fourth line—Geneva, Switzerland.

Envelopes should be endorsed "Prisoners of war post" in top right hand corner, followed by the equivalent word "Kriegsgefangenenpost" in the case of letters addressed to prisoners of war in German hands, and by "Service des Prisonniers de Guerre" in the case of prisoners of war in Italian hands.

Letters sent by surface mail will be conveyed free of postage and should be posted in the normal manner. Letters forwarded by airmail are conveyed at a concessional rate of 8 annas.

The sender's name and address should be written in English on the reverse side of the envelope. Letters should be written in English whenever possible but if written in Urdu, Hindi or other Indian languages the letter should be enclosed in a cover and addressed to the regimental depot in India of the prisoner of war. There it will be translated into English and reposted. These covers addressed to regimental depots are conveyed post free and should be endorsed "Letter for prisoner of war."

Letter should not exceed two sides of a sheet of notepaper and should contain reference to personal matters only.

These instructions do not apply to letters intended for prisoners of war in Japanese hands for which separate instructions have been issued.

Consequently, says *The Times*, it is now the infantry assisted by the artillery that has to prepare the way for tanks and these, when their passage had been made clear of minefields and the enemy's front line has been weakened, will eventually take up the role of heavy cavalry.

The fourth favourable sign is a diminution in the enemy's advantage in terrain as he is dislodged in the Qattara depression which rises to 700 feet.

* * * *

General Montgomery's Tactics: Wearing down Defence by Weight of Shells

As against these favourable factors stand natural obstacles, artificial defences and the stiff resistance of the reinforced Afrika Korps which will fight with the utmost tenacity to retain its strong position. It is not likely, points out *Reuter's* Spcial Correspondent in Cairo, that there will be any spectacular news from the front line at this stage, as Rommel's defences are extremely strong and the job of reducing them will be a fairly long one. These defences constructed in considerable depth consist of anti-tank defences, extensive minefields, barbed wire entanglements, machine gun nests, and artillery posts, behind which stand the whole weight of the Italo-German mechanized forces.

General Montgomery has now departed from the usual desert warfare tactics of aiming to cause a break-through for the infantry, and is adopting quite different tactics. He lays down the greatest artillery barrage ever known in the Middle East and then sends in picked infantry supported by continuous air bombardment of Axis gun position and supply lines. General Montgomery wants to wear down the Axis defences by the sheer weight of shells. There can be no doubt that the present battle will be grimly fought by both sides.

* * * *

Stalingrad, a First-class Blunder: Differences between Hitler and his Generals

A *Reuter* message published in Tuesday's papers says that the fight between the Nazi Party and the German Army as to whether the Battle for Stalingrad should be continued is still proceeding, according to a well-informed observer from Berlin. A German Officer told this observer:

"Viewed from the military standpoint, an immediate retreat from Stalingrad to winter lines is indispensable, but politically it is impossible. The situation is about the same as in last year's attack on Moscow, which was also made at Hitler's and the Nazi Party's insistence. Before Stalingrad is through, many more heads of Generals will fall."

The officer added that von Kleist, whose death had been claimed by the Russians, was not dead, but was dismissed at the same time as von Bock and Halder, Chief of Staff, in August. The differences between Hitler and his Generals do not warrant the conclusion that there is a political clash between Hitler and the military leaders. For it must be clearly recognized that every prominent German, whether an ardent Nazi or not, wants to save Germany from catastrophe and safeguard her

EMPLOYMENT FOR EVACUEES

Male European British subjects coming to this country as evacuees from Burma, Malaya and the Far East are required by law to register their names, qualifications, etc., which are supplied to National Service Advisory Committees and considered for suitable employment. No such scheme has hitherto existed for Indian evacuees. The introduction of a compulsory registration scheme for them is not contemplated but a scheme of voluntary registration is now being introduced to give them an opportunity of offering their services. Under this scheme, which will operate forthwith, the Defence Department (Man-power Section) will receive and register offers of service or applications for employment from any such evacuee. Applications for registration should be accompanied by full particulars of age, qualifications, experience and type of employment sought. The names of applicants will be communicated to Government Departments and to responsible private employing agencies who ask for them. The scheme is intended particularly for those possessing some technical, business or professional qualifications.

Government obviously cannot offer any guarantee of employment to persons registering their names. But it is hoped that the proposed scheme will help by bringing to the notice of prospective employers the names of persons suitably qualified for the kinds of employment which they have to offer.

future "destiny" by converting German-occupied Europe into a strong and self-sufficient fortress.

The dismissal of Halder who was considered to be the directing brain behind German strategy, however, seems to show that there is some serious disagreement between him and Hitler in regard to military matters. Such disagreement seems to have been brewing for some weeks. It may be recalled that on October 4th Goering went out of his way, in his speech, to criticise "those amusing pen-pushers who continually try to belittle the military genius of the Fuehrer" and who spread the tale that the "Fuehrer knows nothing at all and everything is done by the Chief of the General Staff." Goering then explained at some length the part played by the General Staff in German military affairs during the last 80 years, and said:

"A fundamental change has taken place . . . According to a very clear National Socialist principle, there can only be one leader in any field. The Chief of the General Staff does not bear the responsibility—this is borne by the Fuehrer."

It seems evident from this speech that Halder's dismissal had been decided on, or had actually taken place, at the beginning of last month, when Goering's speech was made. But it has been stated in some quarters that Goering and other Nazi leaders have been laying emphasis on the "sole responsibility" of the Fuehrer for the conduct of military operations with a view to avoiding responsibility themselves, if things go wrong. But this explanation does not fit in with known facts. Goering and the others have been "building up" Hitler as a military genius in order that public confidence may not be shaken by the dismissal of von Bock and Halder in the autumn of 1942 in the same way as Brausitsch and other Generals were dismissed on the eve of the terrible winter of 1941.

* * * *

Stalingrad, Moscow and the Caucasus: German Generals' View

It may be asked what is the fresh decision which Hitler has taken as against the advice of the Chief of Staff. It is possible that Halder might have impressed on Hitler that a frontal assault with mass infantry and tanks against a city like Stalingrad was contrary to the whole tradition and character of German tactics and that street fighting should not be conducted according to classical rules. As one commentator has remarked, use of tanks in a built-up area is like employing battleships in the middle of an archipelago. It is true that results can be obtained, but the cost is disproportionate. Therefore Halder and Bock seem to have been in favour of sealing off Stalingrad by a fortified arc and then concentrating on a multi-pronged assault on Moscow. But Hitler was determined to have the city itself at any cost, firstly because of reasons of prestige, and secondly for the purpose of protecting the left flank of the thrust towards the Caucasus on which his mind was set. Whatever may be the true explanation for the dismissal of the Generals, the fact remains that the prolonged hammering of Stalingrad has been a first-class blunder.

* * * *

Time-table Delayed by Two Months: A Factor of Greatest Importance

The net result of it all is that the magnificent Russian resistance has delayed the German time-table by at least two months. But to the credit side of Hitler's campaign can be put down the fact that the German defensive system from Leningrad to the Don has successfully withstood Russian attacks and enabled him to maintain a concentration in the south, which has won rich territorial gains. On the debit side stand the failure to break the Red Army and inability to capture Trans-Caucasia this year. Then there is also the necessity of defending a winter line twice as long as that of 1941. Hitler does not lack manpower for adventures in the Eastern Mediterranean, or for a powerful diversion in the west when the need arises, but Russia's great achievement in resisting Hitler's hordes so long cannot fail to be a factor of the greatest importance when the United Nations begin to time their great blows in unison.

TRIBUTE TO RUSSIA

"No words can express adequately Australia's admiration for Russia and her people for the stand that they are making."

—DR. H. V. T. EVATT, *in a speech at Sydney on Monday, November 2.*

War Production in Britain

THE *Journal of Commerce* again gives prominence to recent figures on ship-repairing quoted by Vice-Admiral Wake Walker. Twenty-three thousand and more warship repairs and refits during three years of war, 140 million tons gross of merchant-ships or 35,000 vessels put back into service.

Commenting on these figures the journal says:

"In considering what has been accomplished and the great burden which has been thrown upon our ship-repairing resources and labour, these figures would seem to indicate that since in June 1939 there were on the British register 7,009 merchantships of 100 tons gross and upwards, totalling 17,948,158 tons. Each ship of the merchant navy had come in for repairs of some kind or another at least five times since the war began or on tonnage basis seven times."

This is truly a tremendous task which has been performed by our ship-repairing establishments and workers. Some of the repairs may have been small and effected whilst the vessel was discharging cargo but there are many other cases where repairs entail anything up to eight months in repairers' hands.

"We have reason to believe that on one occasion much more than two million tons of shipping were receiving attention at the same time. It is against that background and with the knowledge that there are 100,000 fewer workers in the ship-building repairing yards than during the fourth year of the last Great War that we should estimate our ship-building effort . . . As to the output of new ships we have reason to believe that during 12 months ended May 31, this year, British shipyards turned out a far larger amount of new merchant tonnage than they did in 1917 and we were well within a measurable distance of the total built in 1918 . . ."

A higher percentage of repairs was provided for and in addition shipyards have turned out a large number of tank landing craft and vessels of different types which were not required in the last war, all of which have further taxed our labour force of shipyards.

ORGANIZATION

Mr. N. U. Kipling, Head of the Regional Division of the Ministry Production, in an address to a meeting of engineering industries on October 8, 1942, mentioned that the Ministry's task was that of "placing orders for roughly £7,500,000 worth daily or £5,000 per minute spread over 30,000 firms employing several millions of people."

Sir Louis Beale in an address delivered in Cleveland, Ohio, United States of America, gave an example of the changes in strategy of the war of production, quoted in the *Engineer* of October. "It is from England that I can give you a most interesting example of the disappearance of competition between firms in the same industry and the 'pooling' system under the control of the parent company."

Sir Louis described what a large garage company are doing in the way of war work. They have brought into active and continuous production 100 small firms in the neighbourhood (chiefly garages) of which 52 employ less than 10 persons, 36 between 10 and 25 and only 17 more than 25. Groups completed most satisfactory work on gun carriages and ammunition. They have produced shells, bomb parts, small arms, and gun carriage parts. Reports of inspectors are excellent. The Company are now unable to accept all the work that is offered them. The turnover has risen from nothing to 50,000 dollars weekly; 99 per cent of the work passes inspection. The output is secured by relatively unskilled workers and simple tools. Of the 2,000 employed 1,300 are women, 700 men; 1,800 unskilled and 200 skilled. Many small shops are working three shifts. All the responsibility for finance, accounting and inspection rests with this garage company.

REGISTRATION OF BRITISH MEN

It is believed that many male European British subjects, who have been evacuated from Burma, Malaya and the Far East, have not yet registered themselves under the Registration (Emergency Powers) Act, 1940. The Government of India draw attention to the fact that registration of all male European British subjects between the ages of 16 to 50 within 14 days of arrival in India is compulsory. The Registration Authorities are Commissioners of Police in Presidency Towns and District Magistrates in all other parts of British India, and all enquiries should be addressed to them. Those registered are required to inform the Registering Authority, with whom they have registered, of every change of address exceeding 15 days within 7 days of the change. It may be pointed out that failure to register or to intimate change of address is a punishable offence. The penalty will not however be enforced against people who comply with the present notice within the next month.

Britain Building More Ships

BRITAIN is now building more ships and at a faster rate than ever before. Practically every shipyard has broken its previous record in turning out merchant ships, and the target which the industry set itself in 1939 has been achieved.

These facts were given by Mr. J. Ramsay Gebbie in his presidential address to the North-East Coast Institution of Engineers and Ship-builders at Newcastle, reports the *Daily Telegraph*. When it was possible to disclose the figures for warship production, he said, they would surprise the world. The industry's achievements were equalled only by the obstacles and handicaps which stood in its way at the outbreak of war.

It is clear, from what Mr. Gebbie was able to disclose, that even measured by the spectacular achievements of Mr. Henry Kaiser in the United States, British yards have reached a remarkable level of output. This is the more creditable in view of the difficulties that they have had to contend with from which the United States is happily free. There is no British shipyard working on the three-shift system which is usual in American yards. Blackout makes that impossible here.

One shipyard is launching a new 10,300-ton merchantman every three weeks. It not only makes engines for all its own ships but supplies engines for vessels being built by other firms. A firm of marine engineers is turning out a ship's complete engine set every fortnight, and this record is by no means an isolated one.

Prefabrication—building of ships in sections, often at widely dispersed points—which Mr. Kaiser has developed to an extraordinary degree, is often spoken of as though it were a purely American practice. Actually, prefabrication has been in operation in the British ship-building industry for considerable time. All over the country engineering works, many of them miles inland, are making standardized parts of ships which are carried by road, rail and canal in sections weighing several tons, for assembly at the shipyards. Some firms are specialists in masts. Others make deckhouses, hatch covers and sections of hulls. In the assembly of new ships both welding and riveting are employed.

This work has been organized by the Department of Merchant Ship-buiding and Repairs at the Admiralty.

R.A.F's Promising Future

SIR Archibald Sinclair reviewing the progress made by the Royal Air Force had reason to speak with pride of its achievements, writes the *News Chronicle*.

Two years ago the Royal Air Force saved Britain from invasion, perhaps from complete disaster. A handful of Hurricanes and Spitfires—there were only just enough for them—shot Goering's Luftwaffe to pieces over South England. Since then we have built up little by little an air force which is now wresting from the enemy the mastery of the air.

"Our aim must be," said Sir Archibald, "to keep the German fleets and armies at full stretch." Take for example, the work of the Coastal Command. The units of this Command collaborate with the navy in the never-ending task of seeking out and destroying U-boats. Improved methods of search resulted last month in a figure of air attacks on submarines 45 per cent higher than the previous best. The battle of oceans is the most important battle of all and the Royal Air Force is likely to play an increasingly significant part in it. While the Luftwaffe has already been pegged down in Russia and in the Mediterranean, our attacks on appropriate targets in Germany have been steadily increasing in tempo and in weight.

In June and July this year, we dropped 13,400 tons of bombs on Germany as compared with 8,300 tons during the corresponding months of the last year, 500 or more tons were unloaded on each of the nine raids during the first fortnight of September. Sir Archibald's figures throw in relief what is perhaps the most striking development in our air strategy—our growing capacity to carry out long range bombing raids.

The achievements of our Lancasters, as exemplified in recent raids on Le Creusot, Milan and Genoa open a new chapter in aerial warfare. The strain thrown on the enemy's anti-aircraft defences is such as Hitler can never have foreseen. Mussolini's frantic appeal to Hitler for aid in combating our bombers shows that Italy has been taken unawares. Note too that the work of the Bomber Command is now for the first time being fully integrated with other aspects of the war. Our raids on Northern Italy are directly related to the battle now raging in North Africa. They have their place as Sir Archibald Sinclair emphasised in the strategic pattern of Montgomery's offensive. This is a development which holds out a high promise for the future.

Defender of Stalingrad

MAJOR-GENERAL Alexander Rodimtsev, defender of Stalingrad, learned the art of street fighting side by side with British soldiers. He fought in Madrid during its long siege by the Fascists, for the Government of Spain. His companions—volunteers like himself—were members of the International Brigade which included among its numbers many Britons. Month in and month out, the young Russian, with volunteers of many other nations, held the suburbs of Spain's capital against a numerically superior and far better equipped foe.

Rodimtsev went back to the Red Army with knowledge of tactics in close fighting, which Marshal Timoshenko, his supreme Commander, gave him an opportunity to demonstrate when the German legions swept up to the gates of Stalingrad.

Rodimtsev is a son of the Revolution. He is now 36, and remembers the Czarist days only vaguely. His father was a revolutionary working man who took active part in the 1917 rising. Young Alexander, joining the Red Army—as several boys of his age did—in 1924, attracted attention for his soldierly qualities. He was brought to the notice of Marshal Shaposhnikov, one of Russia's greatest strategists, who was then head of the General Staff Academy. The clever young soldier became a cadet and graduated with high honours.

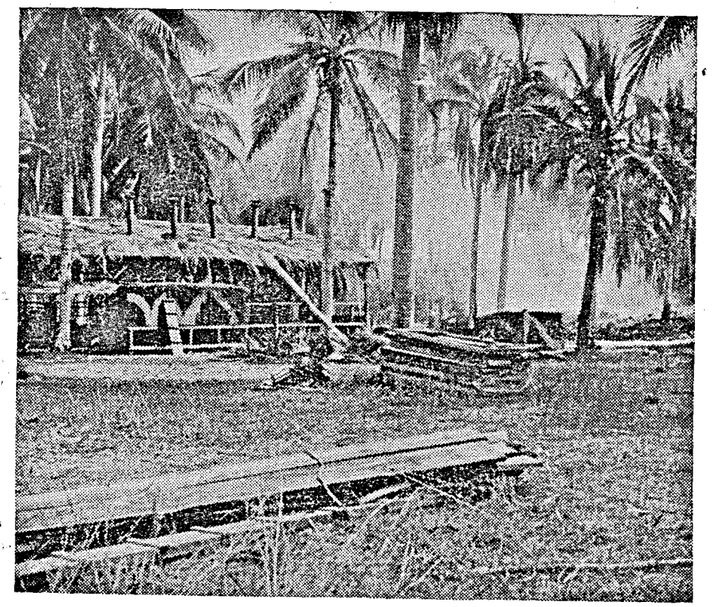
WON THE GOLD STAR

Five months ago he was a full colonel in the Red Army, having fought both in Spain and Finland. He was given the Gold Star of a Major-General and put in command of a Soviet Guards Corps. Guards in the Red Army are given the name as an honour. Any regiment can become a Guards regiment if it distinguishes itself sufficiently on the battlefield.

Rodimtsev, who shares with great men one valuable gift—he can command sleep whenever he likes and get along with very short hours—held his Guards in readiness at Stalingrad for the German onslaught that Timoshenko knew was on its way. One of his divisions held off two divisions of German infantry and a hundred tanks for ten days, and then counter-attacked. They annihilated their enemy and cleaned up that particular section of the city. He went to the north-west suburbs where he is standing to-day, and was put in charge of the defence of the workers' settlement.

UNORTHODOX TACTICIAN

Rodimtsev is an unorthodox tactician. He operates with small self-sufficient groups of men who have tremendous fire power. Another trick he learned in Madrid has been used devastatingly. He has allowed Germans to occupy whole blocks of buildings. Holding flank forces in reserve, he has then cut them off, having a number of small sieges



This was a work camp established by the Japanese on Guadalcanar Island. U.S. Marines set it ablaze when they popped in on the enemy, and now it's no more.

within a greater siege going on at one time. His troops with their great fire power and his tunnellers with thier dynamite have done the rest.

Rodimtsev is an unmarried, squarely built and briefly spoken young man. He has proved that the lines of determination on his clean-shaved face mean something—*The Daily Express*.

IN THE NICK OF TIME

For the first time I can tell the thrilling story of how General Rodimtsev's Guards were thrown in the battle of Stalingrad in the nick of time, writes a Moscow correspondent of a London paper.

They arrived a month ago when the position was so grave that von Bock counted on beating down all resistance in a matter of hours.

Then came the Guards pounding across the steppes to the Volga in a long column of racing lorries, with boiling radiators, with halts scarcely long enough to permit the men to get a cup of water and to shake the dust off their clothes.

For the men the journey was a mad almost a nightmare rush. Only Rodimtsev felt that they were going too slowly for he knew the city's fate was in the balance.

The Guards arrived at the east bank of the Volga in daylight.

They saw vast pillars of black smoke towering from the skyline of the ruins on the opposite side as the city's largest oil depot blazed.

ASKING FOR DEATH

A daylight crossing with Stukas perpetually diving down and heavy shells ploughing up water was asking for death but Rodimtsev decided that he could not afford to wait. With high explosives bursting all around them, their green steel hats bobbing in water, the Guards began to go over.

Only reserves of heavy artillery were left behind.

All night the crossing continued; in the morning Rodimtsev himself went over in a fast motor-boat. He was at once confronted with a problem sufficiently serious to weigh down any General.

The Germans were then thrusting into the city from the centre and its north-western suburbs. In fact the Germans had advanced so dangerously that they had captured heights in the town and both banks of the Volga. So the Russian front had been broken.

Rodimtsev had put one regiment on one side of the wedge and two on the other.

The question he had to answer was whether to dig in and try to hold his positions or to attempt against colossal odds to restore the position by counter-attacks.

Rodimtsev is a quiet level-headed man. He showed this once again a few days ago.

A STIFF FIGHT

When the Germans broke through so deeply that a grenade splinter penetrated his underground headquarters near the Volga and Teutonic words of command were heard, he continued working calmly at a bare wooden table until the attack was repelled. He is ever cautious but his watchword was: "Attack where it is least possible to attack."

So it was and a counter-attack was ordered. While one of his regiments recaptured street by street the district which the Germans had just occupied, aided by heavy artillery from across the Volga, the other two launched an assault on vital heights.

The heights are so important that on both the Soviet and the German staff maps they are ringed in red.

The Germans never suspected that Russians were capable of launching infantry assaults.

All the same the fight was stiff. But the heights fell to the Guards, who re-established a continuous Russian front in most favourable positions.

Russia Helps with Submarines

ANGLO-RUSSIAN campaigns are being waged against German shipping, writes the *Daily Herald* naval correspondent.

There are reasons for believing that mines sown in different waters over several months by the Royal Air Force have been yielding useful dividends. Now comes the news that increasing interference by Soviet submarines is causing Hitler's shipping chiefs much worry. According to the Helsinki correspondent of a Swiss paper, there are 33 Russian submarines among the Soviet naval forces based on Kronstadt.

Germany is facing an increasing danger at her weakest spot—scanty tonnage. Indication of the importance Germans attach to their merchant ships is the fact that a single empty tanker moving along the German side of the English channel has an escort of anything up to eight warships—E-boats, armed trawlers, mine-sweepers and a flakship.

Straining to meet her tonnage deficiency, Germany is chartering Swedish and Danish ships to take iron ore to the Reich from Scandinavian ports. Big bonuses are paid to seamen who sail ships through danger zones.

Stalin's "Secret Weapon"

BY

JOHN SCOTT

STALIN has a secret weapon. It is not the Comintern, nor the Ogpu. It is the immense heavy industry base far behind the Ural mountains in the centre of the largest country in the world.

More than a decade ago Stalin became convinced that sooner or later Russia would be attacked by a combination of powers and would have to fight for its life. In his speech to business managers early in 1931 Stalin said that Russia would have to catch up to and surpass the other countries of the world in industry and in production of arms or be annihilated. In the early 30's, therefore, Stalin set out to catch up to and surpass the other nations.

IMMENSE BLAST FURNACES

Under his leadership the Russians sank billions of roubles, thousands of human lives and untold energy into the construction of some 200 big modern industrial enterprises. They built a first-rate industrial machine which produces iron, steel, copper, machine tools, tanks, motors, chemical apparatus and many other things. Four gigantic metallurgical plants were built—Magnitogorsk, Tagil, Bakal and Khalilovo.

To-day all these plants produce armour plate and other steel articles necessary in the war effort. They produce more than six times as much steel as the 40-odd old primitive metallurgical plants in the Urals, some of which were built in the early 18th century.

At Magnitogorsk there are four immense blast furnaces as large as the largest in the United States, 20 open hearth ovens and nearly as many rolling mills—all built in the middle of the barren steppe in a few short years. Magnitogorsk sends its steel to several large machine-building plants in the Urals, particularly to Sverdlovsk, where half a dozen powerful armament and machine-building plants produce everything from carburetters for planes and tanks to the largest cannon.

UNEQUALLED

Another industrial centre worthy of mention is Perm (now called Molotov), in the Northern Urals. Just to the north of Perm —in Berezniki and Solikamsk—explosives are made, as well as metallic magnesium for the manufacture of incendiary bombs, shells and tracer bullets.

A remarkable plant at Khalilovo, in the Southern Urals, near Orsk, operates on local iron ores which have a very high nickel content. The steels produced are nickel, cobalt and, in some cases, vanadium and tungsten alloy steels whose toughness and resilience are almost unequalled in the world. This Khalilovo plant has gone into operation during recent months after almost ten years of construction work.

The second newest of the big iron and steel plants is the Bakal plant in Chelyabinsk. It is composed of three blast furnaces and several open hearths and rolling mills. It runs on coke made from Ural and Kazakhstan coal and iron ore from the Bakal iron deposits several dozen miles west of Chelyabinsk. These iron deposits are among the richest in the world, and so far have been almost untouched.

EXTENSIVE ADDITIONS

One of the most impressive of the new Ural plants is the vast combine in Tagil. An old metallurgical plant built in the early 18th century is still at work there beside an immense new plant, with three large blast furnaces and numbers of rolling mills.

During recent months the Ural and Siberian industrial regions have received unexpected and extensive additions. Whole factories, complete with machines, stocks, material and labour power, have been evacuated from all the cities of the Ukraine and from the western districts of the Soviet Union. The Rybinsk airplane plant has been moved to a previously uninhabited point, between Sverdlovsk and Magnitogorsk; the entire Putilov tank and armament works has gone from Leningrad to an unnamed point in the Urals.

LARGE RESERVES

The Urals had large reserves of electric power production which are now being used. In addition, generators which have been brought from the Ukraine are already producing power in the Sverdlovsk district, burning peat from the immense bogs of the central Ural district.

From 1930 to 1940 the Russians built a powerful industrial plant in the Urals and Siberia. They sank more than half the national incomes on capital investments for several years running. Sacrifices were enormous, but an industrial base independent of the Ukraine and capable of keeping the Russian army in the field was created. Something else was created at the same time. A technically competent industrial proletariat was trained, and a technical intelligentsia—*Star Weekly* (Toronto).

Ships for the Red Navy

THE output of the Soviet ship-building industry has increased by over 20 per cent during the past three months. Construction and repairs now take a mere fraction of the time that used to be needed before the war. A number of new ships will be handed over to the Red Navy by the 25th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution in November.

Urgent repairs had recently to be carried out on a ship at the dockyard directed by Duronchev. Its displacement considerably exceeded the capacity of the floating dock. Experts found a way out. A section of the ship was admitted to the dock while the rest remained in the water. Repairs were successfully completed.

Trushkin, director of a big shipyard, states that his present output is eight times the pre-war level. A shipyard directed by Surguchev, only recently evacuated from a front-line town, now turns out 50 per cent more than it did on its old site.

Soviet river shipyards are now building ships for the Red Navy. A shipyard directed by Tolstykh has multiplied its output by six as compared with last year. A shipyard directed by Nikiforov has trebled its output.

Despite artillery bombardment and air raids, the shipyards of besieged Leningrad are building and repairing warships in record time. Recently one shipyard working day and night completed repairs to a naval vessel two months earlier than would have been possible before the war.

150 NEW FOOD FACTORIES

Every two or three days sees the launching of new enterprises of the Soviet food industry, mainly in the eastern regions. This year's State plan stipulates that 150 new food factories are to be established. Fifty of them are already working. They include sugar mills, distilleries, oil-extracting mills, canneries and bakeries, as well as tobacco factories. In the Central Asian republics the number of canneries has considerably increased. Not only are new factories going up but 108 old ones are being restored in the liberated districts of the Moscow, Tula, Kalamin, Smolensk and Ryazan regions. The Akmolinsk meat combine in Kazakhstan, Central Asia, has increased its output two and a half times without any additional equipment—*Soviet War News.*

Hollywood at War

A survey made by the American motion picture industry shows that the importance of American movies as a war and post-war educational medium is becoming more and more evident. Hollywood has become one of the great wartime information centres. Already 38 films have been made for agencies of the United States Government and 15,000 theatres throughout the country are now showing them.

Each of these films, most of which are shorts, has a graphic message to give the American people—what the United Nations are fighting for, the heroic fight of the Chinese, Russian, British and other allied peoples, the creation of the new American Army, the production programme, what to do in case of air raids, how to conserve food and how to salvage scraps valuable to the war effort.

The armed forces as well as civilians are benefiting from this Hollywood service; the studios are making many films which the United States Army is using to teach infantry men, artillery crews and air force personnel. America's war industry is being provided with films for factory workers, showing new processes and new techniques.

Another new aspect of wartime Hollywood—attuned to the serious total war spirit increasingly taking hold of America—is the conservation of materials important to war production. Before the war, the motion picture industry's elaborate studios—known all over the world for their lavishness—used an estimated 21,000,000 feet of lumber each year for building sets, as well as 12,400 kegs of nails and over 150,000 gallons of paints, shellacs and lacquer.

Now the studios are using little new material. Old sets are being refurbished and used again, and in many cases, instead of creating sets, studios are renting and photographing actual houses and natural scenes.

The film industry has donated to the United States Armed forces overseas 4,700 full-length film programmes on 16 millimetre film, and the small size making transportation easy.

In addition, Hollywood has presented nearly $3,000,000 to Army and Navy relief funds, and scores of actors and actresses are touring the country to raise money for the United States Treasury at their own expense. The motion picture industry took charge of the national bond-selling campaign for September, with a goal of $1,000,000,000.

Finally, Hollywood is giving one of its most valuable assets—male stars—to the armed services. The dearth of actors is becoming a real problem, particularly in the case of studios such as Metro-Goldwin-Mayer, which, after losing stars like Clark Gable, is now faced with the impending enlistments of Robert Taylor, Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney and Van Heflin.

New Air Route across Africa

THE *Manchester Guardian* in a leading article comments on the Royal Air Forces new air route across Africa.

It says:

The Royal Air Force Middle East news service has given some particulars about the new air route from the west coast of Africa to the Sudan, which is proving so useful.

A picture from Madagascar—The capture of Majunga. Every type of conveyance, including the local dust cart was commandeered for patrol purposes.

There are 6,000 miles to be flown and each journey takes a pilot more than 24 flying hours.

Various air fields and many emergency landing grounds have been constructed, but, with great tracts of bush and jungle and some 2,000 miles of desert at the finish to be flown over, there are chances enough of mishap. Actually more than 1,000 machines have been flown from the point of assembly somewhere on the west African coast to the Sudan, and loss has been only 2 per cent. That is small, but it incidentally illustrates the safety nowadays of crossing the Atlantic, for the last figures of trans-Atlantic losses published were smaller than those on this African air route. (Sand storms are as bad as sea storms.)

"New" 'Planes

OVER 70 per cent of the bombers and 90 per cent of the fighters which can be recovered after crashes are made to fly again, thanks to the Repair and Salvage Unit of the Royal Air Force in India and the India Air Force.

The task of the Repair and Salvage Unit is hard. Often long treks have to be made to the scene of a crash; days have to be spent there. And, in cases where the aircraft is methodically dismantled and brought into base, many hours of re-assembling and re-fitting are necessary in the workshops.

When a crash is reported, an engineer officer of the Repair and Salvage Unit leaves immediately for the spot. There he has to decide whether or not the aircraft can be repaired without removal. If it can, a completely-equipped, self-contained mobile repair unit is sent out.

TOUGHEST TASK

But if, as is usually the case, the damage necessitates bringing the 'plane back to base, lorries specially designed for carrying fuselages, wings and other parts are required.

The toughest task falls to the officers and personnel who man these vehicles, travelling often hundreds of miles over dusty roads and tracks or, in the monsoon season, through mud and floods.

Turkey's Attitude

IN an article in the *Daily Telegraph*, Huseyin Cahid Yalchin, editor of the Turkish newspaper *Yeni Sabah*, who has just visited England, writes :

" Immediately on the fall of France, the Turkish Prime Minister pledged his country's loyalty to the Turco-British treaty of alliance. In conjunction with this statement, the Turkish press continued to defend and uphold the democratic cause even more staunchly than British newspapers themselves.

" Although Great Britain, after the collapse of France, encountered on her stony path nothing but military failures, she enjoyed the sympathy and friendship of the Turkish press in increasing measure. Since then, her reverses have not loosened Turkey's ties with Great Britain. Neither German pressure brought to bear on Turkey—sometimes directly, sometimes by devious means—nor German promises have had any influence upon Turkey's line of action which she had adopted since the beginning of the conflict. Thus the Turkish and British peoples have entered the fourth year of a severe test.

WHY NOT AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT

" The non-participation of Turkey in actual battle though she is bound by treaty to Great Britain has not been seen in its proper perspective in certain quarters in Great Britain, though this cannot be said of official circles. However, Turkey's line of action is not in contradiction to the letter and spirit of the Turco-British alliance. This state of affairs is amply justified by the absence of misgivings and questionings between the two Governments about the interpretation of the treaty. The Turkish Government has pursued a straightforward policy and has always informed the British Government in advance of any political moves which it contemplated undertaking.

" Now, it may be asked, ' Why is Turkey so loyal to the Turco-British alliance? ' It might be thought that she would have sided with Germany in order to recover as many lost Ottoman provinces as possible, taking advantage of her situation. The answer to this question must be sought in the change of outlook and spirit brought about by the Revolution. Ataturk's Turkey is not only a new regime, but it is imbued with a new spirit and mentality. The Turkish public believes in the self-determination and self-government of each country, and is convinced that the existence of free nations enjoying equal rights is the best guarantee for Turkey's own freedom and independence.

CRUX OF THE MATTER

" In the event of a German victory we do not doubt that a dark era of slavery would descend upon all nations including our own. That is crux of the whole matter, and that is why we identify ourselves with the cause for which Britain is fighting. We see Great Britain and her ally, the United States, as great champions of freedom. So long as the Allies remain faithful to the principles of the Atlantic Charter, there is no possibility of Turkey's diverging from the cause of the Allies, because it is the cause of freedom.

" Turks are convinced that helping Germany to victory is equivalent to committing suicide. Neither German threats nor German promises, nor fear of being drawn into conflict, can cause an estrangement of Turkey from Britain. Turkey is ready to fight for her freedom. She will never allow passage to foreign troops through her territory.

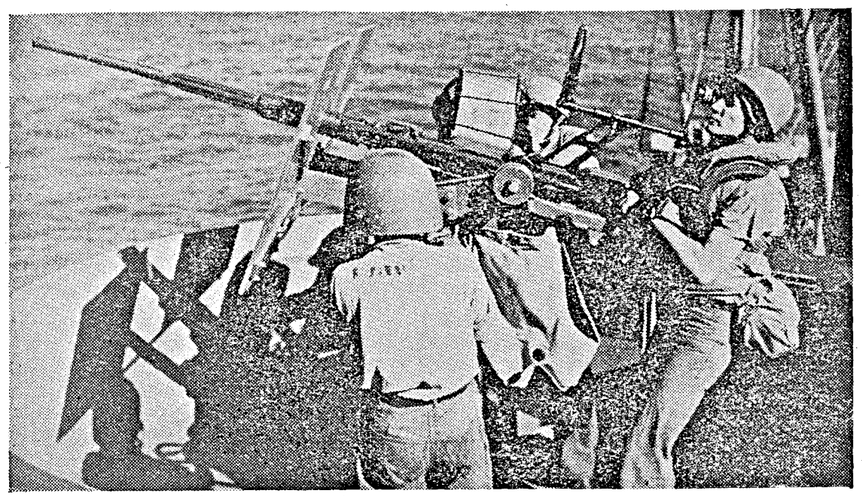
" Post-war years will not be easy in Europe. Consequently nations whose relations have stood the trials and tribulations of war must co-operate more closely than ever in order to meet the difficulties brought about by the ravages of this titanic conflict. In post-war years Turco-British friendship and alliance will be a necessary instrument in the establishment of peace, security and happiness for the Near East and its peoples. Only then will all concerned fully appreciate the importance and necessity of a strong Turkey standing erect and enjoying a healthy constitution."

IS THE ENEMY WHISPERING TO YOU?

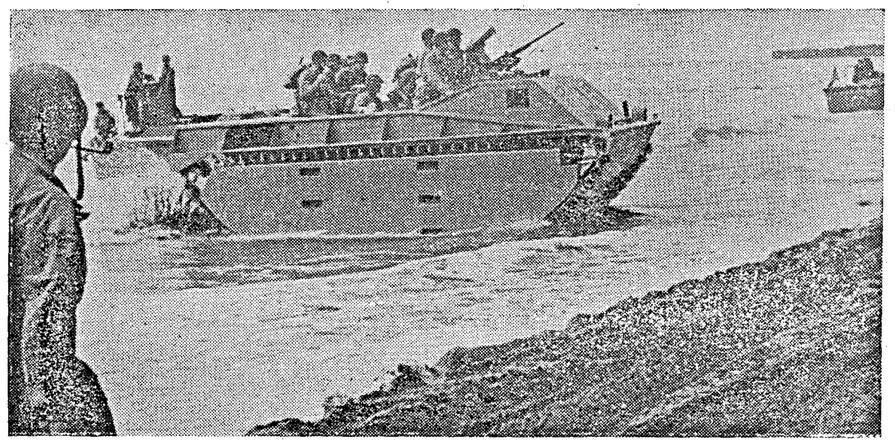
Every time you hear a rumour
It is the Japanese whispering in your ear.
They are trying to poison your mind,
Weaken your resistance.
Don't help the enemy by believing
And spreading unconfirmed news.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS
BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

U.S. Marines at Work against Japs in Solomon Islands



In the afternoon of the first day, when U.S. Marines landed in Solomons, Jap bombers came over. Here an anti-aircraft gunner helps drive them off.



The Solomons gave the United States its first chance to test the amphibious tanks with which Marines have been training for upwards of a year. Here's one of the tanks, called " Alligators " by the Marines, coming into the beach on its own power.

How Japs Treat Women and Prisoners

NINE thousand girls forced into Japanese Army brothels—Indian prisoners of war stripped to their underclothes—a ten days horror of street executions.

These are the kind of facts about conditions in Japanese-occupied countries which continue to leak out through people who have seen for themselves who have suffered at Jap hands.

A grim document, obtained in circumstances which cannot be disclosed for reasons of security, describes how the emblem of the Rising Sun has meant for Malaya and Burma a regime of darkness spreading like a blight across the land.

The document illustrates the Japanese way of keeping promises that civilians would be kindly treated. It says, concerning Singapore :—

"After the island's fall numbers of Chinese were rounded up, forced to dig their own graves, and then compelled to kneel in them. A Japanese officer beheaded the first man in line, after which a subaltern carried on beheading the remainder of the victims. A second line of victims was then compelled to bury the first lot, and prepare their own graves."

DISTRACTED PARENTS

These executions were carried out in the streets of Singapore, streets which a little while before had been gay with the laughter of carefree peace-loving people. They went on for ten days without an interval.

Dealing with the treatment of women, the document says that the Japanese carried out registration of the Chinese population, and goes on: "Every girl between the ages of 13 and 25 was taken from her home. Pleas of distracted parents failed to elicit any information, and later 9,000 girls were located in official brothels run by the Japanese Army."

As for prisoners, "large numbers of Indians have been stripped of their uniforms and left with nothing but their underclothes. They are being used by Japanese as slaves. A Viceroy Commissioned Officer was shot dead for the 'crime' of asking for a drink of water."

The Eyes of India

IN a Royal Air Force Control Room "somewhere in Ceylon" a wireless operator adjusts his headphones. Far out over the Bay of Bengal a voice begins to speak. The Dawn Patrol is reporting to Base.

Every morning, as the first streaks of grey appear in the night sky, great roaring shapes cut a path of foam across the dark waters, rise majestically into the still air. No matter who else sleeps, the Eyes of India are awake.

Throughout the hours of daylight, from first dawn to deepening dusk, giant Catalina flying boats range over the vast sea wastes, ever alert for the danger which threatens India from across the ocean. Remote, in a world of their own, the crews of these twin-engined aircraft daily dare perils of sea and sky in the protection of India's eastern coastline.

How vital is their work may be gauged from the epic of Squadron-Leader L. J. Birchall, who was flying a Catalina on the Dawn Patrol one memorable day a few months ago.

Few details of that epic are known—ever will be known, for Squadron-Leader Birchall found his grave in the waters he guarded so faithfully. But before the seas closed over him his wireless crackled a warning.

Back at Base the wireless operator took down the message which enabled the defences of Ceylon to send the Jap Fleet scurrying away to lick its wounds.

For all its dangers the task of the Dawn Patrol is a dull one, with few incidents to relieve the monotony. The men who comprise it have rightly been called the "Hermits of the Heavens," for they spend their waking hours in a world apart from their fellow men.

The great flying boats which are their waking homes have many secret features, but, with a wing span of 104 feet, and propelled by two 1,000 horse-power engines, they provide accommodation which includes such comforts for the crews as galleys in which they can prepare hot meals. They have a speed of nearly 200 miles-an-hour, a vast range and are heavily armed for combat.

Unconquered Greece

THE *TIMES* in a leading article pays tribute to unconquered Greece. It says:

Two years ago to-day (October 28), Fascist Italy presented a shameless ultimatum to the Greek Government. It met with an appropriate reply from the Government, armed forces and people of Hellas, and five months later, the aggressor, superior in all but military capacity, seemed likely to lose his foothold in the Balkan Peninsula.

He invoked German aid. The Greek army and British and Imperial forces sent, as honour commanded, to its aid, were overwhelmed. The Greeks lost all but their honour. Their scanty resources were plundered; the population of their cities was driven to extremity by an artificially induced famine; and their country was seized by Bulgarians, Italians and Germans. The execution of hostages, the installation of a despised government of quislings, deportations and repression of every vestige of freedom were but part of the price paid for their honourable resistance.

Yet Greece still stands, undaunted by oppression. Outside Greece, its King and his Government stand firmly with the United Nations. The Greek army and air force, re-equipped and re-organized, are fighting beside the British and Imperial forces in Egypt. The Greek navy, its heavy losses largely made good, fights beside our Mediterranean fleet. The Greek mercantile marine, though thinned by sinkings, plays its valiant part in the Battle of the Atlantic.

National resistance which forced Hitler to postpone his invasion of Russia and to defer his attack on Western Asia, still ties down large Axis armies and strengthens our counter-offensive in Egypt and the Mediterranean. The Greek people has sacrificed much for honour and it has a particular glory that no disappointment, no oppression, has been able to rob it of its faith in itself and victory.

Greek guerilla bands are vying with one another in a ceaseless struggle against the enemy, and fresh bands of patriots are appearing everyday in new regions. In Macedonia guerilla warfare is being carried out under the leadership of M. Binopoulos, a former Deputy. Other groups are active in the region of Florina, where they are continually harassing the Italian troops in co-operation with Serbian forces operating in the Babuna range of mountains, where they are inflicting casualties on the Bulgarian invaders.

The war-weariness of Italian troops has reached such a stage that there have been many cases of refusal to obey orders. An entire Italian regiment has been disbanded for this reason, and the men sent to various islands as punishment. It is learnt that 400 Italian troops were on board an Italian ship which was recently sunk in the Mediterranean by a Greek submarine. All were drowned except 18, who were picked up and saved by the submarine.

While the Germans are resorting to wide-spread and systematic deportations from one end of Greece to another, thus breaking up the families and ruining the businesses of those deported, Gotzamanis, when in Berlin, was persuaded to promise to send a greater number of Greek workers to German factories. If this promise is not fulfilled, the position of the "Athens Government" is likely to become difficult. Tsolakoglou's appeals to Greek workers to go to Germany are, however, falling on deaf ears, as the workers show no desire whatever to slave for the Nazis.

Officer Dived for German Secrets

HOPING to prevent us learning details of their aircraft, a German bomber crew shot down over the Western Desert, deliberately came down in the sea. The ruse was seen by a party of Indian soldiers, with the result that a Royal Air Force officer, working twenty-four feet below water in a diving helmet improvised from his gas mask, was able to explore its secrets.

Grinning Germans, coming ashore in their rubber dinghy, gave the Indian troops their cue. They marched the Nazis off to captivity and reported the incident to the Royal Air Force.

Over the crashed plane an officer of an Inspection Unit donned his gas mask, tied a knot in the tube, and dived down. He found the cockpit, and had a look inside, but was unable to remain under water long enough to remove the equipment.

Nothing daunted, he rowed ashore, and returned later in a diving helmet borrowed from the Navy. At the beginning he kept floating to the surface, but another search enabled him to "anchor" himself with a piece of railway line.

Working inside the cockpit, he removed all the parts he fancied, and handed them to another officer, who continually dived down to collect them. When the "bag" was complete they brought it ashore in the Germans' dinghy.

Vital Part of Supply Battle

R.A.F. Attacks on Enemy Shipping

THIS is perhaps above everything else the quartermaster's war, and the quartermaster will have the last word, declares the *Daily Telegraph's* special correspondent in Cairo. Both Britain and the Axis have to supply their troops by sea, and one of the major lessons of this war is the extreme vulnerability of such routes to air attack.

The Allied cause in general, and the Eighth Army in particular, owes an incalculable debt to the work of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East. There is no "off" season for the Royal Air Force. They cannot just lay off when there is nothing happening on land. So the men who saved the Middle East at Alamein must go to it again . . .

STRIKING AT THE ROOT

A good part of the Royal Air Force's work consists in hunting out the enemy force in its own lair and destroying it there. In other words, continually bombing and shooting up airfields in Egypt and in Libya. But it is attack on the enemy's seaborne communications that yields a dividend deferred but no less sure.

Never since the Mediterranean war started nearly two and a half years ago has the Royal Air Force had to operate under conditions of such extreme difficulty. Our hold in the Mediterranean, apart from the outlying posts of Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus, is virtually confined to the restricted south-eastern angle.

Two main supply ports for the Axis are Tobruk and Benghazi. Despite all the hammerings that it has received in the last past two years, Tobruk is better. Reconnaissance over a period of weeks has shown that the Royal Air Force has to a great extent achieved the task that it set itself at Tobruk. Not only has it slowed down the rate of entry and unloading of supplies considerably through the destruction of harbour installations and shipping, but it has caused a diversion of at least part of Axis shipping to the remoter port of Benghazi.

DECISIVE IMPORTANCE

Attacks on enemy shipping will perhaps represent the decisive aspect of this phase of the campaign. It seems established that the lack of drive behind the enemy's recent abortive offensive in the Himeimat area and the failure of their commander to continue after the initial check were due to the failure of war material to arrive in the quantity anticipated.

Planned and detailed reconnaissance flights dovetailed with planned bombing attacks yielding maximum damage, with maximum information, sums up the work of the Royal Air Force in harassing enemy shipping. The enemy have shown a tendency to rely more and more on fighter escort for his convoys. They have helped many a convoy at the cost of immobilizing to a remarkable extent the Luftwaffe in its operations over Libya. The detachment of fighters for the protection of convoys has had cumulatively a depressing effect on enemy morale and consequently on the effectiveness of his air force in the Western Desert. That is what Royal Air Force attacks on enemy shipping have done.

RUSSIA'S "ÆRIAL MOTOR CYCLE"

The Russians have brought a "new weapon" into use at Stalingrad. It is the 15-year old U-2 plane, formerly used as postal transport, made of wood and canvas and with a speed of little more than 50 miles an hour.

When it is in the air, it sounds like a motor cycle going over a bad road, and the Russians call it their "aerial motor cycle", says the *News Chronicle's* Moscow correspondent.

It can take off anywhere in complete darkness, and land anywhere by the smallest light.

With its cargo of bombs little bigger than hand-grenades, which are simply dropped overboard, it can bomb by night with greater precision than a dive-bomber because of its slow speed.

Nazis in trenches or moving along the road or lying in ditches are excellent targets, while it is even possible to bomb one half of a building containing Nazis and leave untouched the other half containing Russians.

These planes have such a low speed that the Nazi flak has not easily adjusted itself to the risk of getting their speed range. When the flak began to become dangerous, these Russian "flying fleas" started to climb to their maximum ceiling before gliding down.

U-Boats Meeting their Trafalgar

THE First Lord of the Admiralty's announcement that 530 enemy submarines have now been sunk or damaged does not include the last results of growing vigour by American action but, as it stands, it records a great achievement, writes the *Daily Telegraph*.

A comparison with the figures of the last war is necessary to realize its full significance. The total of German submarine losses then was 199 and at that price Germany worked up to the peak sinking of 849,000 tons of merchant vessels per month. Nazi U-boats have come close to that peak but never reached it, although their attack was stronger both numerically and strategically than that of 1917.

What proportion of 530 submarines became total loss cannot be determined but the Nazi Admiralty complaint that the "U-boat warfare for us is hard and will grow harder" gives the means of estimating reactions of the U-boat service. It should be remembered that our naval and air-reports must omit some numbers of submarines destroyed by mines and accident.

In the U-boat campaign, the enemy has had much greater advantages than in the last war. His submarines are more formidable and have longer endurance.

More U-boats have been sunk than in any equal period before but they are still numerous enough to be the "greatest problem of the United Nations." Most strenuous endeavours are required from all shipyards of the Allies for a speedy victory. Mr. Alexander gave a well deserved praise to our own ship-building industry. We have been producing more tonnage per man in our yards than methods in America have yet attained.

Expansion here is limited by lack of labour. Production for the Navy has not only made good the heavy losses—of which the news that the *Anson* and the *Howe* are now with the Fleet is an example—but much increased the strength of the classes of ships most needed. The basis of strategy in this world conflict is sea communications. If Nazism could break those links between the Allies, all else would be added unto it but despite the writing on the wall, convoys will go through and the U-boat campaign meet "their Trafalgar".

Plight of Italy

TO what has Fascism brought Italy in 20 years? What have the Italians to celebrate?

Sunny Italy is to-day, a land of 50 million war weary, brow beaten, hungry, ill-clad and bewildered people. War weary because they have been fighting or toiling on war work for more than seven years. Abyssinia, Spain, Albania, the stab in the back of France and the attack on Greece. Then defeats of Libya, Eritrea, Somaliland and Abyssinia.

The Empire won and lost—and Italy's sons have still to fight but now they fight only as German mercenaries in Russia, Egypt and Jugoslavia. The mood of Italy now is one of wishful defeatism. For with their country as a vassal of Germany, Italians see no joy even in the doubtful prospects of victory.

Victory they see now means only slavery. Their country is ruined already and they see no future for it. So they just want war to end.

Peasants attempt to hold back their grain and other produce from official collectors. Some cases of this practice have led to riots. Yet food flows in an unending stream to Germany and Italians watch bitterly as they see loaded trains travelling to the north.

Agricultural workers have gone to Germany also in tens of thousand, further complicating the food situation in Italy. They go unwillingly but a refusal means a term in prison.

With wool and cotton cut off by blockade, Italians have only shabby clothes of substitute materials. German soldiers with pockets full of cheap lire have long since stripped shops bare and posted their purchases back to their families in Germany.

The army of which Italians became so proud as they listened to Duce's boasts has proved itself a failure in the field. Not because Italians cannot fight. They can, but when they surrender in thousands it is because they have no enthusiasm for the present war or for Fascism.

Mussolini's much boosted navy is impressive on paper but much less so on the sea.

Mussolini bewilders his people himself now with earnest speeches about Italy's "difficulties." His people know their country is a weak link in the Axis. They are failures of the New Order. Fascism has brought them only blood, toil, tears and sweat—but without the prospect of reward.

Mussolini, grey and paunchy now, has ruled for 20 years. He can still strut on the Italian stage and put up a show to his disillusioned people. But as President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia said once: "Dictators can always look good until the last five minutes"—W. M. Towler, The *Daily Herald* Foreign Editor.

Decline in German War Output

THE reduction of German war output by the Royal Air Force is possibly the most important single fact for the future development of this war. The total German arms production in the first half of 1942 actually shows a decline over the German production of the first half of 1941. This coupled with the fact that United Nations' production is rising steeply each month must prove decisive since steel wins war.

Britain has been responsible for two out of three main factors causing this decline in the German war production. These factors are: (1) The British blockade—the diversion of the German manpower. (2) Russia's wastage and diversion of the German power. (3) The Royal Air Force bombing.

The Royal Air Force bombing itself operates in six ways to reduce the German war production: (1) The diversion of the German power to anti-aircraft, air-raid precautions and demolition squads, etc. (2) The direct destruction of German factories and mine plants. (3) The diversion of German labour from steel factories, etc. for rebuilding destroyed factories, houses, etc. (4) The loss of man-hours by German workers in bombed areas due to time spent in shelters, etc. (5) Probably one of the greatest of all—the stoppage of other factories far outside the bombing area due to the hold up of supplies from bombed factories. (6) The smashing of transport and the lines of communication causing bottlenecks in coal, iron and other supplies—thus dislocating factory production over the whole of the Reich.

EXTENT OF DESTRUCTION

After most raids, in spite of air photography, it is difficult to tell precisely to what extent the arms factories have been smashed. But in some cases precise data is known and from the evidence of these cases it is possible to estimate roughly the effect of some 4,000 Royal Air Force attacks on targets in Germany, and the occupied countries since the outbreak of war.

The Renault factory near Paris, one of the largest automobile factories in Europe, was producing 100 tanks, 200 lorries and 600 aircraft engines monthly. In other words enough tanks yearly to equip four armoured divisions, enough aircraft engines to replace a large percentage of the total German aircraft engine losses in the eastern front. The Royal Air Force raid on this factory (March 3, 1942) made the entire factory, in the words of the official British description, "useless for many months."

Four raids on Rostock, besides other enormous industrial damage, destroyed the Heinkel works producing about 13 per cent of the planes monthly, i.e., in four months the front line strength of the whole air fleet lost by Germany.

Three raids on the Matford factory in Poissy stopped the production of a thousand lorries monthly for the German army.

PLANE OUTPUT REDUCED

These eight raids alone are estimated to have cost Germany, for at least some months, nearly five per cent of her total plane output, up to six per cent of her total tank output and 10 per cent of her output in mechanical transport. Obviously not all raids are so successful. But even at minimum reckoning, if eight raids did this damage, over 2,000 attacks on targets in Germany alone since the beginning of war have caused a major hole in the total German war production by the direct destruction of arms factories.

Some other examples of direct destruction of war plants, about which accurate data is available, are: The destruction of the component factory Stahlwerke Krieger, Dusseldorf (two raids—July 31 and July 11). This factory made parts for planes, guns, warships and bombs.

The destruction of the equipment factory, Dragerwerke Luebeck (March 28). This factory made service respirators, oxygen apparatus for the Luftwaffe and U-boats.

It is clear that if the destruction of the Renault and the Matford works alone was equivalent to depriving the German army of armoured vehicles and transport for five armoured divisions, (Sir A. Sinclair, August 23, 1942) this result must be multiplied many times to get even a conservative estimate of the direct destruction of the German armament production by the Royal Air Force.

DISBELIEF IN HITLER'S PROMISES

"R.A.F. raids are definitely affecting the morale of the German people. Their minds are reaching the stage of disbelief in Hitler's promises, giving us an opportunity to lessen the grip of the Nazi propaganda machine on the German people."

—MR. W. NASH, *New Zealand Minister in Washington, speaking in New York on Saturday, October 31.*

British Women's "Win the War" Competition

A new spirit is sweeping over British women both in uniform and in "civvies." It is the shock brigade spirit—something to make war production soar. And it springs from a big new "win the war" competition started by the London Women's Parliament.

In this competition, women in factories, streets, boroughs, offices and depots will form themselves into shock brigades to compete for increased production, better time-keeping, less absenteeism, and saving of fuel and salvage. A grand finale to the competition will be inter-factory and inter-street competitions culminating in the fourth session of the Women's Parliament, when the results will be announced and the winning teams will tell "the secret of their success."

The Parliament hopes that 350 factories will enter the competition for increased production, and that 200 housewives' teams will compete for increased salvage and recruitment for industry. The first factory to enter the competition is a London one employing 3,000 people, where the women in the assembly shop, machine shop and outlying shops have formed themselves into shock brigades to rival one another's output. A mass meeting of workers accepted the idea with enthusiasm when it was put to them. They plan to have charts displayed in each department and a grand total production chart in the form of a barometer, outside the office building. Three prizes of savings certificates will be given each month to operators in each section showing the greatest output. The leading department will display the banner. A committee of shop stewards and management representatives will make the decisions.

A Spy's Nightmare

This story is about the sort of man who is a spy's nightmare, from Calcutta to Karachi, from New York to Sydney.

Two officers walked into a bar in London. "Dry Martini" said one.

The barman put *three* drinks on the counter. Just a mistake, perhaps.

But something flashed across the mind of one of the officers.

He and his companion went out—and a few minutes later the barman was arrested. He was a German Spy.

What had struck the mentally alert officer? Just this that in German "Drei" means "Three."

Indian listeners heard this example of speed "in the uptake" during a recent broadcast talk by Lieut.-Col. A. Boyes Cooper.

Can any of them parallel it from their own experience in this war or the last?

AN OLD CUSTOM

Despite war conditions the much-loved custom of exchanging Greeting Cards over Christmas and the New Year will doubtless pertain this year.

It is hardly too much to suggest, however, that in these times of stress the manufacture and sale of Greeting Cards are difficult to justify unless the profits accruing are to benefit a deserving charity—more particularly perhaps the wounded and the sick.

Certainly, no better object could be chosen for such profits than the Indian Red Cross, and so the whole country will shortly be able to buy the "Red Cross Christmas Card", the total nett profits from sales of which will be devoted to this admirable object.

The card will be on sale at all General Post Offices throughout the country from early December. Keep a little money by till then, so that you may benefit a great cause by gratifying a good friend.

Diary of the War

AIR ACTIVITY OVER ENGLAND AND GERMANY

31st Oct.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in west and north-west Germany. The German Baltic port of Lubeck was battered.

1st Nov.—In the biggest day raid since the Battle of Britain, about 50 German bombers were over the English Coast, 9 of which were shot down. Canterbury was the main target of attack.

The Royal Air Force attacked a goods train near Ostend and an enemy supply ship near Zeebrugge. Ships were attacked off the Coast of Holland.

2nd Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in north-western Germany and factories and industrial objectives in northern France and Belgium.

Enemy raiders were twice over south-east England and bombs were dropped at a number of places.

3rd Nov.—Many hits were scored on an enemy convoy and escort ships off Sept Isles.

4th Nov.—Four enemy aircraft (two of which were destroyed) attacked a place on the south-west Coast of England.

5th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raided industrial objectives in western Germany. Objective were also attacked in Occupied France.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

31st Oct.—Mr. Wendell Willkie in a broadcast said: "General Montgomery is confident that his command will beat Rommel this time." He also prophesied that the Germans will never take Russia.

1st Nov.—An official announcement stated that Ford would build gliders for invasion purposes. The gliders will each carry 15 invasion-equipped soldiers.

3rd Nov.—President Roosevelt asked the Congress to enact legislation empowering him to suspend for the duration of the war trade barriers, import duties, customs and other regulations of any character likely to impede the free flow of munitions, supplies, persons, property and information between the United States and others of the United Nations.

5th Nov.—Congressional and State elections took place.

PARCELS FOR PRISONERS IN ITALIAN HANDS

Persons sending parcels to prisoners of war in Italian hands are warned that packages bearing the full address of camps will *not* be delivered and will be returned to the sender.

Such packages should bear only the number of the camp and reference should not be made to its location.

CHINA'S DESTINY

"The recent war situation is more favourable than that at any other time when the Council has met. The fate of the nation is now in the balance. We must look to ourselves for the way to win survival for our country. Its destiny will depend upon the men of our generation."

—GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *addressing the Third People's Political Council, on October 31.*

Unity of Purpose

It is particularly fitting that the United States and Greece should exchange Ambassadors as a symbol to our friends and to our enemies of the unity of purpose of the two nations equally determined to maintain their freedom against the assault of evil forces.

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a message to King George of the Hellenes, on October 30.*

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

31st Oct.—The Royal Air Force raided two Japanese aerodromes in Burma.

1st Nov.—The Royal Air Force made an offensive sweep over the Shwebo area and attacked the Japanese occupied aerodrome.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

31st Oct.—The Allies further extended their gains in ground formerly held by the enemy. A number of German prisoners were taken. Enemy-occupied landing grounds and other targets were bombed and machine-gunned.

4th Nov.—A big tank battle was fought in Egypt. The Allied troops made an important advance, capturing many prisoners, to the south of El Alamein.

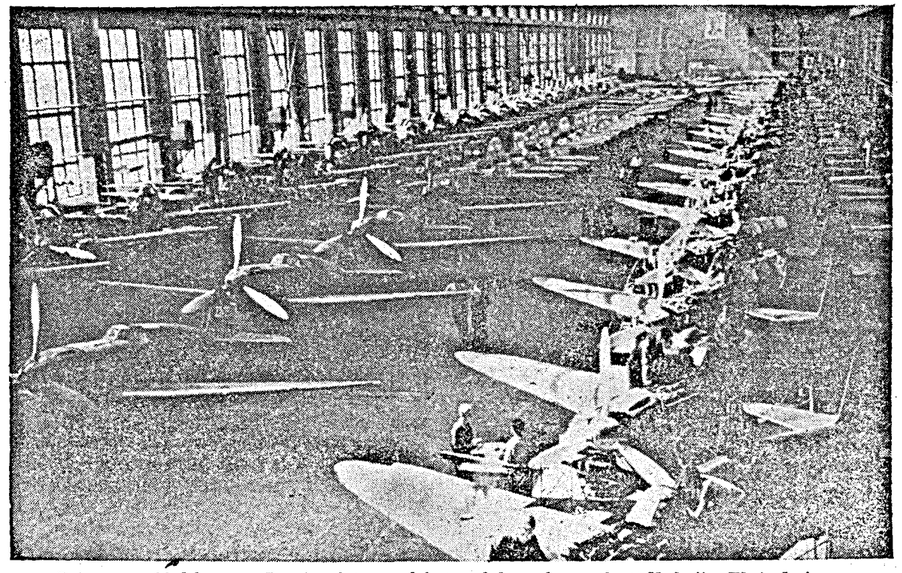
5th Nov.—Axis troops retreated in disorder in Western Desert. Allied forces occupied strategic points.

Over 9,000 Axis prisoners were taken, including General Ritter von Thoma, Commander of the German Afrika Korps.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

31st Oct.—The Red Army was pressed back near Nalchik. The Soviets gained ground in Tuapse area. The Russians held Nazi onslaughts on Stalingrad.



Being assembled here are Russia s latest and fastest fighter planes, the "Yaks." Their designer claims for them not only higher speed but considerably greater fire-power than the latest type of Messerschmitts.

The East African troops entered Fianarantsoa, the most important town in South Madagascar.

1st Nov.—Axis counter-attacks were beaten off. A number of conscripts deserted from Rommel's army.

2nd Nov.—The Eighth Army renewed attack and many German prisoners were taken. Five Axis aircraft were destroyed over El Alamein.

3rd Nov.—Rommel attacked British flank. The Battle of El Alamein reached a definite stage. Cretan aerodrome was bombed. Axis troops fell into an Allied "net."

1st Nov.—The Russians advanced in Tuapse area. Winter set in. The German position was considered very serious. Four enemy attacks were repelled.

Two enemy transports were sunk in the Baltic Sea.

2nd Nov.—The German thrust in Stalingrad lost its momentum. Mountains of German dead were piled up. Strategical results unfavourable for the Germans were achieved.

3rd Nov.—German losses before Stalingrad were estimated in Berlin at over half-a-million killed or wounded.

The Russians evacuated Nalchik.

4th Nov.—The Nazis launched a wide pincer movement against the Mozdok front. Nalchik was in flames.

5th Nov.—Soviet forces landed on Volga bank. Nazi attacks on Stalingrad failed.

* * * *

SHIPPING

1st Nov.—His Majesty's ship **Veteran**, a destroyer of 1,500 tons, was sunk.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1st Nov.—Eleven persons were sentenced to death by court-martial in Hungary.

5th Nov.—A reign of terror was inaugurated by the Nazis in Bohemia and Moravia as a reprisal for Czech resistance.

The Vichy Government handed over 35 former Allied merchant vessels in French ports in the Mediterranean to the Axis.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

31st Oct.—United States bombers raided the Japanese naval base at Buin in the Solomons.

It was revealed that the Japanese fleet had retired from the Solomons.

It was revealed that the Japanese had imprisoned in a wooden cage in Manila, Amleto Vespa, author of the best seller "Secret Agent of Japan," a book disclosing Japan's brutal police methods in Manchuria.

1st Nov.—The first round of the fight in the Solomons was over. The American army held complete control of the situation in Guadalcanar.

2nd Nov.—An United States aircraft-carrier was lost in the South Pacific. A Japanese cruiser was destroyed.

3rd Nov.—Seven Japanese ships were believed to have been sunk or damaged in the Battle of Stewart Isles. Two American ships were lost.

4th Nov.—Allied troops captured Kokoda. A very large Japanese convoy was routed at Buna. In the Savo Isle battle, two more Japanese cruisers were sunk.

5th Nov.—Allied forces passed beyond Kokoda. Allied aircraft battered Dilli harbour.

THE GOLDEN CROPS OF IND...

IN German-occupied Europe and Japanese-occupied China, the rich golden crops are harvested by the enemy while the rightful owners starve and die. Are you going to let this happen to India, where our mainstay is agriculture? India with her huge resources is the most tempting prize of all to the enemy. Japan uses soft words to woo us into submission! But beware of those words. Resist Japan with all your combined might, for Japan's coming will mean starvation for your women and children.

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

against the Japanese

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1942 No. 10

One day we shall have our fun, too!

M. STALIN

The enemy has already experienced the strength of the Red Army tradition. He has yet to find out the strength of the Red Army's shattering blows

The day is not far distant when the enemy will experience the full weight of the blow by the Red Army. One day, we shall have our fun, too!

—M. STALIN, in an Order of the Day, commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Soviet Revolution (November 7)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
Magnificent Work	9
Stalingrad will not fall	10
The Rout of Rommel	12–13
Caucasus as "Graveyard of the Invaders"	14
Training Workers in U.S.S.R.	16
Navy's Part in Egyptian Battle	17
Japan and Germany: Opportunist Friends	18
France at the Cross-Roads	19
Bevin Boys	19
Growing Power of Day Bombing	20
Devil's Garden	20
Diary of the War	21

Running Commentary

M. Stalin's Speech: Division of the World into Two Opposing Camps.

The enemy radio has been carrying on propaganda for a considerable time that there are differences and dissensions among the Allies, particularly between Britain and America on the one hand and Russia on the other. This myth has been exploded time and again, but nothing would have shown the utter hollowness and untenability of the Axis propaganda in a more definite and categorical manner than the address of M. Stalin to the "solemn session" of the Moscow Soviet dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the Soviet Revolution. In the course of his address, the great Russian leader referred to the formation of two opposite camps—the camp of the Italo-German Coalition and the camp of the Anglo-Soviet-American Coalition—in the war imposed on freedom-loving nations by Hitlerite Germany. These two Coalitions are guided by two different and opposing programmes. Racial hatred, supremacy of chosen nations, subjugation of other nations, economic enslavement of conquered nations, depredation of their national wealth, destruction of democratic liberty, and the establishment of a Hitlerite regime everywhere—these form the programme of the Italo-German Coalition. But the programme of the Anglo-Soviet-American Coalition consists of the following: abolition of racial exclusiveness, equality of nations and the inviolability of their territory, liberation of enslaved nations and the restoration of their sovereign rights, right of establishing whatever regime they like, economic assistance to the countries which have suffered and help to be given to them in achieving material welfare, restoration of democratic liberty and the destruction of the Hitlerite regime.

M. Stalin pointed out that the moral and political resources of the Anglo-Soviet-American Coalition were daily increasing and that it was gradually winning millions of sympathisers willing to fight side by side with it against Hitler's tyranny. He believed that the programme of this Coalition was sufficient to organize the common struggle against Hitlerism and achieve victory. He emphasised that an important step in Anglo-Soviet unity was **the visit of Mr. Churchill to Moscow, "in which complete understanding was reached."** Towards the end of his speech, he referred to the three war aims of Soviet Russia, namely, to destroy the Hitlerite State and the men who inspired it; to destroy the Hitlerite army and wipe out its leaders; and to destroy the New Order in Europe and punish its builders.

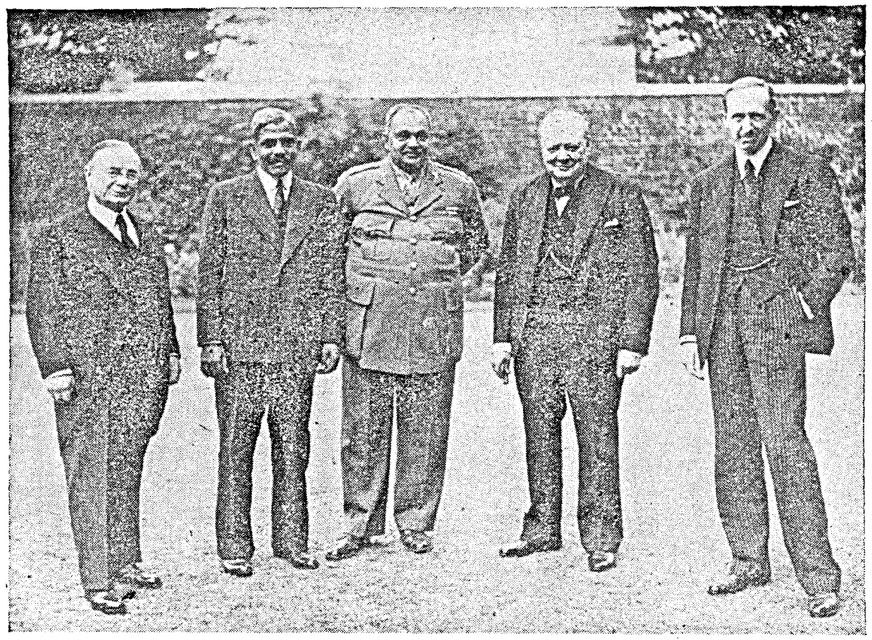
"Comrades," said M. Stalin addressing the Moscow Soviet, "We are waging a great war of liberation, but we are not waging it alone. We are fighting together with our Allies. It is going to bring us victory over the dastard enemies of mankind, over the German Fascist Imperialists."

Aid to Russia

Figures of aid to Russia were given yesterday (November 12) in the House of Commons. The supplies sent from Britain through the northern route, include 3,052 aircraft, 4,084 tanks, 30,031 vehicles, 831,000 tons of miscellaneous supplies, including machine-tools, metals, foodstuffs and medical supplies, 42,000 tons of aviation spirit and petrol and 66,000 tons of fuel oil. These supplies, most of which reached Russia, cover a twelve-month period.

Strongest and Most Enduring Coalition: Review of Allied Achievements.

This speech gives the lie direct to the propaganda of Goebbels and his satellites that there are dissensions among the Allies. There had been so much lying propaganda in regard to this matter that it is worth our while to review the Allied achievements which have made the Anglo-Soviet-American Coalition the strongest and most enduring force that it is to-day. First of all, let us take the pledges of co-operation by which the Allies have plighted their troth to fight to the finish till the forces of Hitlerism are completely annihilated. The Atlantic Charter of 14th August 1941 occupies the most important place in this list. 26 nations first signed this Charter; later four more nations joined in the galaxy of the fighters for freedom. This charter of the United Nations embodies President Roosevelt's Four Freedoms and is applicable, in the words of the President,



MR. CHURCHILL GREETS INDIA'S REPRESENTATIVES.—Left to right: Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India; Hon. Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar; His Highness The Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar; Mr. Winston Churchill and Lord Cranbourne, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

to "all humanity." On February 23, 1942, President Roosevelt said that the United Nations constituted an association of independent peoples of equal dignity and importance. "All of us," he added, "must play our several parts, each of us being equally indispensable and dependent one upon the other." This resembles Lord Balfour's declaration of 1926 which defined Dominion Status with the Commonwealth.

Then came the United Nations' Declaration of January 1, 1942, by which "each Government pledges itself to co-operate with the Government's signatory hereto." This was followed by a series of numerous other agreements which formed a network of unity across the globe. Most important of these are the Anglo-Russian Treaty of May 1942, the Polish-Soviet Agreement of July 1941, the Polish-Czech Agreement of June 1942, the Greco-Yugoslav Agreement of January 1942, and the Agreement of the South American States at the Rio Conference in February 1942. These declarations and agreements have brought together all the nations who stand for freedom and democracy, on one side.

* * * *

Co-ordination of the United Nations: Joint War Councils and Production Boards.

Let us see how this unity in thought and outlook in regard to the present war has worked out in actual practice. Step by step, a vast joint war machinery has been built up. In June 1942, a committee called the Chief of Staffs Committee consisting of three American and three British officers was set up in Washington to co-ordinate British and American war plans. This was carried a stage further by the visit of General Marshall to London. In Moscow there is no combined staff, because the Russians do not need the Anglo-American help in conducting their campaign, but the presence of three-service British and American Military Missions in Moscow and Russian Missions in London and Washington make the closest liaison possible. Mr. Churchill's conference with M. Stalin in August is an indication of the fact that, in addition to mutual exchange of information and mutual help, there is joint planning.

As regards the Pacific theatre of war, a special war council was set up, which sits both in London and Washington. This Pacific War Council contains representatives of all interested powers including China. Special contact is maintained with China by the appointment of General Stillwell as Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's Chief of Staff, and by a series of journeys and conferences by the Generalissimo himself, General Wavell, General Stillwell and others.

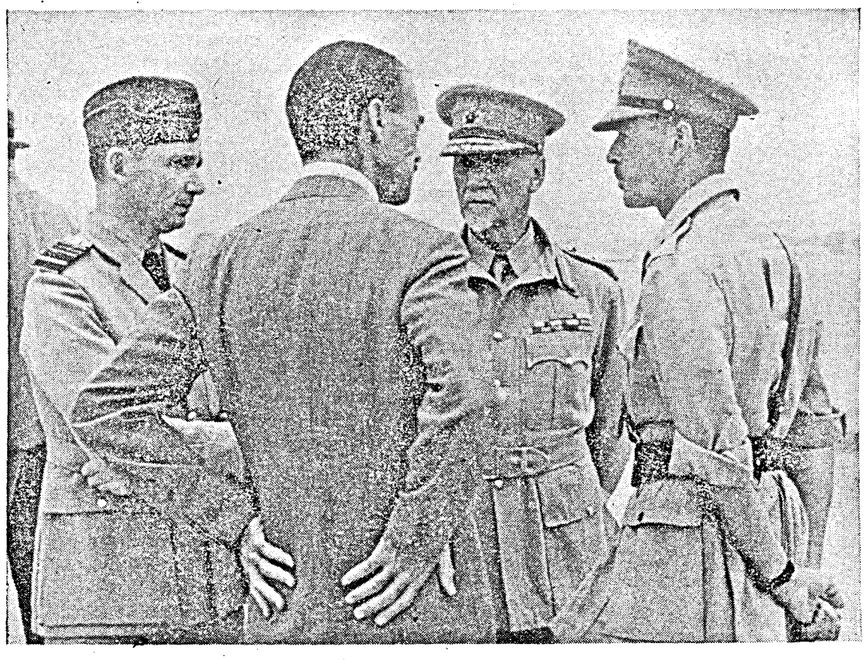
With regard to production and distribution of war materials, a number of joint boards have been formed. The first of them is the Combined Production and Resources Board formed in January 1942, which co-ordinates British and American production programmes into an integrated whole. An instance of this co-ordination is the concentration of production of fighters by Britain and bombers by America. In the field of munitions, the Combined Munition and Assignment Board carries on a similar work of integration. There is the Combined Shipping Adjustment Board which treats the shipping output of Britain and America as a single pool to be used to the advantage of the Allies. The Combined Food Board has been of very great help to Britain in tackling the food problem. All these boards have consultations with representatives of interested Allied nations.

* * * *

Notable Steps Towards Final Victory

"In this fourth year of war, my peoples look forward with unshakable courage. They are determined to fight on to complete victory with no thought of parley. I look with gratitude and pride upon the great, ever-growing war effort of my loyal subjects throughout the Empire. In the last few days, Providence has blessed our arms and those of our American Allies. The brilliant victory in the Western Desert and the great operation forestalling an attack of our enemies upon French territories in Northern Africa, are notable steps towards final victory."

—H.M. THE KING-EMPEROR, *opening the new Session of Parliament on Wednesday (Nov. 11).*



MEN WHO MADE THE VICTORY.—In reviewing the war situation in the House of Commons on Wednesday (Nov. 11), Mr. Churchill said: "Taken by itself the Battle of Egypt must be regarded as a historical victory. In order to celebrate it, directions are being given to ring the bells throughout the land next Sunday morning." The above photo taken on the occasion of the visit of General Smuts to the Middle East, shows leaders who planned and achieved this "historical victory." In the group are seen the General Smuts, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Middle East, Mr. Richard Casey, Minister of State, and General Alexander, Commander-in-Chief, Middle East.

Pooling of Allied Resources: Unity and Co-operation in the Post-War Period.

There has also been close co-operation and co-ordination in regard to the pooling of Allied resources such as bases and troops. Examples of such co-operation are the lease of the Caribbean Bases to America in 1940 and the close co-operation of British, Chinese and American troops in Burma. The joint highway to Alaska recently opened and the Joint Air Training Scheme for North America are two other examples. The Lease-Lend principle has also been of very great mutual advantage to Britain and America. Britain lends ships for the American anti-submarine campaign. The American Congress had sanctioned up to March 3, 1942 lend-lease aid to a total value of £12,561,160,000 and goods valued at £1,301,250,000 had actually been sent up to June 1942. Besides the British Empire, 35 countries are eligible for lend-lease aid including several neutrals.

The unity and co-operation of the United Nations extend also to the post-war period. Considerable progress has been achieved in regard to the planning of post-war political and economic military co-operation. The Atlantic

Charter, the Anglo-Soviet Treaty which provides for a 20-year period of co-operation after the war, the Anglo-Soviet Mutual Aid Agreement of February 1942, the Inter-Allied Committee on post-war requirements, and the Inter-Allied Wheat Pool are examples of preparations of plans for the post-war world. In the face of all these hard facts of Allied co-operation on a gigantic scale, never before dreamt of in the world's history, the Axis propaganda of dissension and disunity among the Allies is ludicrous in the extreme.

* * * *

Hilter's Munich Beer Cellar Speech : " Defence is Cheaper "!

In his speech at the Munich Beer Cellar on Sunday last (November 8) Hitler has indulged in an outburst of bravado mingled with apology. The failure of the Axis forces in Egypt and Stalingrad has made him exclaim : " If a blow does not knock a man down, it only makes him stronger." Referring to Stalingrad in particular, he said, " People say, why are we taking so long over Stalingrad ? If the enemy wanted to attack, I for one, would not wish to stop him. For defence is always cheaper" ! In an appeal to the Germans, he said, " To-day every German knows that we are engaged in a life-and-death struggle. Every German must believe in me. He must become a fanatic." The note of fear and nervousness in his speech is only too evident. Five weeks ago Hitler publicly pledged his word that Stalingrad would fall. But after paying the prize of a quarter million killed in three months' fighting, the coveted prize is still eluding his grasp.

The desperate attack launched ten days ago (November 3) is the fourth of its kind since October 15. The situation at Stalingrad is still tense, but the Soviet forces have relieved the situation in the factory area by a daring night landing on the Volga bank above the city. A despatch from *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Moscow published yesterday says that Soviet troops continued to strengthen their positions inside Stalingrad and repel small enemy attacks and that in the south of Stalingrad several German strong points have been captured. From the start the Stalingrad campaign has failed to move according to Hitler's plan, and every day that passes makes Hitler's need for winter quarters more pressing. It was reported yesterday that severe winter had set in at Stalingrad.

Already Berlin propaganda has been busy stressing that the Battle of Stalingrad is now more important than the fate of Stalingrad.

What is likely to be Hitler's next move ? Having failed at Stalingrad, Hitler is anxious to seek success in other directions and the switching of reserves to the Central Caucasus is an indication of the fact that Hitler wants to find in Trans-Caucasia the winter quarters which were denied to him at Stalingrad.

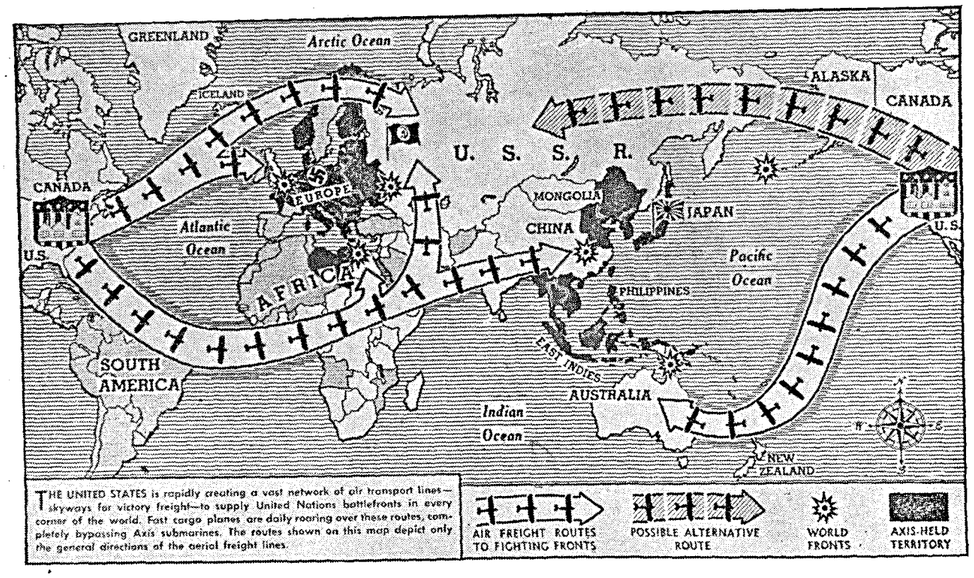
The fighting in and evacuation of Nalchik should be judged in the background of Hitler's need for winter quarters and his anxiety to find the spring-board of attack in coming summer. About 11 weeks ago, the Germans first forced the Terek river, and the resumption of heavy warfare in that region reveals the anxiety of the Germans to control the area which dominates the mountain routes leading into Trans-Caucasia. The Germans may try to see that the entire railway net in the Nalchik sector is secured against a Russian threat to their right flank in the Mozdok area. For this purpose they have launched a pincer movement on the Nolchik-Mozdok sector and have synchronized their big thrust south-east of Nolchik with an offensive in the Mozdok area.

TURNING POINT REACHED

" The Japanese are not in India and I don't mind stating that they never will be in India. If they do come, even for a short distance, they will be hurled out of the country, not only by the Indian and the British Army, but by the whole-hearted hostility of the Indian people as a whole.

" I do honestly and sincerely believe that we have now reached the turning point. I don't say that we are going to win the war before Christmas or before Easter, but I do believe the turning point has been reached ."

—H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE, *Governor of Madras, at Trivandrum, on November 6.*



The threat to Grozny, therefore becomes obvious, but the immediate objective of the enemy seems to be Orzhonokidze, the big industrial centre commanding the Georgian military highway which leads across the mountains into Trans-Caucasia. There are two roads crossing Caucasus, one of which, namely, the Ossetic Military Road over the Mamison Pass running to Kutais, is not fit for heavy traffic, but the other, the Georgian Military Road over the Darial Pass, is in common use and in good order. The fight for Orzhonokidze, therefore, becomes highly important, for once they capture this the Germans get a headway to the Georgian Military Road or establish a further base for a drive to Grozny. Latest reports indicate that Russians have brought up their heavy guns in that sector and that the Germans have not been able to make appreciable progress. In October last year, Hitler prophesied that the " greatest victory in the world would be achieved by the Germans." Then winter came, but the prophecy remained a prophecy and Brauchitsch was dismissed. This year, Hitler prophesied that Stalingrad would fall. Winter has come, but nothing has gone according to plan, and Halder has been sacked. Now Hitler talks of conserving his gains. He says, " We cannot secure new successes every week. This is impossible. It is also unnecessary. What is necessary is that we should hold what we have." There stands the dreamer who aspired for world conquests, but is trying to hold his ill-begotten gains as long as is possible !

* * * *

Germans Enter Vichy : Petain's Protest.

Hitler's troops marched into Vichy France on the Armistice Day (November 11). Only three days earlier, Marshal Petain came out with a protest againt the American invasion of French North Africa, which was launched with

the declared purpose of "helping the French to liberate themselves from the Axis aggression." President Roosevelt, in a broadcast to the people of France and the French in Africa, had stated, "We are coming amongst you to repulse cruel invaders who wish to strip you for ever of the right to govern yourselves, to deprive you of the right to worship God as you wish and to snatch from you the right to live your lives in peace and security." Replying to this, Marshal Petain, in a special broadcast from the Vichy Radio, said, "I have read your message. You have invoked a pretext which nothing can justify. You ascribe to your enemies an intention which has never been translated into action." But the intention of Hitler has now, at last, become clear to Marshal Petain, for he has lodged a protest against the entry of German and Italian troops into unoccupied France.

The protest is as ineffective as it is meaningless, for the whole policy of the Triumvirate of France, Petain, Laval and Darlan, has been one of abject subservience to Hitler's orders. Of the three, Laval has made himself particularly detestable by his over-anxiety to please his master at the expense of the people of France. By the end of last month, he was asked to send 150,000 skilled French workers to German factories. The original date was October 15, but an extension of time was given. Even this was of no use. Laval was not able to get the required number. The brave attitude of the workers of France, and of the City of Lyons in particular, stood in the way of the sacrifice of the French workers. For the first time, an ultimatum expired, and nothing happened. The Germans could shoot hundreds and thousands, but not an entire nation. Therefore, a further extension of time has been given, but now the situation has been made worse by the entry of German troops into Vichy France, and it is highly doubtful whether Laval could do the trick within the thirty days of grace allotted to him by Hitler.

Warriors Four

All the four sons of the Roosevelt's are now with the armed forces outside of continental United States. Marine Corps Major James Roosevelt is in the Solomons. The two youngest sons are lieutenants aboard destroyers—John as a Supply Officer for four destroyers in the Pacific, Franklin Jr. as a Gunnery Officer on a destroyer in the Atlantic. Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott Roosevelt is with the Army Aviation Command in England.

General Wavell's Congratulations

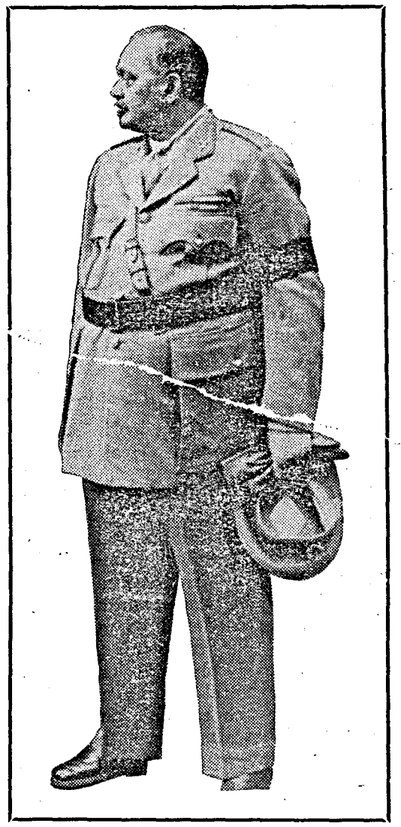
The following message was sent by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Archibald Wavell, to General The Hon'ble Sir Harold Alexander, Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Forces :—

Your splendid victory has heartened us all and I would be grateful if you would convey to Air Chief Marshal Tedder, General Montgomery, Air Vice-Marshal Conyngham and all others concerned the warm congratulations of the India Command. It is a matter of particular satisfaction to us here to know that *Indian Units which were amongst the first to take the offensive in the Western Desert in 1940 are playing their part in the present operations.*

MAGNIFICENT WORK

His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, after a visit to the Madras Squadron of the Royal Air Force stationed somewhere in England, sent the following message to His Excellency the Governor of Madras :—

"I have recently visited Madras Squadron in England. They have done, and are continuing to do, magnificent work. I promised I would convey their greetings through you to the Province whose name they are proud to bear."



H.H. THE JAM SAHEB.

In reply His Excellency the Governor of Madras replied as follows :—

"Please convey to the Madras Squadron the grateful thanks of the people of Madras for their greetings which we warmly reciprocate. We follow with pride their brilliant exploits. We also much appreciate Your Highness's early visit to the Squadron."

—HIS HIGHNESS THE JAM SAHEB'S

Tribute to Madras Squadron.

Stalingrad will not Fall

◆

I want to introduce to you Iuri Evgenitch Dorozh, young commander of an anti-tank rifle platoon who has just arrived in Moscow from the Stalingrad battle front, cables the *News Chronicle* Moscow correspondent.

He is only 20 years old and is a fine type of a young Communist, intelligent, modest and sincere. He has been in the Red Army studying and acquiring technical knowledge for some months and Stalingrad gave him his baptism of fire.

He told me what Stalingrad looks like, of its strong defence and what it feels like to a man who himself has been in some of the hottest fighting.

"I can tell you most about tanks," he said. "Nazis are losing a tremendous number of them, particularly in street fighting where anti-tank weapons are very effective. Our anti-tank weapons are very good and plentiful. The rifle we use can do immense destruction. If you aim for the petrol tank, you can set the tank ablaze or you can jam the turret with an accurate shot after which the tank's gun fires only one way.

BRITISH TANKS IN ACTION

"One day the Nazis sent four tanks against my platoon on a half-mile front and we disabled all the four. On this occasion they managed to tow them away. Both sides always make great efforts to remove damaged tanks."

The Germans, Dorozh said, are using mostly medium tanks. Some British tanks have been in action with the Russians. "It is perfectly true that Nazi casualties in men have been tremendous," he went on.

"Descriptions of them lying in heaps are no exaggeration. I have seen them with my own eyes particularly after one of their psychological attacks. Prisoners taken by my unit included sappers. In general our artillery is better than the Nazis and it has played an enormous part in the defence of Stalingrad. Our guns on the east bank of the Volga keep pounding away with great accuracy at enemy positions doing tremendous damage."

I asked Dorozh an obvious question, though of course no one can give a positive answer to it. "Do you think Stalingrad will fall?"

He thought for a moment. "No," he said. "I don't. The defences now are very strong. They won't be able to turn us out of the buildings we have fortified.

"Our army there is very good. Many of them are young Communists determined never, never to give up the city and Major-General Rodimptsev is a young fighting leader, whom they will follow anywhere."

A Practical Impossibility

"The rich Russian oil centres at Baku and Petrovsk are still remote from capture, and even if the wells were captured the Nazis still could not derive much benefit from them. They would have to get the petroleum home where they have refinery facilities.

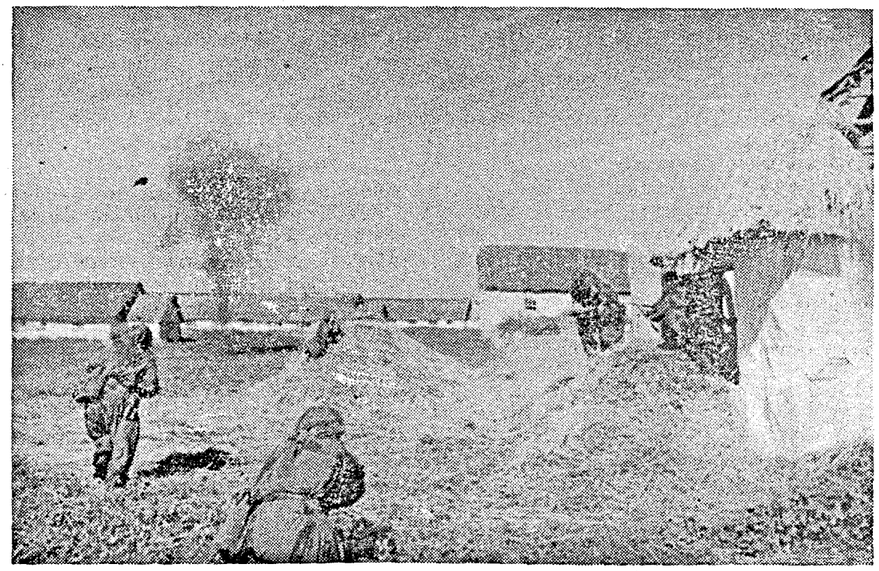
"Were the Germans to rely on rail movement to carry the petroleum 2,000 miles from the Caucasus to the refineries at home, 13,750 cars would have to be moving at all times with 13,750 empty cars returning in the opposite direction.

"You don't have to be a railroad man to see that that is a practical impossibility."

—KIRTLEY MATHER, *Professor of Geology at Harvard University, in a recent speech.*

Red Army Men in Action

Automatic rifle men defending the bank of the Don river.



Soldiers of the Guards on reconnaissance of an inhabited locality.

The Rout of Rommel

Speaking at the Lord Mayor's annual banquet at Mansion House on Tuesday Mr. Churchill made a reference to the defeat of the Axis forces in the Battle of Egypt. " Rommel's army," he said, " has been routed and very largely destroyed as a fighting force. The battle was fought with one single idea, to destroy the armed forces of the enemy in a place where disaster will be most punishable and irrecoverable." The Prime Minister paid a tribute to the part played by Indian troops, Fighting French, Greeks, Czechoslovakians and others and referred to the Americans' " powerful and invaluable service in the air." He added that the Battle of Egypt was designed and timed as the prelude to the momentous enterprise undertaken by the United States at the western end of the Mediterranean, namely, the American invasion of French North Africa. " The President of the United States ", added Mr. Churchill, " is the author of this mighty undertaking and I am his active and ardent lieutenant." The two African undertakings, continued Mr. Churchill, were part of a single, strategic political conception, which they had laboured long to bring to fruition and about which they were now justified in entertaining good confidence.

Reuter's Special Correspondent with the Eighth Army at Sidi Barrani says in a despatch published in today's (Nov. 13) papers : " Rommel's retreating forces have had a bad time in the Sollum 'bottle neck.' . . . . The Battle of Egypt is over, or almost over, and the Battle of Libya is on." The above photograph taken in Tobruk after the evacuation by the British forces, shows Rommel taking refreshments ! Tobruk was the target of our bombers on Tuesday night.

The first of these two undertakings, which, in the words of Mr. Churchill, " is a British victory of the first order, may now be referred to in some detail. The attack which General Montgomery launched against Rommel's forces from the El Alamein line is the modern version of the frontal offensive of 1916–18 and is fundamentally different in method from previous assaults in North Africa, both British and German. From the day Rommel's drive towards Alexandria was halted, the Germans were using all their ingenuity and industry in constructing a defensive system in great depth. The British forces were faced by this defended position on a narrow front, buttressed on one flank by the sea and on the other by the Qattara depression.

General Montgomery's New Technique

The standard form of attack in the Western Desert in such circumstances was to swing around the enemy's southern flank with armoured columns. But this was rejected by General Montgomery. He evolved a new technique and devised new tactical methods to repulse Rommel. This may be summed up as the use of infantry, artillery and aircraft in complete co-ordinated unity as a battering-ram preceding the launching of tank attacks.

For several weeks before the actual offensive was launched, the Allied air force in Egypt used its superiority over the enemy to carry out a tremendous day-and-night bombardment of his lines of communications, transport concentrations, ports, dumps and air fields. This has weakened the enemy's capacity, both for attack and defence, by reducing his mobility. There have also been heavy and effective air attacks on Axis shipping. British submarines have taken a heavy toll of Axis supply ships crossing the Mediterranean. The Eighth Army itself took a hand in this preliminary work with their land raids on Tobruk, Benghazi and Jalo.

When " zero hour " struck on the night of October 23, the co-operation between the three services instantly became a complete integration into a single fighting instrument. The complete identity of the air arm with military forces on the ground was the dominating feature of this great and momentous attack. The R.A.F. not only provided an aerial umbrella for the troops against the enemy dive-bombers by means of a continuous shuttle-service, but also continued an artillery barrage from the air. The entire enemy area from the battle-front right back to the main bases was brought within range of the devastating bombardment.

A Unique Feature

Some idea of the unique feature of this offensive can be gathered from the fact that not only the lines of communication for Mersa Matruh and Tobruk, but also those from Benghazi—600 miles away—and Genoa have been bombarded. The cumulative effect of these air raids on communications on the campaign as a whole has been found to be considerable. The advantage of Allied superiority in the air was thus fully exploited by complete co-ordination both in offence and defence. The pounding of Axis ports and supplies on roads and rail and the intensity of raids on Tobruk by Allied bombers have had such a terrible effect that a German war reporter in South Africa in a broadcast emphasised the " impressive numbers " of Allied air formations and said, " We are fighting against a numerically superior enemy and this had been going on for days now."

This air superiority is one of the main causes of Allied success in the Battle of Egypt. The enemy has been driven from anchorage in Egypt in a non-stop retreat to Libya. The Eighth Army has thus accomplished what the Afrika Korps failed to accomplish two months ago. What Rommel wanted to attempt on September 1st was to overwhelm the Eighth Army by the whole weight of his mechanised forces and reach the Nile Valley. A week's fighting made him withdraw after suffering heavy losses. Almost exactly two months later, General Alexander pierced the enemy's formidable defence and, after 12 days' fighting, forced him to abandon his positions along the desert front and retreat westwards.

Over 13,000 Axis prisoners have been taken in this battle including Ritter Von Thoma, Commander of the German Afrika Korps. Over 320 German and Italian tanks and about 270 Axis guns were captured. Three-hundred and sixty Axis aircraft were shot down and about an equal number were destroyed on the ground. It is important to note that the spearhead of the retreating forces consists mainly of Germans, Italians being left behind to fight rearguard actions.

The successful defence of Egypt by the Allies recalls the battles of the last war. The adoption of the principle of frontal assault, as at Verdun, Ypres, the Somme and Passchendaele is the most important feature of this battle, which has shown that a position can be " outflanked " from above as well as from the sides. It has also shown that infantry and artillery are still needed to puncture a static line so that the gap cannot be filled in time to prevent a real break-through.

The fact that tanks are more and more taking the place of the cavalry of old is yet another feature of this important battle.

Threat to Egypt Removed

The general position, as it stands today, may be briefly summed up. Rommel has been routed completely, and the Battle of El Alamein has ended in a glorious and decisive victory for the Allies. But the Battle of the Western Desert is not yet over. In spite of his enormous losses, Rommel's striking power still remains. Axis reinforcements are on their way to South Africa to stem the retreat. It must, in this connexion, be borne in mind that the Allied advance westwards means the lengthening of the Allied lines of communications. On the other hand, the Axis forces are having the advantage of shorter lines of communications. For the present, the immediate threat to Egypt has been removed and the Allied forces have scored a great victory, which demonstrates the high qualities of military leadership, organization and morale of the Eighth Army.

The conferment of high distinctions on General Alexander and General Montgomery, the heroes of the Battle of Egypt, by His Majesty the King-Emperor in recognition of their most valuable services for the cause of the United Nations, at a critical time, will be widely welcomed and greatly appreciated.

Caucasus—"Graveyard of the Invaders"

BY

M. KALININ

NAZIS are surging towards the Caucasus. They are pressing in two main directions, along the North Caucasian railway skirting the great mountain chain area of Mozdok and the Kong-Maikop-Novorossisk route along the Black Sea coast.

The German advance is steadily slowing down while the resistance of our troops is steadily growing stronger. The enemy's losses increase with every passing day. For every mile of his advance he pays a dearer price.

The conquest of the Caucasus is an old German dream. In 1918 when Germany was already facing a defeat, the chief of the Austrian General Staff, Artz, wrote to his superiors: "She (Germany) wants to ensure for herself for ever the safest road to Mesopotamia and Arabia via Baku and Persia. This possibility is especially attractive to Germans, now that they have occupied the Ukraine. The road to the east passes Kiev and Sebastopol whence it goes by sea route to Batum and Trebizond. In my opinion, the Germans intend to retain Crimea for this purpose as a colony or in some other form."

THE UKRAINE—CRIMEA—THE CAUCASUS—PERSIA—INDIA.

Then this former Chief of the Austrian General Staff launched into a long discourse to the effect that unfortunately Austria was too weak to prevent the German aggression to the east. Herr Artz called on the Austrian Government for "a sincere collaboration with Germany" in order with the latter's permission to wrest something from the spoils. It is characteristic that the Austrian military circles failed to see the disaster approaching—the total defeat, which overwhelmed both the Germans and themselves.

The same document contained the following statement: "These intentions (to occupy Ukraine) are confirmed by Lieut.-General Groener's open declaration that since Britain restricts Germany in the west, Germany's chief interest lies in the direction of India via the Ukraine and the Crimea." As far back as 1918, Germans set themselves the object of seizing the Ukraine, the Caucasus and the Turkish port of Trebizond, all Asia Minor and attacking India—intending this way to achieve world domination. To-day the Fascist press is recalling with relish the German invasion of the Caucasus in 1918. For instance, this is what a German newspaper the *Deutsche Ukrainer Zeitung* wrote on September 8 this year: "In April 1918 General Kress set out with his troops from Constantinople across the Black Sea for Batum and then sent Bavarian Alpine detachments from Tiflis to the Georgian Military highway where they kept watch against the Bolsheviks. When one thinks to-day that the German Alpine troops have appeared once more in those districts in order to carry out the behest of 1918, the logic of world history must be clearly realized. To-day Germany is materializing her victory which was postponed 25 years ago."

GERMAN RIGHTS.

Many German papers are full of similar articles. Magazines and special theses seriously attempt to prove Germany's right to possess the Caucasus. This propaganda has gone on year after year. Heads of the German Philistines have been stuffed with it for decades. Nazis have added nothing to the essentials of this propaganda. They have merely freed it from all restraints. The peoples of the Caucasus are in mortal danger. German planes are circling over regions where our poet, Lermontov, wrote with such inspired love. An implacable, ruthless and perfidious enemy is trying to break into their valleys and gorges and tops of mountain peaks.

One German General taught by bitter experience in the struggle against guerillas in other parts of the Soviet Union instructs his men not to plunder the Caucasian people too much, not to offend against their customs and be especially careful in their approach to women as the outraging of women in those parts may produce an outbreak of relentless popular vengeance.

But no order can put a stop to crimes of soldiers corrupted by Nazis. Only guns, machine-guns and rifles can stop them. The order itself is based on deceit. The German General merely urges his men to wait, to postpone their looting and humiliation of women until everything has been captured. Then they can reward themselves hundredfold.

Nazis seem to think that the world is peopled entirely by fools and Germans Fascists are the only clever ones who can cheat other peoples endlessly. For instance, the German Gestapo regularly resorts to the following primitive methods. Out of hundreds of prisoners, it selects a coward or a person with a criminal past, isolates him for a time, feeds him well and conceals conditions from him and then sends him across the front line with orders to praise life in the German rear and paint rosy pictures of the German regime.

In doing this, Nazis count on people's stupidity. But in counting on the stupidity of others, one may find that one has fooled himself.

The population of the Caucasus consists of many nationalities. Distrust and hostility between them had been cultivated for centuries in the interests of exploiters. The Socialist revoultion not only liberated the working people from the capitalist rule, it also removed the veil from their eyes.

They realised that they were not enemies of one another but on the contrary by their joint efforts they could build life worthy of mankind. The people of the Caucasus built such a life. The outward expression of this success was rapid economic and cultural development of all Caucasian republics.

CHANGED PEOPLES

Countless factories were built—roads, hospitals, schools and theatres. Cultural standards of the people were raised.

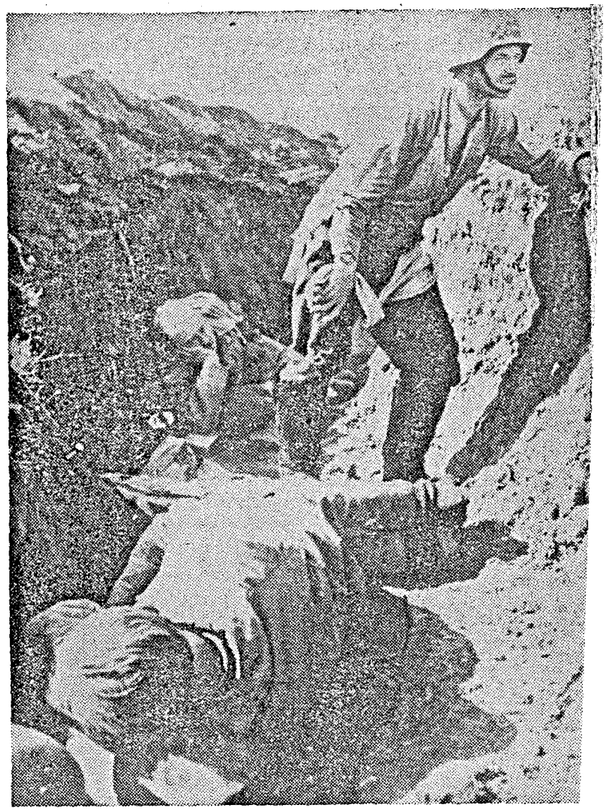
The school, club, theatre and the foot-ball field have brought the people closer together, mentally, while new mountain roads and improved transport have brought them closer territorially. The peoples of the Caucasus have started living in close communion with each other. They have become more friendly and most significant of all, they are not hindering but helping one another.

The Caucasus, that medley of nationalities, has developed a bright colourful culture and national life. Each people shines with its own individual lustre but these individual characteristics do not prevent the Caucasian people from living in one single family on the Soviet soil. On the contrary, each nationality has grown wings for long-range flights. The whole of the Caucasus has become one mountain village for its peoples. The whole of the Soviet land from border to border has become their beloved home. National enmity has given way to mutual understanding, and estrangement to

Borne the Burden and Heat.

"I recognize the force of all that Premier Stalin said in his last speech about the enormous weight that has been thrown on Russia. My heart bled for Russia. I have felt what everyone almost in this House must have felt—that intense desire that we should be suffering with her. Everything that M. Stalin said about the disproportionate burden thrown upon them is perfectly true. It is evident, however, that Russia is at least three times as strong a living organism as she was in the last war. The Russians have borne the burden and heat of the day."

—MR. CHURCHILL, *in the House of Commons, on Wednesday (Nov. 10).*



THEY FOUGHT TO A STAND-STILL.—German soldiers collapsed from exhaustion during a recent action in Russia. The attack was brought to a stand-still.

co-operation. The struggle for narrow personal interests has given way to emulation in collective farm fields, in factory workshops, in spheres of science, literature and art.

The Red Army is checking the enemy's advance. The mass of the people have organised themselves and are battering at the rear of the Nazi Army annihilating its man power. The guerillas of the northern Caucasus are derailing enemy trains, blowing up bridges and destroying ammunition and field depots. In village Nizhynagbash, German soldiers killed a youth, Dodaaliev. His father, brother and grandfather lay in wait for four days under a bridge on a high road. A German staff car appeared. They held it up and stabbed three German officers and two drivers to death with their knives. Then they fled to the mountains to carry on the struggle.

One guerilla detachment operating in the foot hills of the North Caucasus has already killed over 500 German soldiers and officers. Thus flames of the people's war are spreading over the occupied districts of the northern Caucasus. The Trans-Caucasian republics have also risen in defence of the northern Caucasus. Georgian, Azerbaidjanian and Armenian units are fighting with the Red Army against the Germans. Trans-Caucasian workers, collective farmers and intellectuals are toiling indefatigably to increase their aid to the front. The Germans wish to enslave the Caucasian peoples and lay a road to India across the mountains. We have every opportunity to inflict on them a mortal blow. Let us turn the Caucasus into a graveyard of the invaders.—*Soviet War News.*

Training Workers in U.S.S.R.

◆

TRAINING women workers for the Soviet industry is steadily extending in scope.

Every month thousands of housewives, office employees and girls straight from school graduate as fitters, turners, milling machine operators, welders and experts in a multitude of other trades. Nowadays skilled workers are turned out in between two and three months instead of 18 months.

A few days ago Ailik Nurmagambetova, chairwoman of the women's council of a Kalinin mine appealed to miners' wives to help their menfolk with underground work. Next morning many of them went down the mine.

Ailik Nurmagambetova taught them their new jobs—to load coal on conveyors, to unload it and to run the underground tramway.

During the past two years about one million skilled workers have been trained for the Soviet industry. Within the next few months more than 500,000 youths now being trained in railway and vocational training schools will start work in defence industry and transport or on the constructions of new factories. Factories and railway managements state that these young workers display a high standard of efficiency and have already, while still training, reached a high output. Thousands of young workers are exceeding their assignments twofold, three-fold, five-fold and even ten-fold.

According to a statement by the Central Administration of Labour Reserves which is in charge of the training scheme, even more young people will be trained during the coming season so as to release the maximum number of adults for army service.—*Soviet War News.*

DO YOU SPEAK JAPANESE?

Many do.

They repeat wild rumours

Causing unrest and grave distress,

Stock market panics and reckless loss.

They come from Japan, these rumours.

Do not heed them.

Do not pass them on.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

Navy's Part in Egyptian Battle

◆

THE battle which has just opened in the western desert is chiefly a land battle although it is already clear that both naval and air forces are playing a not inconsiderable part in it, writes Commander Kenneth Edwards, the *Daily Telegraph* naval correspondent.

Its implications and possible results are, however, predominantly naval. After the defection of France which cost the Allies the coast of French North Africa with its naval and sea bases at Oran, Bizerta and elsewhere came the loss of Greece and Crete and finally Rommel's offensive two-thirds of the way from the Libyan frontier to the Nile Delta These enemy successes placed in jeopardy our sea communications in both the western and eastern Mediterranean.

Malta became the outpost whose supply entailed major naval operations of great danger. The passage of Malta convoys during the past months has demonstrated that two dangerous routes are available, that from the east has been more vulnerable than that from the west. From Port Said to Malta is just under 1,000 miles. The enemy is in possession of Crete and "the bulge" of Cyrenaica which leaves a channel little more than 100 miles wide. However, for a large part of the voyage from Port Said to Malta, therefore, any ship must be within easy range of the enemy shore bases. It is no exaggeration to say that every mile which the Eighth Army advances along the southern shores of the Mediterranean reduces risks and problems with which Admiral Sir Henry Harwood as Commander-in-Chief of the British Fleet in the Mediterranean is faced.

THE EFFECT ON CRETE

It is, moreover, virtually certain that a clean up of the situation in Egypt, Libya and, if possible, Tripolitania, would have profound effect on the enemy's hold on Crete and the Dodecanese and even on the mainland in south-eastern Europe. This again would react most favourably on the naval situation and the problem of our sea communications.

With the fundamental naval implications of the offensive in Egypt, it is gratifying to know that both the navy and the air forces have played and are playing a great part. There has been a complete co-operation between the services even when they are operated from as far apart as Alexandria and the United Kingdom.

The bombing of Genoa from the United Kingdom had a great naval and military objective. It was undoubtedly designed to disorganize supply and reinforcement of the Axis armies in Libya at the point of embarkation. At the same time, our aircraft, both the fleet air arm and the Royal Air Force, has been co-operating in the discovery and the destruction of enemy reinforcements and supplies at sea, while British and the United States aircraft have repeatedly attacked their ports of disembarkation.

TIRELESS WORK OF SUBMARINES

Meanwhile our submarines by their tireless work and determination in the face of the most dangerous and difficult conditions have levied a heavy toll on the enemy's reinforcements and supplies at sea. In the last few days they have sunk five supply ships, one of which carried vital cargo of petrol and another a cargo of military motor transport, and damaged five others and probably sunk a destroyer and an armed merchant cruiser which were escorting the Axis supply convoy. During the first 3½ weeks of this month these craft have sunk or damaged 24 Axis transports and supply ships. The Admiralty with proper reluctance to make a claim unless it is fully substantiated pointed out that only

The End of the Beginning.

"In the last war, we were uphill almost to the end. We met with disasters far more bloody than anything we have experienced in this. I never promised anything but blood, tears, toil and sweat. Now, however, we have a new experience — a remarkable and definite victory. . . This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is perhaps the end of the beginning."

—MR. CHURCHILL, *at the Lord Mayor's annual banquet at Mansion House, on Tuesday (Nov. 10).*

14 of these ships were actually seen to sink. It is probable that the other ten ships did not sink but in any event none of them could have continued with their task of ferrying supplies to Rommel's armies.

In the face of these losses superimposed on those inflicted on the enemy at sea and harbour by attacks of air forces of the United Nations it is probable that the enemy shipping problem in the Mediterranean is becoming acute.

The Royal Navy is also giving great assistance to the advancing Eighth Army. The enemy's advanced harbours on the Egyptian coast have been bombarded from the sea while light coastal forces have been harrying his lines of communication along the coast roads and railways. These operations from small fast motor-craft have a dual object. These vessels are only lightly armed and cannot, therefore, be expected to engage fixed shore defences. Their harrying tactics, however, can cause casualties and confusion among the enemy's main lines of communication which run close along the coast. Moreover, after the experience of the combined raid on Tobruk, the enemy must always be ready in case the operations of craft are a prelude to landing. Fast coastal craft operating at night close to the enemy's coast must try his nerves and immobilize many of his forces which he badly needs to employ elsewhere.

Japan and Germany: Opportunist Friends

◆

THE Japanese don't want Germany to win the war. They want the war to end with an exhausted Reich—one that won't be able to challenge Japan. Next to defeating the United States and Great Britain, the Japanese want, and want very badly—the downfall of Germany."

So writes Ray Cromley in the *Wall Street Journal*, of which he was formerly Tokyo correspondent.

"The Japanese don't like the Germans," Cromley continues. "There have been suggestions in two of Japan's leading newspapers, which, like all Japanese publications, are heavily censored, that in the event of a German victory in Europe there will come as a grand finale a German-Japanese war. . . .

COMMERCIAL RIVALS

"Japanese business circles have complained bitterly about German commercial activities in the Far East. My own pre-Pearl Harbour studies of Japanese industrial and German foreign trade trends convinced me that Japan and Germany were destined to be the most bitter commrecial rivals. They would want to export the same sort of goods and import the same type. This was true some time before the European war. As Germany withdrew from China and South Africa, Japanese trade opportunities grew by leaps and bounds. But that rivalry was nothing in comparison with the new sort of rivalry foretold by Japan's attempts to build up her chemical and cheap machinery industries . . .

BOTH WANT RAW MATERIAL

"The Japanese feel that they and the Germans are potential heavy rivals for the raw materials of south-eastern Asia. German occupation of large parts of Europe and sizable portions of the Soviet does not lessen but rather increases the Germans' need for south-eastern Asia. The Japanese know that. One of Japan's most pro-German diplomats, a leading figure in Japan's signing of the Axis pact and a professional anti-American, told me that he favoured the pact because it made clear that the Japanese, not the Germans, were to control the Dutch East Indies. 'Otherwise,' he said, 'we might have to fight the Germans for the Indies' . . .

"The Japanese believe that the Germans are trying to get political control of Japan. While I was in prison in Tokyo a group of Germans whom the Japanese had rounded up by police was brought to the same prison. . . . Germans are under constant suspicion in Tokyo. They are restricted in their movements and constantly followed. Americans returning on the *S.S. Gripsholm* from internment and jail in Shanghai reported friction between the Japanese and their Axis partners in China and Japanese mistrust and ill-treatment of their supposed allies.

USEFUL PRESENT

One of Japan's leading geopoliticians wrote before Pearl Harbour that Germany was useful to Japan 'at the present time' . . . Japan could use German patents, German experts, industrial advice, technicians and equipment . . .

"Though Japanese leaders remember Hitler's derogatory remarks about the Japanese in *Mein Kampf* they work with the Germans . . . but keep their own counsel. On one occasion in Japan I overheard a German economic expert talking indiscreetly. He said that Germans were not being allowed in arms plants. They were being forced to give advice without seeing factories, to outline chemical operations without seeing apparatus. The Japanese were taking no chances."

France at the Cross-Roads

◆

BY

VERNON BARTLETT

THE extent to which, in the last few days or so, Nazi-controlled newspapers in Paris have been talking about enemy action by the United Nations is interesting. Some of these papers talk about the north coast of France; most of them talk about Dakar and Casablanca, and the western entrance to the Mediterranean.

I noticed the other day that Radio Paris is claiming that American contingents have arrived recently in Sierra Leone, Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Liberia, French Equatorial Africa and the Belgian Congo.

Rumours follow strange meanderings in wartime. The best example I have seen recently was a Danish Radio report on October 7, that the Lisbon correspondent of the official Japanese News Agency had quoted an Australian Radio message to the effect that Admiral Darlan had ordered the French Fleet in Toulon to proceed to Dakar.

THE PRINCIPAL REASON

This agitation in the Paris papers is significant. The effort to concentrate French people against the British has never been more obvious or more important; important, because of the failure of Laval's attempt to find an adequate number of so-called volunteers to be transported to Germany. These rumours are useful as pegs upon which to hang arguments in favour of handing over French ships to the Germans, and of making the French forget about the German efforts to get all this slave labour for Germany.

But the principal reason why the French ships had not been handed over long ago, was mainly that the protest inside France would be so strong that Laval dare not face it and Hitler dare not urge him to do so. That reason will remain.

THE CHOICE

I am afraid all this is a rather involved and long-winded way of saying that just as we see it here in Britain the situation in France is fast approaching a first-class crisis, in which she must choose between a surrender to German demands so abject that she will lose all hope, at any rate, for generations, of regaining her status as a great power—she will have to choose between that, and a hard and bitter attempt to take up the struggle again against the invader.

In our view, if she once allows the Germans to control her last assets, that is to say her African colonies and her ships, then she will become just as enslaved as the smaller occupied states of Europe; and having lost those assets, she will be made to feel the effects of all that anti-French hatred that Hitler shows in *Mein Kampf* and elsewhere . . . *In a recent B.B.C. talk.*

Bevin Boys

◆

APPRECIATIVE references by Birmingham landladies to Bevin Boys whom they have boarded are contained in the following report published by the *Birmingham Evening Despatch*.

Excellent impressions are being left by the Indian trainees who come to Birmingham to study English methods of engineering under the Ministry of Labour scheme by which groups are brought over from their country and spend some months in England.

The welfare department of the Ministry of Labour and National Service in Birmingham receive appreciative notes from landladies. Three recent examples are:—

"I would like you to know how very much I enjoyed having Mr. K. here during the last two months. He is such a nice and intelligent young man and was so appreciative of everything done for him. A perfect gentleman in fact. Such a young man will, I feel sure, be a great asset to the future of India. We here are missing him terribly" . . . *West Heath, Birmingham.*

"With much regret I understand Mr. D. and Mr. N. are leaving here next week. . . I am sorry, as during their stay at my home we have all been one happy family". . . *King's Norton, Birmingham.*

"The Indian trainee, Mr. R. who for a short time stayed with me. . . is a boy of an excellent character and well-mannered. He is an unassuming and polite boy. It gave me immense pleasure to board him . . . I wish him every success and prosperity". . . *Northfield, Birmingham.*

Lean of the Land

A farmer to a soldier peeping out from a tank:

"How do you manage to exist in such a small space?"

"We live on condensed milk and short-bread!"

Growing Power of Day Bombing

NOW that the 24-hour air offensive against Germany is gathering weight a new tactical conception begins to appear, writes the *Sunday Times* aeronautical correspondent.

Any conclusions about the revolution in tactics which the higher bomber speed may work must be tentative, yet there do seem to be signs of temporary diminution in the supremacy of the fighter. The see-saw appears to be tilting towards the side of the fast bomber. Eventually the fighter will recover its advantage but Germany may have been mortally smitten before then.

What is the best means of continuously penetrating defences in depth? Obviously we must use all the flexibility of the air power to confuse and harass the enemy—the low flying raid by Lancasters one day, the short range high flying attack by Fortresses the next, the high speed thrusts by Mosquitos followed by Mustangs shooting up locomotives—all projected against the solid background of the heavy night bombing. The holding of initiative makes possible the application of all this versatility to maximum advantage.

THE FORTRESS AND THE LIBERATOR

The Fortress and the Liberator are heavily armed and are capable of flying high. This means sacrifice in bomb-load but they have already shown how they can be at short range both in bombing and in shooting down enemy fighters. Though cloudy skies of the winter may prevent high flying attacks for weeks, on end they give opportunities "for cloud hopping" tactics. The Lancaster and its brethren combine great load-carrying capacity with high speed and fairly strong armament. They showed their quality against Le Creusot using speed and range to strike the enemy unawares evading interception.

The new Mosquitos employ still greater speeds. Naturally their bomb-load though useful does not compare with the Lancaster. But their harrying effect is very great. Finally, fighters have been most successful of late in deep penetration to shoot up enemy communications. The Mustang is particularly effective for this because of its fuel capacity of 141 gallons (compared with the normal 85 of the Spitfire) which enables it to fly long distances and use its speed to escape.

THE VALUE OF DAY BOMBING

The present comparatively small day bombing is most valuable in accumulating experience which can be applied at night also and will have to be if we are to keep down losses against the steadily improving night defences and method of detection. Some people appear to have been puzzled by a recent suggestion regarding the advantage of the bomber in rear fire.

The fact is at modern speeds the rear fire from the tail turret of a bomber is doubly effective against the fighter attacking from behind and firing forward. Undoubtedly this fact accounts for much of the success of Fortresses during the past few weeks. The all important thing is for a bomber to have large calibre guns of high muzzle velocity so that the weight and the range of fire are great. The best reply the fighter can make is new guns and a still higher muzzle velocity—but they would be available for the bomber also. Thus tactical inclinations are all towards high speed in the bomber with good rear armament and specially trained crack marksmen to take full advantage of long-range shooting which speed makes possible. If the bomber can keep the fighter at arms length in this manner some basic conceptions of air power may be upset—the fighter may no longer reign supreme.

Devil's Garden

SAPPERS with delicate hands, sensitive feet and uncanny instinct for hidden evil are saving hundreds of British lives by removing booby traps and mines, cables the *Daily Herald* Cairo correspondent.

One section of the Axis lines was so filled with lurking death that a notice board was placed beside it with a grim warning inscription in German and Italian "devil's garden."

Yet every one its booby traps was moved without accident. So much danger may hide beneath the most harmless object that all our soldiers are taking infinite care in picking up anything on the battlefield.

"In some places even a twig will explode a buried mine," I was told.

Fortunately, sappers seem to have a second sense for them. There is one incredible lance corporal who just kicks his way through minefields.

He is a grey-haired Australian, who walks along giving a kick here and a kick there, finds mines and digs them up.

A young officer of the Royal Engineers told me: "One night my men had to clear two minefields. They searched for them with bayonets under criss-cross machine gun fire of the British and the enemy.

"When they had cleared a lane, eight yards wide, tanks moved forward. Then they started on a second minefield where they had to dismantle an elaborate system of wires. When we had cleared a gap we charged and took many Italian prisoners."

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

8th Nov.—The Royal Air Force and American bombers bombed Brest Harbour.

9th Nov.—Hitler spoke in the Munich Beer Cellar on the anniversary of the Beer Cellar Putsch. He said: "I wanted Stalingrad because of its importance of a junction. If anybody asks why we did not take immediately the strong points held by the enemy, I reply because they are not worth a second Verdun."

10th Nov.—In his Munich Beer Cellar speech, Hitler admitted "In North Africa the enemy has moved forward and we have moved back."

11th Nov.—Speaking on United States invasion of French Africa, Mr. Churchill said at the Lord Mayor's annual banquet: "Mr. Roosevelt was the author of this mighty undertaking and I, his active and ardent lieutenant."

The Royal Air Force raided north-west Germany, including Hamburg. St. Nazaire and Le Havre were also attacked.

Mrs. Roosevelt arrived in Northern Ireland on a flying visit to troops and naval units.

12th Nov.—Speaking on the Battle of Egypt in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill said that the British had won a victory of the first order.

Opening the new session of Parliament, His Majesty the King said: "The declaration of the United Nations endorsing the principles of the Atlantic Charter provides the foundation on which international society can be rebuilt after the war."

13th Nov.—The west German radio stations Leipzig, Munich and Stuttgart went off the air. Le Havre was attacked.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

7th Nov.—Senator W. F. George, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, introduced a Bill to give President Roosevelt authority to set aside tariff and customs barriers to permit free flow of aid to the United Nations.

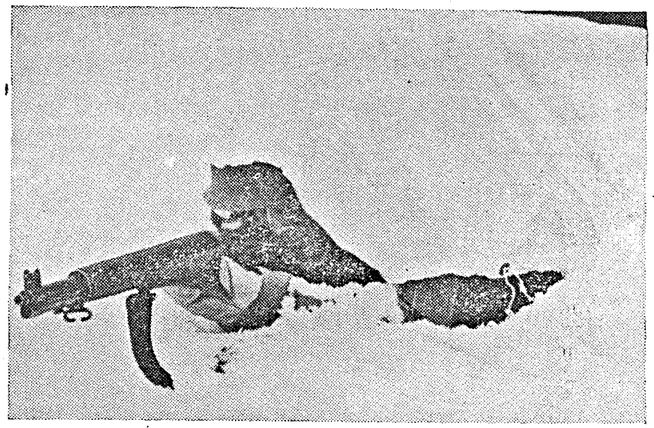
9th Nov.—The White House, Washington, announced that American forces landed in North Africa in order to "forestall an invasion" by Germany and Italy.

10th Nov.—Two Axis submarines were sunk in northern Atlantic.

11th Nov.—President Roosevelt expressed regret that M. Laval had severed diplomatic relations with the United States.

Judge Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary for War, promised a second front in Europe in 1943.

12th Nov.—President Roosevelt revealed at a press conference that Mr. Churchill and he had decided that a second front was impracticable before next year.



U.S. TROOPS IN ALASKA.—After digging a slit trench, a soldier on patrol slides into it and covers himself with camouflage cloth.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

7th Nov.—Sir Bertram Stevens, formerly Australian Member of the Eastern Group Supply Council in New Delhi, in the course of a speech at Sydney (Australia), said: "In the post-war New Order in Asia the westerners will have no special advantages simply because their skins are white . . . Europeans and Americans will regard the Chinese, Indians, Malays and Javanese as friends of equal status."

9th Nov.—United States bombers raided Rangoon and attacked docks and shipping.

10th Nov.—General Noyes, Army Commander, said at a press conference at Rawalpindi: "Troops of the north-western army are ready for instant action anywhere along the frontier."

11th Nov.—Bombers of the Allied air force heavily bombed docks and warehouses in a mid-day raid on Rangoon and Syriam.

13th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raided Akyab and two enemy ships were damaged.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

6th Nov.—Axis troops were in full retreat in Egypt. Four divisions of troops from the Russian front were rushed up to the aid of Rommel.

General Montgomery's order of the day stated: "The enemy is in our power and he is about to crack. I call on all the troops to keep up the pressure and not to relax for a single moment."

The Italians in one sector asked for an armistice to bury their dead.

Allied bombers scored hits on a heavily laden merchant vessel in the central Mediterranean.

Allied medium bombers pounded the retreating Axis forces for 9 hours.

Sir Stafford Cripps, the Lord Privy Seal, speaking in London, declared that new offensives would be opened up in other areas besides North Africa.

7th Nov.—British submarines sank six Axis ships in the Mediterranean.

Allied troops advanced beyond Daba, 50 miles west of El Alamein. Four thousand more prisoners were taken bringing the total of captured to 13,000. It was expected that Rommel would make a stand at the rear of Halfaya Pass.

The death of the German General von Stumme in the Battle of El Alamein on October 24 was confirmed.

Hostilities ceased in Madagascar on November 5. Armistice terms were signed.

8th Nov.—For the second night in succession, Royal Air Force were over Italy. Genoa was the objective where large fires were started.

The Eighth Army was West and South of Mersa Matruh.

American Army, Navy and Air Forces landed on French North Africa.

The Eighth Army pursued the enemy westwards. Axis troops fought a rear guard action on the coastal road. The enemy suffered heavy losses. The total number of prisoners was 20,000; 350 tanks, 400 guns and many thousands of vehicles were captured.

9th Nov.—Mersa Matruh fell into the hands of the Allies. Six Italian infantry divisions were trapped and captured. Rommel's position deteriorated as the Axis troops continued to run.

A big Allied convoy passed through the Mediterranean.

10th Nov.—Algiers fell into the hands of the American army. Hostilities were suspended.

Axis forces retreated into Libya. Enemy troops at Mersa Matruh surrendered. Halfaya Pass road was partially destroyed. Forty thousand prisoners were taken. Major Burckhardt, famous parachutist who took part in the landing at Crete, was taken prisoner. Two Italian Princes, Prince Marescotti Ruspoli and his brother Prince Constantino were killed within 48 hours of each other in Egypt.

A big naval engagement began off Casablanca between the French fleet and the Allied units. The 3,500 ton French cruiser *Jean Bart* was hit. A large number of landings were effected by the American army at Oran.

France broke off relations with the United States.

President Roosevelt notified the Bey of Tunis that American armed forces "hope for the great privilege of passage through Tunisia."

11th Nov.—United States troops entered Tunisia and advanced in the direction of Bizerta.

American troops captured Oran and American naval forces, overcame French resistance in Casablanca.

Admiral Darlan was a prisoner in the hands of the United States troops at Algiers.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S TRIBUTE TO RUSSIA.

The following message was sent by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Archibald Wavell, to the British Military Mission in Moscow:

Please convey to the Supreme Commander of the Russian Armed Forces our congratulations on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the U.S.S.R., and the unbounded admiration of the Indian and British forces under my command for the undiminished courage and resistance of their Russian brothers in arms.

Allied forces engaged the enemy rear guard at Sidi Barrani and Sollum.

Five Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean by a British submarine.

It was reported that Hitler, Mussolini and Laval would shortly meet in Rome.

12th Nov.—American troops took Rabat and poured into Casablanca.

The Germans landed air force and air-borne troops in Tunisia. Italian troops entered Nice and Corsica.

The Eighth Army entered Libya as the Royal Air Force continued to attack the retreating enemy.

13th Nov.—All strategic points were taken over by Nazi troops in France. Switzerland was completely surrounded by Axis forces.

The Eighth Army entered Cyrenaica.

Enemy warships were hit in the Mediterranean.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

6th Nov.—The Nazis renewed offensive in Mozdok area. Groups of German Alpine troops were cut off near Tuapse. The brunt of the German attack was switched to the Caucasus.

7th Nov.—M. Stalin addressed "a solemn session" of the Moscow Soviet dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution.

A big German attack was repelled in the battle north of Voronezh. There was fierce fighting at Stalingrad and the Red Army captured height after height.

8th Nov.—A Nazi battalion was wiped out in the Stalingrad area.

9th Nov.—Nazi advance was halted on the Nalchik front. German troops were driven out of several buildings in Stalingrad.

In an order of the day, Stalin stated: "We can and must clear the Soviet soil of the Hitlerite vermin."

10th Nov.—More German attacks were repelled at Stalingrad.

12th Nov.—Winter set in Stalingrad. In the Baltic, Russian warships sank one enemy transport of 10,000 tons.

13th Nov.—More Nazi attacks were repelled in Stalingrad area.

Honour and Duty.

"We have not entered this war for profit or expansion, but only for honour and to do our duty in defending right."

— MR. CHURCHILL, *at the Mansion House banquet, on Nov. 10.*

THE "CEASE FIRE" ORDER

"Our engagements having been fulfilled and bloody battle became useless, order is given to all land, sea and air forces in North Africa to cease the fight against the power of America and their Allies and return to their barracks and bases and observe the strictest neutrality."

—ADMIRAL DARLAN,
in an order to French forces in North Africa.

THE MISSING DETAIL.

It was kit inspection, and the Orderly Officer approached Private Jones with the usual questions.

"Three shirts, Jones?"

"Yes, sir. One on, one in the wash, and one in the box."

"Two pairs of boots?"

"Yes, sir. One pair on and the other in the box."

"Two pairs of socks?"

"Yes, sir. One on and one in the box."

"Good. Now where is the box?"

"Don't know, sir, I've lost it."

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

7th Nov.—Fifteen Vichy merchant-ships bound for the Dardanelles from North Africa were handed over to the Axis for use in the Black Sea.

9th Nov.—The Vichy Radio stated that all sea traffic between France and North Africa had been suspended.

10th Nov.—The German-controlled Paris radio, mentioning the Armistice at Algiers, said that it was made out of consideration for the civilian population who could not be evacuated in time.

11th Nov.—Vichy radio announced that Marshal Petain had assumed Admiral Darlan's post of Commander-in-Chief of the French land, sea and air forces.

The Germans executed 13 more Czechs.

12th Nov.—German and Italian troops entered Vichy in spite of Petain's protest.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

6th Nov.—Allied troops advanced on Wairpoi, a key point on the road to Buna.

Col. Knox, Secretary to the Navy, warned that the Japanese were making ready for a new attack.

7th Nov.—Allied ground forces continued to advance beyond Kokoda towards the north New Guinea coast.

8th Nov.—United States troops advanced in Guadalcanar.

9th Nov.—The Allies gained control of Papua. The Japanese were pushed back in New Guinea.

10th Nov.—There was severe fighting in New Guinea. American troops poured into Papua. Japanese ships were sunk off Guadalcanar.

The Japanese retreated from Shasi.

11th Nov.—American troops further advanced in Guadalcanar. One Japanese destroyer was hit.

The Japanese launched an attack on the Chinese stronghold of Yishan.

12th Nov.—The battle for Oivi reached a decisive stage. The Japanese were encircled.

13th Nov.—The Japanese retreated with heavy losses in New Guinea. They also retreated north of Canton.

Two enemy cargo vessels were damaged at Kiska.

ARE YOU

SPREADING

INFECTION?

There is a dread disease in the land. It poisons man's mind and robs him of his courage. The disease is RUMOUR. It was started by the common enemy, Japan. Don't help to spread it by infecting your friends.

DON'T BELIEVE RUMOURS

BUILD NATIONAL WAR FRONT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1942 No. 11

Triumph of Democracies is near

Mr. NAHAS PASHA

I am sure the Day of Triumph for Democracies is near The Axis forces have been driven from Egypt and pursued into Libya. The danger to our country has been removed. The memory of the anxious hours through which Egypt and her allies have passed will strengthen their friendship, their alliance and their mutual confidence

Mr. NAHAS PASHA, Prime Minister of Egypt, in a speech at Cairo on Saturday (Nov. 14)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
The beginning of the final round	6–7
"Toughest General in the British Army"	8
Indian troops in Mersa Matruh	9
Tribute to the British Soldier	9
Britain: Ever the centre of action	9
To defend or abandon Italy: Choice before German High Command	10
R.A.F.'s four-engined bomber: No part of Germany safe from the Lancaster	11
Damage to German cities by R.A.F. Raids	12
A Russian in Berlin	14
The Balkans in ferment: Nazis harassed by guerillas	15
Our fighting men get more money now	17
World's largest volunteer army: 350,000 Indian troops fighting overseas	18
Indian Red Cross Help to Russia	18
Jap regime in Dutch East Indies	20
Peasants loot town	20
Diary of the war	21

Running Commentary

Vichy North Africa: The American Landing—Supply Routes Shortened

The Washington correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* cabling to his paper the reactions in America on the landing in Vichy North Africa, says, "'This is it!' was the reaction of most Americans to the thrilling news that, for the first time in this war, American troops have gone into action on a grand scale. Excitement and enthusiasm were intense. Coming on top of British successes in Egypt, this has changed the nation's views of the war almost overnight." The correspondent points out that, in spite of excitement over the fact that a major American expeditionary force was at last in action, most newspapers made it clear that this was a great Allied operation, in which the Americans, the British, and the Fighting French and others were playing their part.

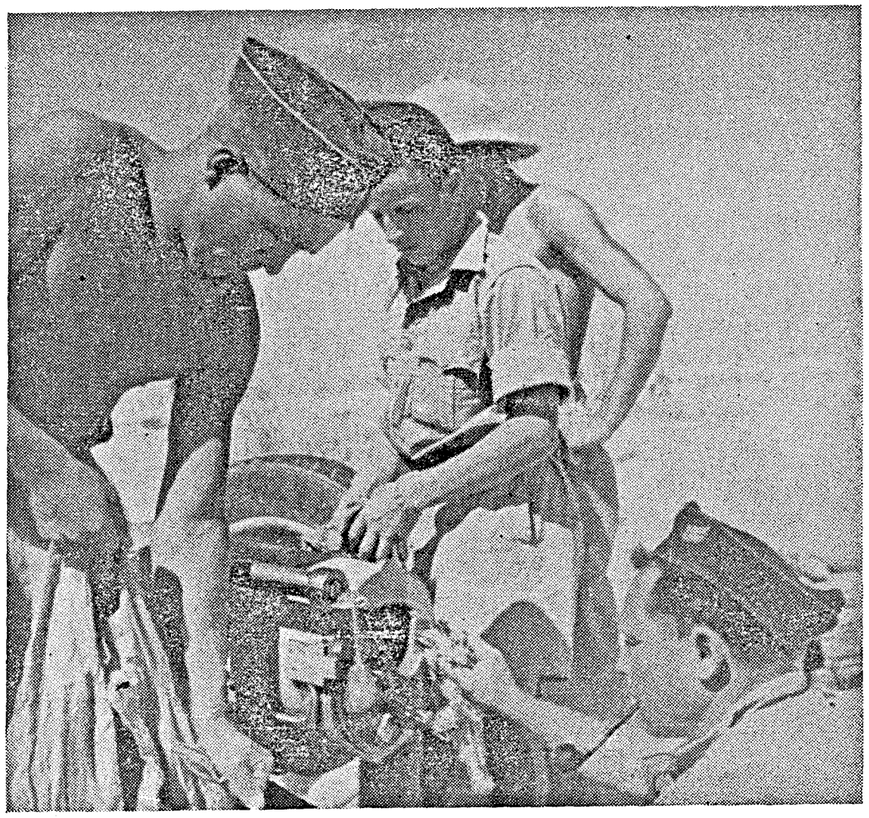
One of the features of the new offensive in French North Africa was the fact that American troops were assigned the task of making the initial landing and that Americans were in charge of the "combined operations." It is stated that American military commentators are giving full reins to speculation and foresee in this victory the complete clearance of Axis strength on the African shores of the Mediterranean. They feel that the African successes would, to some extent, relieve the pressure on the Soviet front and would also have its effect on Far Eastern operations by shortening the line of communications and relieving the strain on shipping.

The U.S. War Shipping Administrator, Vice-Admiral Emory S. Land, referring to this, has stated that the eventual opening of the Mediterranean would greatly shorten the supply routes of American and other United Nations' shipping. He says, "As soon as the Mediterranean can be used safely, long voyages around the tip of South Africa to Suez, the Persian Gulf and India will be eliminated to a great extent." He points out that the more direct Mediterranean route would save thousands of miles, oil, coal and considerable time for ships now in service. This is as good as adding many ships to the United Nations' shipping pool and will result in more cargoes being carried out in a shorter time to the Near East, Russia, and India by means of the Persian Gulf.

HIT THEM FOR SIX!

"When we began the Battle of Egypt on October 23, I said together we could hit the Germans and Italians for six right out of North Africa. We have made a very good start, and to-day, November 11, there are no German and Italian soldiers on Egyptian territory except prisoners. In three weeks, we have completely smashed the German and Italian Army and pushed the fleeing remnants out of Egypt, having advanced ourselves nearly 300 miles up to and beyond the frontier."

—General MONTGOMERY, in a personal message to the Eighth Army.



FIGHTING FRENCH IN THE WESTERN DESERT—Some of the gunners of the Fighting French are here seen with their guns. Speed and prompt action is the greatest necessity, so their main consideration is the upkeep and perfect maintenance of their guns.

* * * *

Remarkable Success of Combined Operations: Tribute to Admiral Cunningham

The importance of shipping and sea power has been well illustrated particularly in the operations in French North Africa. The task of carrying through at a sea distance of over thousand miles from the nearest base one of the greatest "combined operations" the world has ever seen, has been accomplished with remarkable success, because of the strength of Allied sea power. As *The Times* points out, up to the time of actual landings, the operation was a wholly sea affair, and even most of the widespread air reconnaissance, which had to cover hundreds of miles round selected landing places and indeed all over the Western Mediterranean, must have been carried out by ship-borne air forces, until the Moroccan and Algerian air fields became available to the R.A.F. and the American Army Air Forces. *The Times* pays a tribute to the clockwork precision with which the occupying troops in North Africa have been delivered in such quick succession to their several points of disembarkation and their immediate successes at every landing place in establishing their foothold ashore.

The main technical work of bringing troops safely to places required by General Eisenhower's plan was entrusted

to the Royal Navy headed by Admiral Cunningham who, says *The Times*, "is the first and foremost of fighting seamen and a born leader of men afloat."

The purpose of this great American landing was explained by President Roosevelt in a broadcast, to which we referred in our last issue. It was intended to liberate France and destroy German and Italian forces in North Africa. When the Axis threat is completely removed, the sovereignty of France over French territories will be completely restored. This action on the part of the Allies was necessitated by the growing subordination of the Vichy Government to the Axis threats and the development of relations of a more sinister character on the part of one or two important personages of the Vichy regime towards Germany, which, it was felt, would affect adversely Allied position in the Mediterranean theatre of war.

* * * *

Vichy and the Axis : The Armistice and After—German Infiltration Tactics

It is of interest to outline some of the general features of the relations between Vichy and the Axis. After the collapse of France in 1940 and the conclusion of the Armistice, it was hoped that the Vichy Government would at least resist Axis attempts at infiltration into the French Empire.

But Axis attitude very soon made it clear that this hope would be falsified. The Nazis began their usual methods and tactics of sapping the internal strength of the French Empire by undermining the morale of, and creating unrest among, the local population. The Armistice Commissions which descended upon North Africa in large numbers did this work only too well.

To what extent the German tactics succeeded will be evident from a statement made by Count De Brinon, Vichy's representative in Paris. On March 27, 1941, he said to an American press correspondent, "If we believe that England has already lost the war and if, as we should do, we consider the interests of our country, we should come to an agreement about collaboration in Africa." This statement stands in glaring contrast to the earlier French attitude of defiance to the Germans in North Africa. Vichy became powerless, as more and more of Axis agents penetrated into the Empire in an insidious manner. Vichy surrendered itself to the inevitable, and this was largely due to the fact that men like Darlan and Laval played a game of treachery to France and intrigued with the Nazis. After the Nazis installed themselves in North Africa by means of Armistice Commissions, they had Vichy completely under control. No protest against the growing infiltration could be made, lest worse should befall the Vichy regime.

The infiltration of the Axis first began in the economic sphere. The agricultural and raw produce of the French colonies were taken to Germany and the Occupied Europe. The Nazis no doubt paid a high price for the produce, but it must be remembered that the payment was in paper marks and French currency manufactured to order. Money was spent lavishly in North Africa by the Axis Armistice Commissions with a view to giving the impression of Axis solvency on the Continent. The extent of Nazi exploitation of the French Colonies came to light when, last December, General Jacquet, who was in charge of both military and civil supplies in Tunisia, resigned as a protest against the sending of food stocks from Tunisia across the frontier to the Axis troops in Libya.

* * * *

French North Africa : Laval Men Sell Their Country for Silver

In the industrial sphere also the Nazis tightened their strangle-hold. The French African industries such as mines, power, motor transport, and production of petroleum and phosphates were controlled by the *Quimum Nord African*, a Nazi concern, and run by the group of French Moroccan industrialists called *Laval Men in North Africa*. They played the Axis game, because they found a market for their goods. Thus did they sell away the national honour of France for a few pieces of silver !

The most important aspect of the Axis infiltration was, of course, the military one. It was carried out with characteristic Axis thoroughness and deceit. At Bizerta, Algiers, Oran, Kenitra and Casablanca, Axis Armistice Commissions were established with the sole object of acquiring a military hold in North Africa. The presence of German troops in French Morocco was revealed for the first time in the House of Commons on March 5, 1941. Since then German military infiltration had been going on continuously. German technical experts came and fortified the French naval bases in Africa such as Casablanca and Mers-el-Kebir, and made new aerodromes in Morocco. There were three or four hundred planes at Casablanca at the time of the Armistice, and they were all taken over by the Germans.

* * * *

Darlan's Revenge on Hitler and Laval

Darlan's regime at Vichy resulted in further increasing Axis military strength in North Africa. His reshuffle of civil and military posts was intended to entrust positions of power into the hands of men trusted by the Axis. But Darlan turned inimical to the Axis, when Laval became Hitler's trusted Quisling in France. He was evidently biding his time, and he had his revenge on Hitler and Laval when he co-operated with the Allies in the landing operations they carried out recently. His present position is now the subject-matter of controversy. Marshal Petain has disclaimed him, as also General de Gaulle. President Roosevelt's statement at the press conference on Tuesday, November 17, explains the position so far as the Allies are concerned. The President says that he has accepted General Eisenhower's political arrangement with Darlan made for the time being in Northern and Western Africa and that he thoroughly understands and approves the general feeling that, in view of the history of the past two years, no permanent arrangement should be made with Darlan. "But present temporary arrangements in North and West Africa," he adds "is only a temporary expedient justified solely by the stress of battle."

This temporary expedient has served to rescue French North Africa from the clutches of the Axis and remove their threat to the United Nations and to France herself.

Enemy Propaganda Nailed to the Counter !

One of the favourite topics of enemy propaganda is to suggest that Britian invariably makes Indian troops do the fighting for her while British soldiers in a battle remain behind the front line. Figures of British and Indian casualties in the Western Desert have disproved this suggestion in the past. During the period November 1941—July 1942, British official casualty figures were as follows :

United Kingdom troops	**50 per cent**
South African troops	**25 per cent**
Indian troops	**20 per cent**
Remainder	**5 per cent**

In the present battle the percentage of United Kingdom casualties is 9 per cent above the previous figures, and (in the absence of official figures) it seems safe to assume that the percentage of Indian casualties will be smaller than before.

As an ironic and disgraceful pendant to Axis propaganda comes the German abandonment of their Italian allies in the Desert !

Moving Forward

"We have got great armies, powerful weapons and a strong air force and navy, and we are moving forward and success is attending our arms."

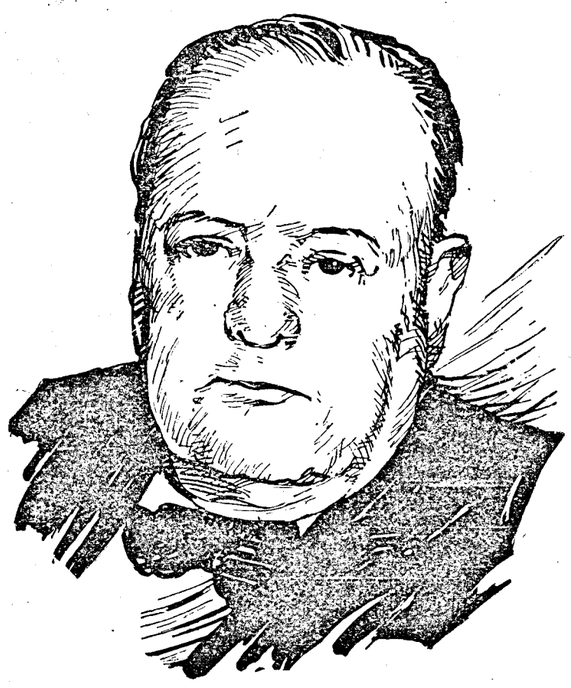
—MR. CHURCHILL, at Harrow School, on Wednesday (November 18).

The Beginning of the Final Round

Addressing the students of his old school at Harrow on Wednesday (November 18), Mr. Churchill said that Britain was making her way through the dark valley and gradually coming out, although there were many dangers and deceptions still besetting her. Nevertheless, he assured them that Britain was marching forward stronger every month, with more knowledge, confidence and power. "The day will surely come," he added, "when we shall reach that broader and brighter light which, when once it has shone, will never be quenched."

As usual, Mr. Churchill's speech shows great confidence in the ultimate victory of the United Nations. That this confidence is abundantly justified has been borne out by recent Allied successes in different theatres of war. We referred to the rout of Rommel in Egypt in our last issue. The greatness of this defeat is testified to by Rommel himself. In an interview in Berlin to the German Press six weeks ago (October 3), he said :

"The gateway of Egypt is in our grasp—Our intention is to act."



MR. CHURCHILL

The German General no doubt acted, but not in the way he intended. He evidently thought that his forces were strong enough to take the offensive, and certainly strong enough to defend themselves. And this was no doubt apparently correct, for Rommel's forces were numerically superior, being twelve divisions to ten. But Rommel was defeated in the Battle of Egypt. He was defeated by better armament, better men, better generalship, and by better planning. It was, in fact, better planning that made the victory possible by bringing all the necessary materials 12,000 miles by sea and made Rommel's retreat assume the non-stop character it did. The troops of the Eighth Army are still pursuing the enemy on a wide front, and at the time of writing, they are closing in on Benghazi.

General Alexander, the Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in the Middle East, referring to the campaign at a press conference in Cairo on Wednesday said :

> *"If any action deserves the description of* BLITZKRIEG, *it is the Eighth Army's feat in getting from El Alamein to Tobruk in a week, and in only half the time the enemy took to come in the other direction."*

The enemy has lost heavily in this engagement. There were about 500 Axis tanks in the battle area, of which only 15 escaped ! The total losses in men are computed at 75,000 men, as against the Allied losses of less than 14,000. Of these, 58 per cent are from Britain, and the remaining 42 are divided between the Dominions, India, the Fighting-French, Greeks, Czechoslovakians and other Allied nations. These figures show that the Battle of Egypt was very largely fought by the British supported by various other elements in the Eighth Army.

The reason why the enemy so miserably failed in this important encounter, which he ought to have expected, was, in the words of General Alexander, that he was "surprised by the actual time and place of its delivery, and also by the terrific weight of our artillery and air force and by the support and fighting of our infantry."

Another Battle of Libya ?

What is likely to be the next development ? General Alexander expects that the enemy will make a temporary stand at El Agheila, where he has strong prepared defensive positions, and keep up the rearguard action in an effort to hold the Allied armies back, as long as there is a possibility of his getting reinforcements by air and sea. The Commander-in-Chief says, "There may be further heavy fighting in North Africa." In other words, the decisive victory in the Battle of Egypt does not mean that another Battle of Libya will not be fought out.

The Anglo-American landings in North Africa which are dealt with in some detail under "Running Commentary", form another feature of the United Nations' grand strategy, which is fraught with immense possibilities. The taking of Rommel in the rear, the control of the Mediterranean, a direct threat to Italy, and the transformation of the situation in Vichy France and French North Africa—all these are factors the effective working out of which will depend on time. Referring to the North African operations in his speech in the House of Commons on Wednesday, Sir Stafford Cripps said that there could be no better demonstration of the manner in which unification has already been met than the combined Anglo-American operations.

Sir Stafford has also referred to the Allied counter-offensive in New Guinea, which is still progressing satisfactorily. Thanks to Australian vigour and American enterprise, the tide in New Guinea has turned. So also in the Solomons. Here the Americans are more than holding their own, but the Japanese are still strong and a long and hard struggle lies ahead of our Allies.

As regards Russia, Sir Stafford points out that the valour of the Russians has once again resulted in the failure of Hitler to gain his avowed objective. It was on October 3 that Hitler promised to take Stalingrad. And he is still offering excuses as to why he didn't keep his promise. He says that a few strong points do not warrant risking a second Verdun, but he himself admits that he wanted to take Stalingrad, not because of its name, but because of its importance. And so it *was* a second Verdun, and the flower of the German army was broken on it in vain.

Red Army's Winter Offensive

Now the Red Army seems to be preparing for a great winter offensive against the Nazis. According to the Vichy Radio, seven big Russian armies are now being massed along the front from Leningrad to Stalingrad, suggesting an imminent winter push. In a despatch from Moscow, *Reuter's* Special Correspondent says that the tide of the Nazi advance into Russia has reached its highest point and, in some places, has even begun to recede. He points out that, with the disappearance of shock forces of tanks and planes from Stalingrad and the onset of winter there is now no prospect that the Nazis will have any important new success against the city. Summer, it is stated, is Germany's time, and winter, Russia's. The fighting both at Nalchik and Tuapse seem to strengthen the force of this saying.

Thus, it may be said that the war situation as a whole has been transformed. Mr. Churchill told the Harrow boys two years ago that "the days were very dark", and that they could not see then by what means they could get out of their troubles, but they were determined to find their way out. He told them day before yesterday that Britain was gradually coming out of the dark valley.

The Allies, said Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, at an International Students' Rally in London on Monday (November 16), were "now at the beginning of the final round with the Axis Powers." He has said in the language of the ring what Mr. Churchill told the Harrow boys. It is a good beginning for the final round, and all the facts of the situation point to one ultimate conclusion—the elimination of the Nazi heavy-weight by a count of ten.

"Toughest General in the British Army"

BY

SIDNEY HORNIBLOW

THEY reckon he is the toughest General in the British Army—54-year-old Bernard Law Montgomery who recently took over command of the Eighth Army in Egypt.

He is a ruthless disciplinarian, but there is not a man under his command who does not respect and admire him.

When he was General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, South-Eastern Command of Britain, he had every single officer and clerk under 40 at his headquarters out at 7 o'clock every morning for physical jerks. And everybody from private to Brigadier had to run six miles each week over a stiff cross-country course. General Montgomery himself ran the course, so no one could complain on that score.

Ruthless himself, this new Eighth Army Commander, has no illusions about the utter ruthlessness of the enemy. That is why he has always planned the training of the men under him along the severest possible lines. Never have soldiers on manœuvres in the British Army been set such grim and brilliantly-planned endurance tests as those devised by Montgomery. Many a man has said that he would rather be on active service than training under the General.

A MAN AMONG MEN

Where Montgomery gets the pull is that he is a man among men. The less time he has to spend at his desk and the more he can get out among his troops, the better he likes it. He so organized his office work at South-Eastern Command headquarters that he got it all done between six and seven in the morning. All day he was out in the field; testing defences, talking to his troops and also to the Home Guard in the area. On a wet night he would be just as happy sleeping under a hedge as he would in his own bed.

He makes it a rule to be asleep by nine o'clock, or as soon after as possible, and he is up before most men in the morning.

A great believer in Youth, he never smokes and rarely drinks alcohol. He reckons a soldier is at his fighting best between 23 and 30. A company commander should not be more than 35, whilst a Brigadier is at his best at 40. And the finest soldier, so long as he has the brains as well, is the agile, tough, 100 per cent fit man, in Montgomery's view.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

The fact is, Montgomery expects a lot of his men—health, intelligence, courage, ingenuity and a rigid self-discipline. He is the son of a bishop, grandson of a Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. Keenly religious, severe but sympathetic, alert, alive, exacting, and always with a boundless enthusiasm and tireless energy. At 54 he is as fit and full of life as when he joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment as a Second-Lieutenant 34 years ago. That was when he left Sandhurst.

GREAT WAR RECORD

He was among the first men to land in France in August 1914, and was no sooner there than he was promoted to the rank of temporary captain. For three years he saw service on the Western Front. He was twice wounded, six times mentioned in despatches, and won the Distinguished Service Order and the French Croix de Guerre.

For several months towards the close of the war he was temporary Lieutenant-Colonel and General Staff Officer, First Grade. He was a Staff Officer on the Rhine, and in Ireland, England and India. He passed through the Staff College, and was later an instructor at both Camberley and Quetta.

In August 1937, Montgomery was given a brigade in the Southern Command, Britain, with the rank of Brigadier. In the spring of 1938 he was promoted Major-General and when this present war started he took the 3rd Division to France and led them throughout the campaign there. After the return from Dunkirk he commanded an Army Corps in Britain and later took over the South-Eastern Command.

Now he is in charge of the Eighth Army in the Desert. The short, tough man with the bronzed open-air look about him has the chance to put into practice the tactics he planned with such vigour and precision among his men at home in England.

Indian Troops in Mersa Matruh

◆

AN Indian Army Observer was the first pressman to enter Mersa Matruh after the enemy covering party, holding the old British tank ditch, dispersed before our armour attack.

A convoy of winter clothing abandoned by the enemy on the roadside was discovered by Indian troops. Having equipped themselves thoroughly, the troops tossed gifts of underpants and undershirts to each passing vehicle.

Sniping was still progressing but the welcoming party at the corner of the main thoroughfare comprised fourteen Gurkhas, two Punjabis and two ambulance men.

Captured in Tobruk and brought to Mersa to work in the docks, were also two South Africans. They in turn had taken five prisoners, including a German officer.

Tribute to the British Soldier

◆

A special correspondent of the Turkish newspaper, *Yenisabah* and the *La Turguie* who has just visited Egypt writes on British soldiers. He says: "Of the many remarkable things I have seen in Egypt perhaps the most impressive is the individual fighting character of the British soldier. The British are well known for their gift for improvisation and this peculiar racial characteristic is exploited throughout their military training.

"The 'tommy' of to-day is a highly intelligent man who retains his civilian initiative and has through application and hard work transformed military training.

"Just as his father in the last war showed himself generations ahead of soldiers who fought in the South African war, so the young soldier of to-day is far better than his father. British officers pay spontaneous tribute to the intelligence of the men they command.

"The British soldier of to-day is like a member of a theatrical repertory company, trained to play any part. For the corner stone of British military training is that every private should think for himself."

2

Britain: Ever the Centre of Action

◆

WE are going forward as the conference of the Prime Minister with miners brings home to us through a test of national energy which demands the utmost of the British people. From the thundering battle line in Egypt comes the news of far ranging air attack and the army's advance against desperate resistance while every other front—Russia's 2,000 miles, the air over Germany, the seaways round the world and the Far East—must have its share of our manufacturing power and our fighting men.

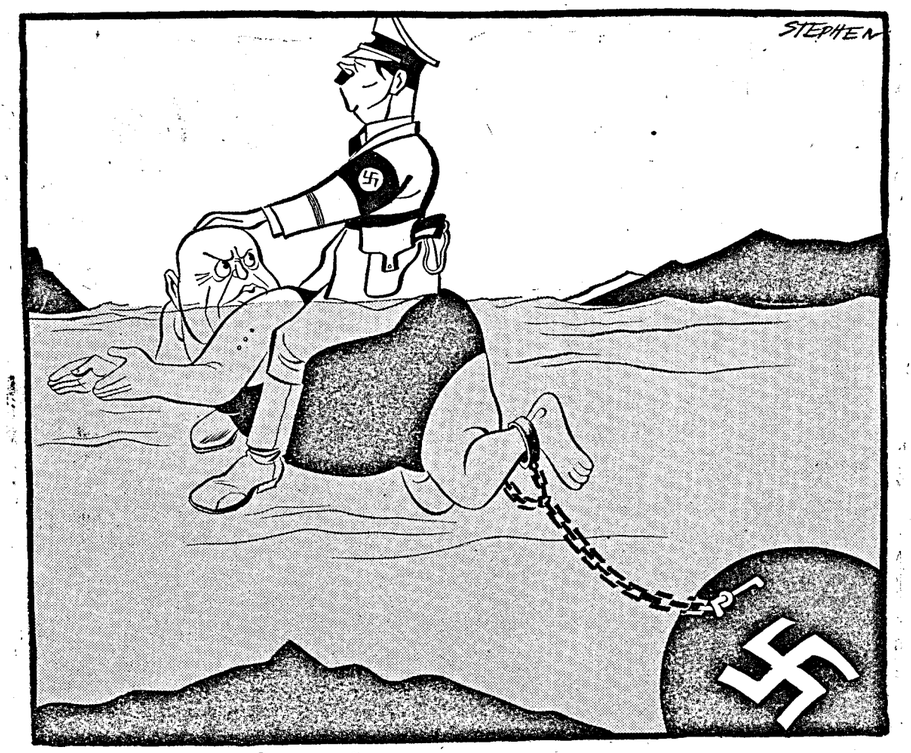
The report which Mr. Herbert Morrison was able to give in a recent speech recording our achievement, greater than most people knew, will generate still more strenuous and effectual endeavour.

There is no limit to the number of bombers or the number of ships which the commanders of the forces of the United Nations require; but the contribution now being made by British industry justifies pride. Not only in ship-building but every department of war production the output per head of our workers is greater than any other country in the world has yet attained.

The Air Minister spoke the other day wanting many more bombers. During September, British aircraft factories completed six tons of planes for every five in the month of August and have not yet worked up to the peak of planned capacity. The reason why the attack on Germany with 1,000 bombers is still as, Sir Archibald Sinclair put it, "an exceptional feat of organization" is that 80 per cent of our war production is sent overseas.

Every man for whom shipping can be found has also, Mr. Morrison tells us, gone to distant fronts. This island fortress of freedom which Hitler had to capture if he was to win the war, which for long held out alone against all the Axis could bring against it, is developing, while its own armed strength has become the central arsenal of a world alliance, a centre of worldwide distribution of arms, and still remains the centre of action against the triple enemy.

Allied capacity to develop air and sea strength into overwhelming co-operation is an assurance of victory. In this the nature of things has given our island the central part and we shall "know no dread nor ease" as we work on to the end.—*The Daily Telegraph.*



To Defend or Abandon Italy

Choice Before German High Command

DURING the next few days Hitler and the German High Command and Mussolini and the Italian High Command will be forced to make political and strategic decisions of life or death importance for their two countries, writes the diplomatic correspondent of the *News Chronicle*.

Hitler and the German High Command will have to decide whether to defend Italy or abandon Italy to her fate and retire to Brenner. For Mussolini and the Italian High Command the choice is even more invidious: the choice is between continuing to fight with an ally who may desert them at any moment of crisis, or of making peace with the Allies and thereby exposing Italy to the fury of Hitler's vengeance.

For Italy under Mussolini or any other Government the choice cannot be peace or war. There can be no peace for Italy now. She must fight on—either with Germany or against Germany.

Without German help, Italy would be quite unable to withstand the mass of military, naval and air force which it will be possible for the Allies to concentrate against her once they have established complete control over the coast lines of North Africa and sea and air supremacy in the Mediterranean.

On the other hand, should Mussolini or even a new non-Fascist Government of Italy attempt to seek an armistice or peace with the Allies, Hitler could wreak terrible vengeance on his defaulting vassal. Quite apart from Hitler's vengeful rage, it would be sheer military necessity for the German High Command, if Italy attempts to make peace, to destroy everything in Italy which could ever be of military value to the Allies. Before they abandon Italy or any other occupied country the Germans can be trusted to scorch its earth even more ruthlessly and effectively than the Russians scorched their own.

For Italy, peace with the Allies would only mean exchanging bombs of the Royal Air Force for the bombs of the Luftwaffe. In Italy, great industrial cities and centres of communication like Genoa, Turin and Milan would feel the full fury of the Luftwaffe operating from Bavarian air fields less than 300 miles away, across the Alps.

So far there have been no indications in the shape of German air and troop movements into or out of Italy to show whether or not Hitler has already reached a decision about defending or abandoning Italy. Observers in London are watching developments in Italy with intense interest for the first signs which may give a clue to Hitler's decision.

R.A.F.'s Four-Engined Bomber

No Part of Germany Safe from the Lancaster

BY

PETER MASEFIELD

FOUR outstanding features contribute to make the new Avro-Lancaster four-motor heavy bomber the most formidable machine of its type in the world to-day.

The first of these is speed. The Lancaster can achieve a maximum speed little short of 300 m.p.h. even with full load. As a result a long chase must result if Axis fighters have to climb up and attempt to catch the Lancaster with little warning. The fighter may even run out of fuel before it can intercept. This high speed of the Lancaster has made it specially suitable for the long daylight raids in which it has won so much fame.

HUGE BOMB LOAD

The second feature is the enormously heavy bomb load. A maximum load of 15,800 lb. of bombs can be carried in the huge bomb compartment, 33 feet long. There is stowage of the huge yellow 4,000 pounders packed in with an assortment of 500 pounders and incendiaries to make up the weight. Or, alternatively, half a dozen 2,000 pounders with more 500 lb. bombs can be accommodated.

This enormous maximum load can be carried for more than a thousand miles whereas with a load reduced to several tons the range goes up towards the 3,000 miles mark. No part of Germany is safe from the great striking power of the Lancaster.

The third feature is the powerful defensive armoury which it carries into battle. Four hydraulically operated gun turrets contain ten guns between them and all can be aimed with precision and turned at a touch of the hand even when a 300 miles an hour airstream is roaring past. The four guns in the tail are fed by long ammunition tracks extending along the sides of the rear fuselage so that in a long flight there is no danger of running short of ammunition.

CAN SMASH FIGHTER ATTACKS

There are no blind spots on the Lancaster, except those inevitable from the small area blanketed by the fins and rudders. But that area is too small to shield an attacking fighter.

On one raid more than a dozen Lancasters set off from a station. All returned a few hours later, and when the bag was counted up they were found to have shot down four German fighters between them without loss.

Several bore many bullet holes and had been hit by cannon shells. But the Lancaster will stand an enormous amount of punishment. All the vital parts are armoured—in fact in all something like half a ton of armour plate is carried, some of it built in as an integral part of the structure.

The Lancaster is almost invulnerable to machine-gun fire and cannon shells have to hit a lucky part to bring it down.

There is a fourth strong point—production. Very careful planning before production began has made the Lancaster the easiest heavy bomber to build which is yet flying. The man-hours—and the "woman-hours," for 40 per cent of the workers on Lancaster production are girls—have been cut down to an extraordinary extent and far below the smallest figure believed possible not very long ago. Just how far this saving in production time has been carried, the Axis would dearly love to know. So it cannot be told.

WIDELY SPREAD MANUFACTURE

In one way production of the Lancaster suffers in comparison with what can be done in the United States. And that is because of the need for dispersal. In America vast single plants can be set up to turn out aircraft from one central point. In Great Britain that cannot be done because of the danger of bombing. A vast assembly shop, for instance, would be an ideal target.

So Lancaster production is very widely spread so that at no point could heavy, accurate bombing seriously block production. Yet so well organized is the routine that the completely assembled components each with all its equipment installed, come together at the various major assembly points—and in an astonishingly short time fly away as complete machines.

The Royal Air Force is delighted with the Lancaster. It is described by experienced pilots as the best aeroplane they have ever

flown—it is delightfully light on the controls and even with two motors out of action on one side it still performs well.

HAS EVERYTHING

There is an instance in which a Lancaster, seriously hit by flak, struck the water and bounced three times before pulling clear and flying home across the North Sea with only two motors working, both on the same side.

By careful and inspired design, by fine workmanship and by that streak of luck which still enters aerodynamic science, Mr. Roy Chadwick, Avro's Chief Designer, has turned out a really exceptional machine—an aeroplane which will go down to history. The Lancaster has got everything and it packs a terrific punch. In company with the other great four-motor bombers of the United Nations it is starting to set about that task of "scourging Germany" which Air Marshal Sir Arthur Harris has promised to the Nazis.

Damage to German Cities by R.A.F. Raids

BY

V. POMERANTSEV

I have talked with many German soldiers and officers taken prisoner in recent battles. Some of these men had been transferred to the Russian front from occupied France. Others had arrived recently from the German rear. Still others had been on the Russian front for many months. These conversations shed some light on what is now taking place in the German rear and in the Nazi-occupied countries.

The first thing mentioned by one and all is the tremendous damage to German cities caused by British air raids. One of the prisoners I talked to happened to have with him a letter from his wife who had taken a trip to her relatives in Cologne after the bombings and described her impressions in the following words:

"I cannot tell you how awful it is. The ruins are terrific. All I can say is that the photographs you sent me of the Russian cities demolished by our aircraft are nothing to what I have seen here. There is no more Cologne, my dear, and that is all."

WIPED OFF THE MAP

"Not long ago I received a letter from my relatives in the village of Bieck, Rhine region," Hubert Wiltz, corporal of the 458th Infantry Regiment, 258th Infantry Division, told me. "They say that Cologne and Dusseldorf have been practically wiped off the map. Father is very worried about what will happen next."

Max Dietmann, corporal of a machine-gun battalion of the 258th division, said that he had been receiving letters regularly from his mother in Jazenetz, near Stettin, and from a girl he knew in another town. "Both," he said, "of late had mentioned the British bombings.

"Most of the letters the other men received from home spoke of the same thing. Some are afraid to write about such matters, so they send newspaper clippings, merely adding that actually the result of the bombings was far worse. I know from the letters the men in my unit have been getting that Cologne, Bremen, Flensburg, Kiel, Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg have been seriously damaged."

GREAT DEAL OF DESTRUCTION

I heard similar statements from many other prisoners. But what do they themselves think about the British bombings?

"There is a great deal of destruction and those directly involved suffer keenly, of course. But those who don't are not inclined to overestimate the importance of the bombings," said Private Gronauer, 342nd division, who arrived recently from Germany.

"They console themselves with the argument that these raids do not affect the army. Far more people would have to suffer from the bombings before they could affect the war and before the feelings of the people would be transmitted to the army."

FROM FRYING PAN

Soldiers of the 342nd division who had been in France and then in Serbia fighting the guerillas had some interesting statements to make.

"We were never able to cope with the Serbian guerillas and we never shall," they said. "We were glad to get out of Serbia, where we were surrounded by hatred and death. But coming to Russia was like falling out of the frying pan into the fire."—*Moscow News.*

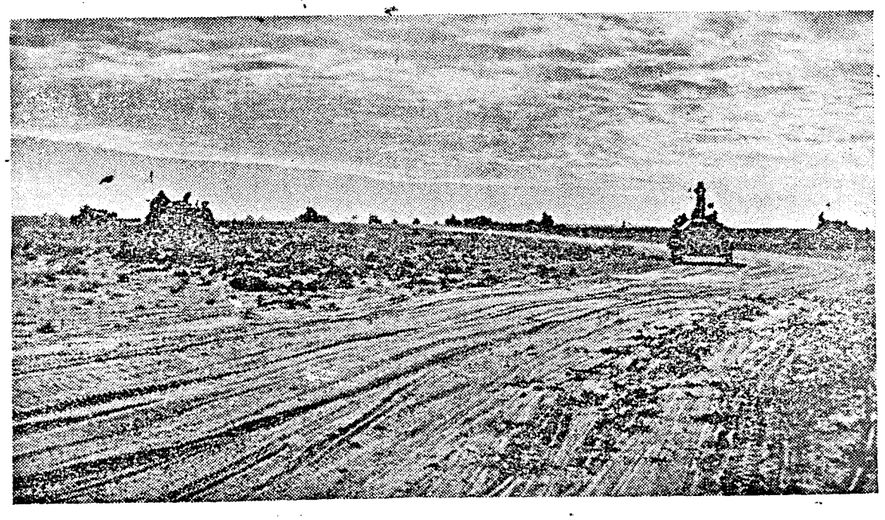
VERY GROGGY

"We have decisively won the first round and the enemy is very groggy, but the battle will not be ours until he is lying senseless."

—GENERAL ALEXANDER, at a Press Conference in Cairo, on Wednesday (November 18).

Latest Pictures of the Western Desert Campaign.

On the evening of October 23, hundreds of 25 pounder and other British guns opened up the greatest artillery barrage the Western Desert has ever seen. Tons of thousands o shells hurled across into enemy positions for hours on end. Photo shows: Troops waiting to go into action when the barrage is lifted.



This battle is different from the previous ones in the desert. Usually tanks lead the attack but this time the tanks waited until artillery and infantry had cleared gaps in the minefields. Here are some of them waiting in the early morning behind our forward positions.

A Russian in Berlin

◆

THE Soviet authorities have received a letter from a former Nazi-appointed superintendent of the Flaginsky rural district of the occupied Pitebsk region in Byelorussia, named Kozlov, who has now fled from the Germans and joined a guerilla detachment.

Kozlov is an ex-kulak (village profiteer) who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment by a Soviet court for setting fire to grain. Afterwards he worked on a collective farm. When the district was occupied by the Germans they appointed Kozlov, first as burgomaster, and then as superintendent of the rural district.

For propaganda purposes the German authorities organized excursions to Germany for so-called peasant "representatives," i.e., local traitors who sold themselves to the Germans. As a former kulak who had served a term of imprisonment, Kozlov seemed to the Germans a suitable person, and he was included in one of the excursions. Kozlov writes:

'ESCORTED' TOUR

"I went to Germany on a so-called excursion of representatives of the peasantry from the Mogiliev, Vitebsk and Smolensk regions. Twenty-seven of us, escorted by German policemen, were assembled in Minsk.

"On the way I examined my fellow-travellers—all were former kulaks, White Guards, horse-thieves, and similar wastrels. From Minsk to Berlin we were escorted by 30 SS guards who never left us for a moment. When the train stopped we were not allowed to leave the carriage. All the way to Germany we were not allowed to speak to strangers. The correspondent of the Vitebsk Fascist paper, who was in the pay of the Nazis, was spokesman for the entire delegation.

"In Berlin we were escorted by Gestapo agents in plain clothes. Each 'delegate' had one agent attached to him. We spent three weeks in Germany. During this period we visited a large factory turning out uniforms. We were forbidden to linger in the workshops or talk to the workers, and were led and driven forward like prisoners.

HAGGARD AND EXHAUSTED

"However, the scenes we saw with our own eyes was more convincing than any words. Most of the workers in this factory were women. They worked in filthy, damp, underground departments. Their clothing was very old and worn. They were all haggard and exhausted, with wrinkled faces.

"Most of the people could hardly stand and were exhausted and no longer able to work. We managed to learn that nearly all the women in this factory had been brought by force from the occupied countries.

"Among the women working in the factory were many who had been torn from their families, their villages and towns—Ukrainian, Russian and Byelorussian women.

"In the factory we saw SS men armed to the teeth. We did not visit a single worker's home. We visited a Berlin theatre in the company of the Gestapo agents. The audience consisted of SS men, Nazi officials and Gestapo agents. We saw no ordinary people from the factories and workshops.

"During our stay in Berlin a meeting was held of the Fascist gasworks which the Nazis call the Reichstag. Before the opening thousands of armed SS men appeared in the streets driving the people to a 'demonstration'.

WEARINESS REIGNS

"Weariness reigns in Berlin. Many people roam the streets very shabbily dressed. Clogs are very frequently to be seen. It is hardly possible to buy anything in any of the shops. They are empty. Minister Rosenberg tried to throw dust in our eyes by giving each of us a set of underwear—made by our own Byalostok weavers . . .

"In the Berlin suburbs we were shown the estates of Hitler, Goering and Ribbentrop. Working on these estates were people who had been brought there by force from the occupied Soviet districts as well as from the vassal countries. Those people lived worse than cattle. We saw hundreds of people and they were all like skeletons dried up through hunger and hard work.

"The life of the people forcibly torn away from their families and country is terrible. This has convinced me finally that such is the fate of all the people whom the Germans carry away from the captured districts.

"When we returned home the Nazis gathered the peasants together in Vitebsk, drew up the text of a speech which I was to make, and compelled me to address them. They wrote all kinds of lies about what I was supposed to have seen in Germany. Against my will I was compelled to tell out-and-out lies."—*Soviet War News.*

The Balkans in Ferment

Nazis Harassed by Guerillas

BY

LEONARD KIRSCHEN

IF one wants to know something about Hitler's new order in Europe there is nothing like having a good look round the Balkans in order to see what has been achieved there and find out how things are in general in this Nazi paradise. It looks as if the Germans really do not know what to do with the Balkans after one and a half year's virtual possession or control. One finds out about this German uncertainty from time to time just about when the Germans pull out of their dusty files the various alternatives they have mapped out for the reorganization of this part of the much tried European continent.

NAZI MACHINATIONS

There have been a variety of plans and drafts of plans: for a Confederation of south-eastern Europe—aped on the idea of a Balkan Federation which had been the idea of Alexander I of Yougoslavia and Kemal Ataturk—, or a greater Macedonia copied from the wild cat dreams of Vanciu Mihailoff the famous Macedonian terrorist, for a Danubian confederation after the model proposed to suit the old Habsburg monarchy, and many other plans and planlets. Now and then the Germans dust the files, chose a plan and relapse into silence after much sounding, whispering and suggesting.

Every time this happens it shows that the Nazis are having a particularly difficult time organizing and reorganizing the Balkans. This territory has proved a hard nut to crack for the Teutonic nut cracker, as it had proved for the Ottoman Empire to be one of the costliest provinces to subdue and administer. One cannot help drawing a parallel between the blowing-up of railway lines and trains carrying goods plundered from these countries with the attacks of the kind carried out by one time outlaws against the heavily laden coaches and carts of the Ottoman tax-collectors carrying the tribute and taxes to the Sublime Porte.

Yes, times have changed but not the methods and means of eighty million people living in some of the most fertile or most barren regions of Europe. They are simple folk, hard working and poor, who have not had time to meddle with politics and who have been betrayed by their politicians. But it is the simple people that react against oppressors, not the politicians who have swollen the ranks of the local Quislings. The men who resist German domination are peasants and workers under the guidance of regular army officers who lead them.

PLIGHT OF GREECE

But before saying something about this stout resistance it is necessary to say something about Greece. This brave country which has proved to be the military surprise of modern age, which has fought so gallantly against the Italians before being overpowered by sheer mechanical superiority is going through what will be called the blackest period of its history. The present war seems to have chosen Greece as an everlasting memorial to Nazi bestiality for all future generations of mankind. Disarmed and helpless, brutalized by an occupation army of ten Italian and four German divisions, Greece is writhing in the agonies of total hunger worse thousand times than the experience with total war.

The Nazi brutes are robbing Greece of her nickel, we can understand that. But after that fearful last winter the Greeks had experienced when they had eaten up the seeds of their next harvest, the Germans are now taking away the meagre harvest Greece and her islands had managed to produce. They are doing this encouraged by the fact that monthly 15,000 tons of wheat are sent in specially chartered relief ships from Canada through the International Red Cross organization. Reports have even come through that even the small quantities which are distributed individually by this organization from these insufficient cargoes are being requisitioned by the Germans who sneak round corners and listen for the footsteps of the relief worker to die away.

Relief workers who have recently returned from Greece say that the whole generation of children to the age of puberty will never live to reach the twentieth year. This generation is the crowning piece to the Nazi memorial of bestiality: children with twisted legs, distended stomachs, thousands of helpless little bodies dying with fever, dysentery, typhus and consumption. Such is the agony of these tens of thousands of Greek children that their mothers prefer to kill their babies rather than see them suffer the prolonged torture of slow famine. The position is worse on the Greek islands and in the towns, for on the land one could find herbs and milk stray goat.

Autumn would have brought a certain amount of relief. The starved population of Greece had expected the olive harvest and fruit and vegetable harvests with a certain impatience. Here again they were disappointed: the olives have been taken away from them and transported to Germany which is extremely short of oils and fat, the fruits and fresh vegetables are carried daily in special goods-planes to Rommel's Africa Corps. Greece has been turned into a sort of vitamine base for the Germans. It is really a miracle if the

desperate miners and workers and peasants of Greece revolt only to be mown down by the machine gun squads of the living black pest? Such is the Greek version of the Nazi new order, the modern version of ancient Greek tragedies.

SLAUGHTER OF SERBS

Further to the west: the same tale of rape, murder and plundering. Here gallant General Mihailovitch with a small army composed of regular and irregular troops has withstood the Nazi oppressor for twenty months. He fights in and occupies a territory half as big as Bosnia and his spirit and that of his men is undaunted. Recently the Germans sent a woman to a concentration camp. This is what she did. When her son was twenty years old she called him and told him: "The beasts have killed your father in this war and your father's father in the last. You have my blessing, go into the forests and avenge their death." He went and now he will have to look for the traitor who gave his mother away. For forty years Yougoslavia had forgotten the law of blood, now they have remembered it. They derail trains and kill Germans wherever they meet them, and for every German one hundred Serbs are massacred and for every Serb ten Germans. And so the fight goes on undiminished in intensity, dying down here, flaring up there. The story of the Chetniks is known to all but the story of the partisans is just being told.

Partisans are those who do not belong to General Mihailovitch's army. They are mainly recruited from the discontented Croats who do not want to see themselves identified after this war with the Ustachi's. The Nazis and the Croat fascist guard the Ustachi's have killed over 400,000 Serbs among them according to Yougoslav reports. This may be exaggerated but they have massacred tens of thousands between them.

The Croats have lately openly shown their disappointment in the Poglavnik—which is Croat equivalent for Fuehrer—over the Dalmatia which Pavelitch has given Italy. Dalmatia is the pearl of Croatia—that is what Croats used to call this province—and ever since his followers have grown fewer and fewer and sabotage has increased. Hitler gave Pavelitch a good shaking down when the latter visited him and as a result decrepit Marshal Kwaternik was sacked from the supreme command of the Croat army—or such as there is. Now we learn that the Chief of Staff General Axa has been replaced by General Papitch who will probably be as helpless against the rising wave of resistance as his predecesor had been.

The partisans resist and fight the Germans and kill them wherever they have an opportunity. They even possess a secret radio station which transmits bulletins three times a day in Serbian and Croat language: it is called the Free Yougoslav broadcasting station.

The Albanians are under the Italians who have found out that it is wiser to leave the sturdy mountain population of this rugged country who are mostly Moslems alone. They occupy Tirana and the harbour Durazzo and during the night it is not wise to travel on the road linking the two.

A WIDENING GULF

This is the story of the officially occupied Balkans. And now comes Rumania the potential ally. Whilst hundreds of thousands of Rumanians are leaving their bones in Russia, the leaders at home are intriguing against each other. Scores of small scale palace revolutions fizzle out like blobs of fat on an overheated stove. Their food is "traded" to Germany for goods which they will get after Hitler has managed to reorganize occupied Russia. Their sons are killed in the so-called crusade against the Red terror whilst under their very noses three and a half million Rumanians are ill-treated by their allies, the Magyars, on a territory which is Rumanian and which they are not allowed to fight for. Feelings between Rumanians and Hungarians are running high—I have mentioned this in one of my previous dispatches and before the armistice is signed, the Rumanians will certainly have a crack at the Hungarians and all the pent-up feelings will be let lose.

Making the News Live!

News as it actually happens on the war fronts will be brought to the microphone for the first time in an All-India Radio programme on Sunday, November 22.

Journalists and broadcasting experts have collaborated to make the news live. All the resources of a modern studio will combine to make the team's first "real news" radio show a most dramatic presentation.

Dramatised episodes of war from all over the world will be brought to the studio with sound effects. The East and Middle East will have special attention.

Some of the men whose exploits are described may themselves come to the microphone.

BULGARIANS' ILL-TREATMENT OF TURKS

In the middle of this turmoil reigns Boris of Bulgaria, the profiteer of this war. Bulgaria which is profoundly pro-Russian did not see the collaboration with Germany with good eyes. This co-operation, however, carried an attraction which turned the scales in favour of such a new political orientation. It is certain that the Bulgarians had long covoted an outlet to the Mediterranean but the prospect of building a rearguard to a German army occupying Turkey made them lick their lips. When Hitler adopted the alternative to bypass Turkey —oh! these alternatives—the bottom fell out of Bulgaria's pro-Axis policy. They are now showing their disappointment in their ill-treatment of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria. These Turks go for days without their meagre daily bread ration although they have ration-card and are refused all employment by Bulgarians. These and other points are mentioned by the Istanbul newspaper *Yeni Sabah*, which says that thousands are starving. The newspaper even alleges that hundreds who went to Bulgarian doctors to be treated were injected with so-called tonics and died afterwards.

Boris was successful in double-crossing the British Minister in Sofia, M. Randall, but he is not quite as successful in double-crossing Hitler. But among all the Balkan crooks, crowned or uncrowned, he is so far the luckiest because the Germans are so busy in Russia that they have no time to see to these minor eye-sores.

So in their idle moments, the German organizers, pull out their various plans in the hope that they will find a solution. Every time they give it up as hopeless. The day will come when the whole crumbling edifice of the New Order in Europe will collapse over the Balkan corner-stone. That day will be when the United Nations will have set firm foot on European soil. The day is not far off and when it comes it will be the signal for the whole Balkans to rise like one man and shake the remnants of the oppressor off their tired soil.

Our Fighting Men Get More Money Now

EVERY Indian Soldier, of whatever rank, is now much better off financially than he was two years ago.

So many increases of pay have been granted that sometimes soldiers and their families do not quite understand exactly how much they are entitled to draw.

Here is a simple table of the new rates of pay which will guide them:—

BASIC PAY

The basic pay of all Indian soldiers and enrolled non-combatants was increased by two rupees a month from September 1, 1942. This brings the basic pay of a soldier up to Rs. 18 a month and that of enrolled non-combatant up to Rs. 17.

PROFICIENCY PAY

This is granted at the discretion of the Commissioned Officer. The original rate of Rs. 2-8-0 a month could be granted after one year's service. Proficiency pay of one rupee a month can now be granted after six months service. This can be increased to Rs. 3-8-0 a month after one year's service.

GOOD SERVICE PAY

This is again at the discretion of the Commissioned Officer and is granted to Non-Commissioned Officers who satisfy him as to their zeal and efficiency. Non-Commissioned Officers with two, four and six years service could be granted Rs. 2, 4, and 6 a month respectively. These rates now apply in half the time—in other words after one, two or three years service as Non-Commissioned Officers.

XPATRIATION ALLOWANCE

This is granted to Indian troops serving overseas. This was increased by two rupees a month in December 1940 which brought the rates to the following which are still in force:

	Per month. RS.
Subadar Major	22
Subadar	22
Jemadar	14
Havildar	11
Naik	11
L/Naik	7
Sepoy	7

BATTA

This allowance is sanctioned when Indian troops are serving in a field service area. This also was increased by two rupees a month in December 1940 bringing the rates up to the following figures:

	Per month. RS.
Subadar Major	18
Subadar	18
Jemadar	11
Havildar	8
Naik	8
L/Naik	5
Sepoy	5

MESSING ALLOWANCE

This is granted for supplementing rations supplied in kind when the peace scale is in force. It was increased from ten annas to two rupees in December 1940. A further

increase of one rupee was sanctioned with effect from September 1, 1942 bringing the present rate up to three rupees a month.

DEFERRED PAY

A soldier earns this for every month of service but is not paid to him until he is discharged or is promoted V.C.O. It is a compulsory form of saving designed to ensure that the soldier has some capital to assist him to settle down in civil life when he leaves the army. This deferred pay was increased from one rupee to three rupees a month in April 1942 for soldiers. Non-combatants on this date were also granted deferred pay of one rupee a month. They did not previously receive any deferred pay.

POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION FUND

Two rupees a month for each serving soldier is to be paid annually into a fund designed for financing welfare schemes for the benefit of Indian soldiers and their families. This came into effect in April 1942.

World's Largest Volunteer Army

350,000 Indian Troops Fighting Overseas

◆

THE Indian Army has grown from 177,000 in 1938 to 1,500,000 to-day, which is the largest volunteer army in the world, declared Major Raj Kumar Shri Rajendrasinhji in a recent interview in New York. He said that if given the equipment the Indian Army could hold its own against any comparable force, especially the Japanese.

Major Rajendrasinhji, a member of the Second Bengal Lancers, was decorated for service in the earlier North African fighting.

He said that caste restrictions, which formerly limited Army enlistments, had been eliminated, resulting in a recruiting rate of 70,000 a month. A total of 350,000 Indians, he declared, were fighting overseas in defence of their country.

Major Rajendrasinhji said that India realized in 1939 that its frontiers would be extended to Aden, Suez, the Sudan and Malaya, and speedily dispatched troops to those points. He cited the veteran Fourth Indian Division, which is now participating in the attack on Rommel.

Indian war production is increasing, including guns, ammunition, boots and blankets, he said. He continued that India has an "excellent" plane assembly plant, where American planes are assembled.

Indian Red Cross Help to Russia

◆

THE despatch of surgical instruments worth over a lakh and a half of rupees to Russia; substantial allotments for the relief of homeless Polish evacuee children in India and for Chinese Red Cross work; the grant of a sum of Rs. 2,000 for Sind flood relief work; and a message of thanks for help offered to the American Red Cross were reported at the meeting of the Managing Body of the Indian Red Cross Society held in New Delhi this morning. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Gordon Jolly, Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, presided.

The surgical instruments sent to Russia were paid for out of funds totalling over Rs. 1,82,000 received by the Society from various sources for Red Cross aid to Russia.

On hearing of the recent floods in Washington the Society sent a message of sympathy to the American Red Cross and offered its help. The Chairman of the American Red Cross replied: "On behalf of flood victims American Red Cross deeply appreciates very thoughtful expression of sympathy and offer of assistance from Indian Red Cross. Floods have now subsided and situation is well in hand."

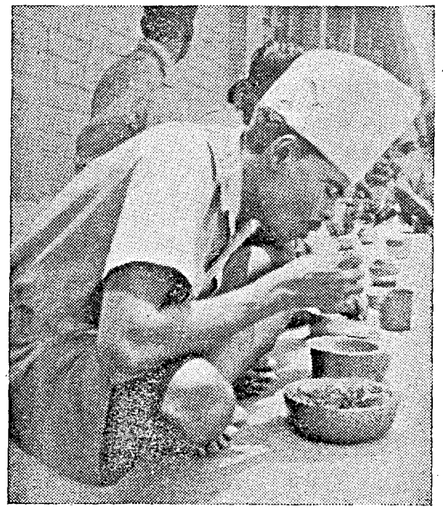
The Society has been able to help the various provinces to organize their blood transfusion services and has decided to apply to the International Red Cross Committee, Geneva, for a grant from the Empress Shoken Fund for the further development of this service.

WON THE SECOND ROUND

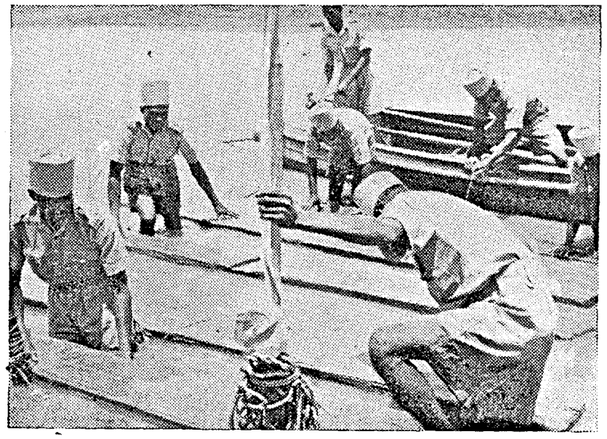
The United States had clearly won round two of the battles for the Solomons, but it must not be forgotten that there may be round three. In terms of the forces engaged and the destruction wrought, this was the greatest sur ace battle in this war, with the possible exception of Cape Matapan.

—COLONEL KNOX, *in an interview in Washington on Tuesday (November 17).*

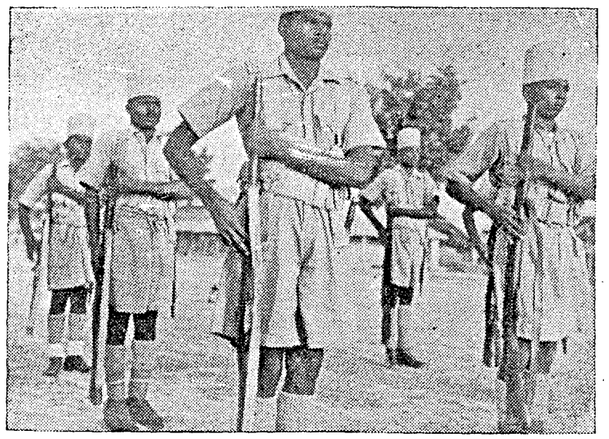
Madras Sappers and Miners



Good food—



—and good training



—make fine soldiers.

Jap Regime in Dutch East Indies

RADEN Loekman Djajadiningrat, former Director of Education in the Netherlands East Indies, and now a member of the Netherlands Economic Mission in Washington, said in an interview that "the Japanese are wooing my people with one hand, and whipping them with the other."

Mr. Djajadiningrat is an Indonesian Muslim who spent many years developing schools of law, agriculture, economics and engineering, and hopes to return to consolidate them into a single university.

The Japanese, said Mr. Djajadiningrat, knew that most of the Netherlands East Indies population was Muslim, and realized that Muslims were highly unsympathetic to their so-called "New Order." The Japs were making futile attempts to support the teachings and practices of Islam. For instance, although all Christian holidays had been abolished and Japanese feasts substituted, Muslim holidays were still scrupulously observed. The Japanese had even gone so far as to add one—the first day of the Muslim New Year, which was not considered a holyday by Muslims.

Japanese support was a propaganda show which fooled no real Muslims, asserted Mr. Djajadiningrat. They knew that the Japanese in reality have as little respect for Islam as for all other true religions.

The Japanese were ruthless in extracting supplies of all sorts from those they ruled, added Mr. Djajadiningrat. In the Netherlands East Indies, most selling was done by pedlars. The Japanese had stripped pedlar after pedlar with no reimbursement, and now none of these travelling salesmen were safe. On the other hand, the Japanese were ruthless in punishing even the slightest theft committed by local inhabitants, who were starving as a result of the occupation. Stealing meat was punished by cutting off a hand. Other minor crimes were punishable by death.

Mr. Djajadiningrat affirmed that Queen Wilhemina's recent statement concerning new policies being worked out in the Indies was very hopeful; "After the war, we will hope to build a system based on co-operation rather than on domination." His reaction to the Queen's statement was that she expected the people of the East Indies to work out a set up with the Dutch wherein they would have the majority of say. They did not want to cut off completely their relationship with people who had taught them much in the years they had been in the Indies, declared Mr. Djajadiningrat. They wanted co-operative independence, for they were all striving for common ends.

Peasants Loot Town

BURMAN peasants are turning into dacoits in large numbers as a result of the economic chaos under the Japanese occupation.

They are forced to this in order to provide themselves with the bare essentials of life.

Already these peasant-dacoits have attacked and looted the town of Tharawaddy, on the Rangoon-Prome Road. In many other districts Indian and Burman landowners, terrorised by these brigand bands, are seeking sanctuary in the mountains.

Their plight is made more pitiful by the fact that, under the influence of subtle Japanese propaganda, the peasantry has come to look upon the landowners as being responsible for Burma's present troubles.

One of the worst features of the situation is that the police force, to which the people would normally look for protection against such terrorism, is not only inadequate but also corrupt.

In a despatch to his newspaper after visiting India's Eastern Frontier, a famous United States War correspondent describes how Burmans who have escaped into India are now imploring the Allies to return as quickly as possible to Burma, re-occupy the country, and restore order.

Some of the stories told by these Burmans give a vivid picture of the anarchy prevalent in their country. They state that not only have the Japanese refused to provide the Indian landlords with protection from physical violence, but that in fact the Japanese are powerless to protect anyone.

The Japanese administration in Burma, they declare, is following exactly the same policy as that pursued in occupied China. That is, only the railroads, coastal, and other vital areas are policed, while the remainder of the countryside is mercilessly exploited with the connivance of "Quislings."

Yet another familiar method of exploitation and plunder practised by the Japanese in Burma has been the debasement of the currency. The rupee has been divided arbitrarily into one hundred cents. Silver annas have been recalled, and in their place millions of notes have been issued in denominations as low as one cent.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

15th Nov.—The Royal Air Force were over Holland and Britanny.

President Benes, addressing the Czechoslovak State Council in London, expressed the hope that the war was in its third and last period.

Church bells, stilled since Dunkirk, rang throughout Britain to commemorate the triumphant Battle of Egypt.

17th Nov.—An international air force to maintain world peace was forecast by Sir Stafford Cripps in a broadcast to America. He said: "After the war, we must devise a better method by which the freedom of nations can be preserved against brutal attack. The power of the air provides an opportunity which has never before existed for the control of world order."

The Royal Air Force attacked and damaged a number of locomotives in Northern France and Belgium. German bases at La Pallice and at Lorient were also attacked.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

15th Nov.—President Roosevelt announced that the Spanish Chief of State (General Franco) had thanked him for his assurances that United States forces in North Africa would not violate Spanish neutrality.

17th Nov.—Broadcasting on the seventh anniversary of the Commonwealth of Philippines, President Roosevelt disclosed that he and President Quezon of the Philippines had agreed to set up a joint Commission to work for the preservation of the stability and security of the Philippines.

18th Nov.—President Roosevelt called the Solomons naval action a major American victory.

Some of the first prisoners to be brought in, after the Egyptian Victory.

18th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked a number of objectives in the Low Countries.

General de Gaulle and the French National Committee announced their opposition to Vichy regime in North Africa.

19th Nov.—According to a Stockholm report, von List and other German Generals insisted on a reorganization of the German High Command and restoration of von Brauchitsch and von Leeb and other experts.

Col. Knox, Naval Secretary, said: "At the moment we have naval supremacy around Guadalcanar . . . We can lick them—I will not qualify that."

The Kaiser shipyards on the American West Coast claimed a new record when a naval craft was launched 2 days, 23 hours and 40 minutes after the laying of the keel.

President Roosevelt stated that no permanent political arrangement would be made with Admiral Darlan.

19th Nov.—Mrs. Roosevelt returned to America.

Two Rumanian orthodox priests and the editor of a group of Rumanian publications were arrested in Detroit for espionage.

President Roosevelt in a broadcast said that it would seem that the turning point of this war had at last been reached.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

15th Nov.—According to well-informed circles in Washington, the promised Allied offensive on other fronts, in addition to North Africa, may include a move into Burma.

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, in a message to Indians in the Far East (at present under the domination of the Japanese), said: "By what I have seen during these two months in Britain, I am convinced of the inevitability of the victory of the United Nations. Your trials will soon be over and you will be free to join the great federation of nations."

19th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked a group of Japanese-occupied buildings in Kalemyo in Burma.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

14th Nov.—Allies retook Tobruk. Sollum and Bardia were occupied. Axis ships tried to get away from Benghazi. Nine Italian Generals were captured.

Admiral Darlan broadcast a message to the Commanders of units of the French fleet at Toulon, asking them to "remove themselves from German grasp" and bring their ships to North African ports.

Twenty Axis planes were destroyed in the raid on Tunis by the Allies.

15th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked Genoa. The Allied troops reached Gazala. Petain censured Darlan. A naval engagement was fought off Algiers.

The French garrisons in Tunisia fought the Germans in Tunis and elsewhere.

President Roosevelt directed the Lease-Lend Administration to extend food, clothing and arms to the peoples of the North African territories occupied by American troops.

16th Nov.—Admiral Darlan appointed General Giraud Commander-in-Chief of North Africa.

German troops were sent to Italy to make preparations to meet an invasion.

Allied troops advanced up to Tmimi, about 75 miles beyond Tobruk. Enemy losses amounted to 75,000 men.

Allied air force raided Benghazi.

The Italian fleet in co-operation with Italian and German air forces, engaged British and American naval forces off North Africa. Thirteen U-boats were destroyed.

Hundreds of British and American paratroops captured the Bone aerodrome.

The Egyptian Prime Minister, Nahas Pasha, praising the Eighth Army's "striking triumph" in the Battle of Egypt, said in a speech at Cairo: "I am sure the day of triumph for Democracies is near."

17th Nov.—It was authoritatively stated that Rommel was in Munich, having discussions with Hitler, Himmler and others. Major-General Ramcke was in command of the retreating Afrika Korps in Libya.

IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

The Imperial War Graves Commission, established during the last war, was originally concerned with the commemoration of the names of members of His Majesty's Forces, who gave their lives for the Empire and of whom the greater number fell in foreign lands. For more than twenty years it has helped to keep their names a living memory. The Commission is responsible for the same sacred duty to the dead of the fighting services to-day; and now that War takes its toll of the non-combatant population as well, it has undertaken a new duty—that of collecting the names of all civilians who are victims of enemy attacks, so that the memory of their names also may be preserved for all time.

The help of every citizen in this Province is needed if civilian names are to be recorded side by side with those of the Fighting Services without exception or mistake. The Government earnestly desire that any one who is aware of the death of any British Indian or Indian national through enemy action outside the territories under the control of the Government of India, should get into touch with the revenue authorities of the district and supply information to be sent to the Imperial War Graves Commission, through the Government of India, Civil Defence Department.

The form showing the particulars on which information is required in respect of those who have lost their lives will be supplied on application to the Collector of the district.

The Royal Air Force raided Genoa again.

The natives of Corsica violently resisted Italian occupational forces. A state of siege was declared in Ajaccio.

British troops occupied Mertuba. Enemy forces were bombed beyond Benghazi. Axis forces continued to retreat in Cyrenaica.

German forces in Tunisia were ordered by Hitler to hold on at any cost.

General Giraud in a broadcast appeal to the French forces said: "We have but one enemy, one who has occupied our country and keeps one million of our comrades prisoner. We shall first have to drive him out of Africa, then out of France."

18th Nov.—Admiral Darlan in the name of Marshal Petain instituted a Legislative Council to assist him as High Commissioner for French North Africa.

Allied troops occupied Derna and Mekili.

Several hundreds of Indian troops were released from Axis imprisonment in the course of the Allied advance in Libya.

British bombers attacked Turin.

The Royal Air Force from Malta attacked Tunis aerodrome.

* * * *

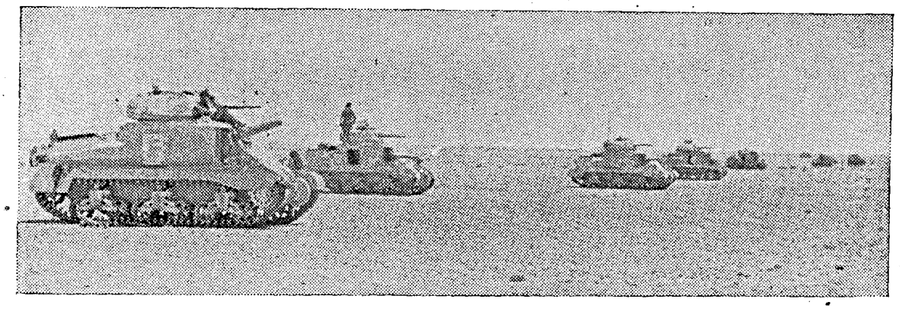
RUSSIA AND FINLAND

14th Nov.—The Germans resumed their offensive on Stalingrad on a large scale. A wedge was driven into Soviet positions. The Russians advanced near Novorossisk.

15th Nov.—German offensives on Stalingrad and the Caucasus failed. Winter warfare began in Karelia. Several Axis positions were captured in Nalchik.

16th Nov.—Nazis renewed their attacks on Stalingrad. The Soviet 'scorched earth' policy at Maikop oil fields was thorough.

17th Nov.—Russian troops, in a 21-day battle, killed about 15,000 Germans and Rumanians in the north-east Black Sea Port of Tuapse. Nazi attacks on Stalingrad failed. The enemy attacked with infantry, no tanks being available.



WESTERN DESERT ACTIVITIES: Tanks of an Armoured Brigade wait to go into action.

The Germans retreated in the first reconnaissance clash with American troops in Tunisia. The French garrisons at Bizerta fought against the Germans.

19th Nov.—American parachutists were warmly received by French soldiers at a Tunisian aerodrome. Rommel was reported to be in Tunisia.

Allied forces were within 70 miles of Benghazi. Only 15 out of 500 Axis tanks escaped destruction.

The Sultan of Morocco told General Patton, United States Commander-in-Chief in Morocco: "We are glad to receive the Americans as friends and express the best wishes for the prosperity of our countries from now on."

20th Nov.—British advance units contacted Rommel's army south of Benghazi. Ten German transport planes were destroyed by at all key points in the Stalingrad and the Royal Air Force.

18th Nov.—The Red Army retook villages near Nalchik. Points near Stalingrad were also recaptured.

M. Fagerholm, Finland's Minister for Social Affairs, in speech at Stockholm, said: "Finland is not fighting for any European 'New Order.' The Finnish people are democratic and no other regime suits us. We are compelled to fight as long as is necessary."

19th Nov.—Seven big Russian armies were massed along the front from Leningrad to Stalingrad to open a Russian winter push. The Nazis retreated near Nalchik.

20th Nov.—Soviet troops gained successes at all key points in the Stalingrad and Caucasus fronts.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15th Nov.—Air raid alerts were sounded in Geneva and Lausanne.

19th Nov.—A partial mobilization of the Spanish army, naval and air forces was ordered.

20th Nov.—General Franco refused to grant Germany naval and air bases.

* * * *

SHIPPING

17th Nov.—The British submarine **Talisman** was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

15th Nov.—A Vichy official communiqué stated: "We are able to declare that the political and administrative services will continue to fulfil their functions in complete independence and under the sole authority of the French Government."

16th Nov.—Strong forces of police surrounded Marshal Petain's official residence at Vichy.

A large number of French troops arrived to occupy the Toulon fortified region.

17th Nov.—According to well-informed circles, General Weygand was arrested by Vichy on the orders of the Germans.

An extensive revolt broke out in the Axis-occupied Western Croatia district of Yugoslavia. Between 10,000 and 15,000 guerillas captured two towns.

Marshal Petain issued a statement repudiating that Admiral Darlan represented himself or his views.

19th Nov.—Many arrests were made following a new outbreak of fire which caused serious damage to Rumanian oil fields.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, said in the Commons that Albania's future would not be influenced at the final peace settlement by any changes brought about through Italian aggression.

Six Greek airmen were executed by the German military authorities.

M. Laval was appointed presumptive successor to Marshal Petain. M. Laval was granted full powers.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

15th Nov.—American and Japanese units suffered losses in the naval action in the Solomons. A Dutch submarine torpedoed a Japanese supply ship of 5,000 tons.

16th Nov.—Allied forces captured the Kumusi river crossing, the Australian sappers having rebuilt the Wairpoi bridge. Allied troops advanced in New Guinea. A Japanese transport was sunk.

17th Nov.—Australian and American troops converged on Buna and joined forces. Two enemy vessels were hit in Rabaul harbour.

The Japanese were pushed back North of Canton.

Twenty-three Japanese warships were sunk and the Americans lost eight in the four-day naval battle off Solomons.

18th Nov.—About 24,000 Japanese died when eight transports headed for Guadalcanar were sunk.

Gen. MacArthur took direct command of the Allied campaign to drive the Japanese from their invasion base at Buna in New Guinea.

19th Nov.—Australian and American troops continued to advance on Buna in New Guinea.

The full total of Japanese losses in Guadalcanar was 23 ships sunk and 7 damaged.

20th Nov.—A Japanese naval force was off New Guinea.

Following Britain and United States, Belgium also decided to relinquish extra-territorial rights in China.

A Japanese attack on Kunming was imminent.

Morocco: American Friends

"We know the feeling which animates the United States of America; we are glad to receive the Americans as friends and express the best wishes for the prosperity of our countries from now on, united in reciprocal understanding and in sincere friendship."

—THE SULTAN OF MOROCCO,
to Major-General Patton, on Wednesday (November 18).

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1942 No. 12

Mr. HERBERT MORRISON

Britain's Offer to India

Britain has offered to the people of India ***full liberty*** *to make their own constitution for themselves,* ***even if it means complete independence.*** *Whatever destiny they want for their country* ***after the War*** *they can have,* ***provided only nothing is done during the War to prejudice the victory*** *for the* ***United Nations.*** *Can you tell me any other example in history of a ruling power making such an offer on such a scale, with so much at stake to a subject people? What do you make of it? I make of it one more proof that the British people are looking to the future with exactly the same motives and purposes as brought them into the War*

Mr. HERBERT MORRISON, Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security (now member of the War Cabinet), in a broadcast to the United Nations

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
The Mediterranean Master Plan	4–5
Authority on Strategy and Tactics: General "Ike" Eisenhower	7
Objects of American landings	9
Significance of Allied Success in Egypt	10
Libyan Campaign in new perspective	15
Bizerta and Beyond	16
Indians' part in defence of British Isles	16
A Madras battalion on the N. W. Frontier	17
Behind the enemy lines in Russia	18
Soviet Phychology	19
The Soldiers' Oath	20
Diary of the war	22

Running Commentary

South-West Pacific Operations : Importance of Kokoda

Air power is the key to success. This fact has been well recognized by the Allies, particularly in the New Guinea and Solomons theatres of war. They have occupied the important airfield of Kokoda in New Guinea at the beginning of this month, and the key Henderson airfield in Gudalcanar continues to remain in American hands. It was on November 2 that Australian troops re-occupied Kokoda, the strategic centre in the heart of New Guinea, which was in Japanese hands for three months. Within 44 days of their capture of Kokoda in July 28, the Japanese had infiltrated southwards across the Owen Stanley Range to within 40 miles of Port Moresby, the principal Allied base north of Australia. They advanced as far as Ioribaiwa, but two months ago, that is in the last week of September General Sir Thomas Blamey's troops began the counter-offensive against the Japanese, and they reached Kokoda within 35 days, as compared with the 44 days the Japanese took to cover the same distance.

The importance of the occupation of Kokoda lies in the fact that it has removed the threat to Port Moresby and provided the Allies with a new airfield. This represents a great stride towards the planned expulsion of the Japanese forces from the Buna-Gona sector. It was reported on Tuesday that Allied troops are steadily closing in on the dwindling Japanese positions in this sector, and it is now stated that General MacArthur's forces are now very near Buna and that Gona has been captured. Hard fighting is going on in that area, and in the face of heavy resistance Allied ground troops are steadily advancing.

Two recent news items show that the Japanese are gravely concerned about the reverses that they have sustained and are making strenuous efforts to recoup their losses. The reinforcements of air units in New Guinea with 'O' fighters and their major attempt to land large-scale reinforcements at Buna reveal their great concern and anxiety. But their efforts have been frustrated by smashing Allied air attacks. With a view to preventing further landing attempts on the part of the Japanese, Allied forces have occupied Goodenough Island, which is about a hundred miles to the east of Buna.

* * * *

Jap Defeat in the Solomons : 142 Major Combat Ships Sunk

Nearly four weeks ago the main body of the Japanese fleet withdrew from the Solomons area. After the indecisive first round of an all-out counter-offensive, it was believed in Washington that this withdrawal was necessitated by the heavy Japanese losses. During last month (October) not less than 369 enemy aircraft were shot down in the South-west Pacific area as a whole. In the three-day action in the Solomons, from November 13 to 15, the Japanese have suffered great naval losses. From U.S. Navy communiqués up to No. 194 describing the Solomons Battle and General Mac Arthur's communiqués up to November 16th, the Japanese naval losses since Pearl Harbour show a grand total of 142 major Japanese combat ships sunk, possibly sunk, or damaged. The details are as follows :—

Battleships : two sunk or destroyed five damaged ;

Aircraft carriers : six sunk or destroyed, six damaged ;

Destroyers : 45 sunk or destroyed, four probably destroyed, 18 damaged ;

Cruisers : 27 sunk or destroyed, one probably destroyed, one possibly destroyed, 27 damaged.

Referring to these losses, the U.S. Navy Secretary Col. Knox said on Friday last (November 20) :

"It is fair to say that our hold on the Island is now very secure—it is, of course, always possible that they will bring in more reinforcements, but they will have to fight their way, and they have not been able to do that yet."

* * * *

Axis Failure at Both Ends

Coming as it did in the midst of the serious reverses of the Axis in North Africa, the American naval victory off the Solomons must have had a further depressing effect on the Axis powers. The Japanese have been beaten, not once or twice, but three times by the U.S. Navy. In several combinations of sea battles which have followed the use of aircraft, Americans have shown a definite superiority over the enemy. Referring to the Japanese failure in the Solomons Battle, *The Daily Mail* says :

"The actions of the Coral Sea and Midway were long-range engagements, fought entirely by carrier-based aircraft. But the Solomons battle was a stand-up gun fight on both sides. It showed that battle squadrons are still the backbone of sea power."

The latest U.S. Navy department communique reports that slow American advance westward continues in Guadalcanar with air support.

The Axis, it may be pointed out, has met with failure at both ends, the Middle East and the Far East. The trump

(*Continued on page* 6.)

R.I.N's Glorious Achievement !

THE report published in yesterday's papers that a minesweeper of the Royal Indian Navy played a leading part in the destruction of a heavily-armed Japanese raider in the Indian Ocean would have gladdened the hearts of all who have been watching with growing pride the rapid development and progress of the Royal Indian Navy. The minesweeper *H.M.I.S. Bengal*, under the command of Lieutenant-Commander W.J. Wilson, of the Royal Indian Naval Reserve, was excorting the *Ondina*, a Netherlands tanker when she encountered two Japanese raiders about a 1,000 miles south-west of Java. They were the *Kikokumaru* (10,000 tons) and the *Kunikawamaru* (6,863 tons). The R. I. N., minesweeper immediately headed straight for the larger ship with a view to enabling the *Ondina* to escape. This the Dutch tanker refused to do. The minesweeper and the tanker, both mounting single 4-inch guns, returned the fire of the Japanese ships armed with six 5·5-inch guns. A hit on the big raider started a fierce fire. This was followed by many more hits which destroyed the *Kikokumaru*. The Japanese raider finally sank into the sea with two of her aircraft. Indians would feel particularly proud of the glorious achievement of the R.I.N. minesweeper. The Indian Navy is playing its part, and playing it very well, too ! . . .

PRESTIGE

◆

Working in a munition factory, a man got his coat caught in a revolving wheel.

He was whisked up and whirled round and round till the foreman managed to switch off the machine. The workman fell to the ground and up rushed the foreman.

"Speak to me, speak to me," he said.

"Why should I ?" said the workman. "I passed you six times just now, and you didn't speak to me !"

The Mediterranean Master Plan

"The story of the last five weeks reads like a fairy tale. Then we were facing a formidable foe, full of confidence. Now he is scattered seeking refuge at his old lair at El Agheila. Tobruk is avenged and will remain in our hands till the end of the war."

FIELD-MARSHAL SMUTS said these words soon after his arrival in Cairo from England by air on Saturday last. The story of the war in the Mediterranean theatre no doubt reads like a fairy tale, but was it the result of a wave of the wand ?

Commenting on the wonders that have been achieved in the last few weeks and how they have been worked out, *The Times* points out that operations from one end of the Mediterranean to the other proceed according to what may be fittingly described as a master plan. Massive in conception, the execution of this master plan, has been, the paper adds, marked by secrecy and skill, by timeliness and daring. The German High Command must have been, perhaps for the first time in this war, rudely surprised as much by the vigour as by the moment of the blow, and, says *The Times*, its own occupation of all that remained of France is a poor compensation for the plans now thrown violently into disarray.

Axis Plans Upset

How were these plans thrown into violent disarray ? The German High Command have, it is stated, made three fatal mistakes. Firstly, they allowed the British to bluff them into retaining an unnecessarily large force in Western Europe when a few extra divisions might have made a crucial difference to Rommel last summer ; secondly, they grossly underestimated the strength of General Montgomery's force, and thirdly, they have initiated a battle in Tunisia, which they have small prospect of winning.

It is of interest to note that the most vociferous propaganda for a Second Front was carried on by Goebbels and his gang, and they sought to spread the impression that Russia was dissatisfied and that something should be done by the Allies to remove that dissatisfaction. The curious part of it all was that they themselves became a victim to their own propaganda, and kept a very large army in Western Europe. The spectacular Dieppe raid further strengthened this belief that the opening of a Second Front to relieve the strain on Russia was in the offing. Britain gave the impression that Dieppe was the "dress rehearsal" and that the regular show would be put up in the near future. There are definite grounds for believing that Hitler was hoodwinked by this Second Front publicity and by the Commando raids on occupied France. Mr. Churchill himself has referred to "deceiving the enemy", but never misleading an ally. Events in Russia in the last few days particularly show that this deception of the enemy and the results that have followed from it have contributed to ease the situation. It is stated that a very large part of the *Luftwaffe* has left the Russian front and gone to Sicily and Sardinia.

The Passing of a Phrase

With regard to the phrase "Second Front" itself, it already seems to be falling into disuse. For it has by now been made very clear that the Mediterranean developments are the prelude to an eventual Continental offensive by the United Nations. Mr. Churchill has acknowledged the fact that the relegation of the Continental phase on purely military grounds, to a second place in the time-schedule of the United Nations, had caused disappointment to Russia, but M. Stalin has declared that in his conversation with Mr. Churchill, who conveyed to him in person an explanation of the position and the plan, "complete understanding was reached". This complete understanding on grand strategy and the Allied successes in North Africa may contribute to the gradual decline of a now largely meaningless usage.

It may be pointed out that the complete understanding on strategy in relation to the Mediterranean area of war was reached many months ago, the plans were developed in the strictest secrecy over a considerable time, and even the approximate date of the landings was known in London, Moscow, Cairo and Washington for more than two months previously. The secret was well kept, and the enemy who is noted for his elaborate systems of espionage had not the slightest inkling of what was afoot. In fact, some Frenchmen in North Africa itself were well acquainted with Allied plans, but not a word leaked out to Berlin !

Cunningham : From Alexandria to Washington

The nature of the brilliant long-term planning of the Allies will become clear when it is recalled that six months before he was appointed Supreme Commander of the United Nations naval forces in the Mediterranean and the North African Atlantic, Admiral Sir Andrew Browne Cunningham was posted from Alexandria to Washington as Chief of the British Admiralty Delegation. This happened in May last ; the purpose of his appointment was to enable him to co-ordinate his plans with those of the U. S. Navy Department. He was selected because of his intimate knowledge of Mediterranean waters and proved ability to co-operate with land and air forces. He became Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean three months before the war began, and gained his reputation as the greatest British Commander afloat after Taranto and Matapan, two of the greatest naval battles of this war. It was in these two engagements that his use of air power as a catalyst to the action of sea power was shown in all its brilliance. His great experience in these mighty engagements was summed up by him on August 16, 1941, in these words :

"In future, my strongest recollection of the past year will be the lesson of co-operation. We three Services have come to know one another as never before, and that knowledge breeds strength."

It was this knowledge and strength that achieved the miracle of concentrating no less than 350 warships simultaneously in one small sector of the front which extends over all the seven seas. This was done without causing any inconvenience in, or interruption to, the routine duties of the British and American navies. This great Armada of 350 warships escorted more than 500 transport ships over distances ranging from 1,500 to 3,500 miles, and were at sea for periods of from seven to fifteen days and nights, but only one of them was sunk by enemy action ! What happened to the U-boats ? Were they looking for a stray ship or two in their new hunting-ground off Cape Town or waiting to intercept an Allied assault on Dakar, which Berlin said was "imminent," but which did not materialise ? Or were they frightened off by the immensity of the offensive power which protected the convoys ? Whatever it be, the fact remains that Admiral Cunningham achieved a very remarkable feat and contributed largely to the success of the American landing operations in North Africa.

Opening the Mediterranean

Let us examine the immediate results of the North African operations. The object of the Allies was not merely to gain vantage-ground from which they could open a new front against the Axis, but also to open the Mediterranean to Allied sea and air power. It is an obvious fact nowadays that there can be no sea power without air power, and in an enclosed sea like the Mediterranean, land-based air power must supplement carrier-borne air power. The importance of this was realised keenly in the series of naval operations undertaken in recent months in order to reinforce and supply Malta's garrison. The escorting forces required were large, but the quantity of supplies actually delivered was out of all proportion to these. This does not mean that Malta did not deserve the help, but the naval operations on that account were nonetheless wasteful from the point of view of strategy. The convoys to Malta relied for air-cover on aircraft-carriers and to some extent by the Malta-based planes. The Allies lacked land-bases to counter the enemy air-bases in Sardinia and Sicily.

Convoys to Malta

But now, thanks to patient and masterly planning and its brilliant execution, the Allies have acquired air bases all along the North African Coast from Oran to Bone, which is within 400 miles of Malta, and as a result of this, convoys to Malta will be having adequate land-based air cover throughout the thousand-mile voyage from Gibralter. The new naval bases at Oran and Algiers mean increased and intensified Allied naval patrol activity in Axis home waters. For instance, Naples is 975 miles distant from Gibralter, whereas from Algiers it is only 580 miles. Naval patrol ships from Algiers would, in future, be able to cruise in the neighbourhood of Naples. If further air-bases are acquired in Tunisia and Tripolitania, Allied convoys, protected by fighters, can do the whole 2,000-mile voyage from Gibralter to Alexandria with some ease. This means a great gain to the Allies, for all the supplies to the Middle East can come through the Mediterranean, instead of going all the way round the Cape.

Another advantage is the saving in shipping space caused by the shorter route. For instance, the distance from U.K. ports to Alexandria is less than 4,000 miles or one-third of the distance round the Cape to Suez. This shorter route means a direct saving of about two million tons of shipping space, equivalent to 16 months' output from U.K. shipyards. Convoys to Basra with Aid-to-Russia cargoes can be diverted to ports in Palestine and Syria, and then more shipping space will be saved.

"Going with a swing"!

These are some of the great advantages resulting from the planned strategy in the Mediterranean war zone. The future holds out the possibility of Africa being completely rid of the Axis and Italy coming under the cognisance of the R.A.F. in a greater measure than before. In the words of General Smuts,

"Africa will be cleared, and the whole world will be cleared of the enemy. Tunis is going, and pincers are coming together from both sides. Things are going with a swing."

The great war veteran and statesman addressing a parade of the South African Fighter Wing personnel further said that night had changed into day, the skies were clearing, and the Allies now saw daylight and vast opportunities were now springing up before them. It is the beginning of the end of the Axis.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

cards in South-West Pacific continue to remain in Allied hands—Kokoda in New Guinea and Henderson airfield in Guadalcanar. The enemy is bound to make strenuous efforts to regain them or neutralise them, but the Allies are watchful and vigilant.

* * * *

Great Turn in N. Africa: Montgomery's Triumph: Rommel's Blunder

Speaking at Cairo at a parade of the South African Fighter Wing General Smuts said that he had always held the view that North Africa would be the scene of a great turn and that recent events had justified it. Momentous happenings which are likely to turn the future course of the war as a whole have taken place in Egypt and are taking place in Libya. The victory of the Allies in Egypt has given the Axis a rude shock. It may be pointed out that the strategical implications of this victory are even greater than its immediate rewards. But what would have happened if Rommel, after realising the terrific hitting power behind General Montgomery's assault, had promptly withdrawn the bulk of his army at high speed to Tobruk? In all probability, he could have postponed a decision and given the Allies a good deal of trouble. But he was feeling confident that his southern flank could not be turned, or orders might have come from Berlin inducing him to commit the whole of his forces to the defence of his forward positions.

As things stood, General Montgomery was faced with the formidable task of hammering a path right through the massed forces of Rommel's Afrika Korps, which were holding positions fortified for months past with every dev ce known to modern war. In the formidable task itse f lay a great opportunity, the opportun ty to effect a break-through, which, once effected, would be a catastrophe for the defenders. But Rommel relied on the power of his counter-attacks by panzar formations to break off the spearhead of each British thrust and so wear down the offensive, but this reliance was misplaced.

Rommel's Previous Retreats Compared: Battle of Tunisia on

What happened was that the Axis army was dissolved in a gigantic swirling tank battle and its line of retreat became a road of destruction. Remnants of the Afrika Korps tried to make a stand near Fuka, at Mersa Matruh, and at El Adem, but in vain. Rommel's previous retreats had this advantage: he was able to go back far and fast and gain time to regroup, re-supply and be ready to meet his opponents when they came near. But this time this could not be done by a force that was handicapped for want of transport. Five Italian infantry divisions were abandoned by the Germans without transport or supplies, even as in the last war the Turks were abandoned by the Germans when Allenby broke through in the plain of Jezreel.

The Eighth Army has, said Mr. Churchill, avenged Tobruk. It has pursued the beaten foe very far. Now its task as well as the task of other Allied forces co-operating with it is to eliminate the enemy from Africa altogether. There are three favourable factors in favour of Allies. They have air superiority, shorter supply routes and more petrol than the Axis forces. The battle of Tunisia has to be fought out, and its course will be watched with the greatest interest.

Speaking in the House of Commons on Wednesday, Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary, said that the battle in North Africa was in an extremely critical phase, and that the First British Army strongly supported by American forces were making their way eastward over enormous distances with the greatest speed and that French troops in Tunisia were vigorously resisting the German and Italian invaders.

MADRASIS ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

Madrasi soldiers who are serving away from their own districts are not forgotten by "the old folks at home".

A recent month's despatch of Madras specialities to its sons in uniform included 92,500 "beedis" 25,000 "poppadums," 625 lb. of cashew nuts, 21 doz. bottles of Madras pickles, four cases of books and papers, and 220 gramophone records.

Authority on Strategy and Tactics

General "Ike" Eisenhower

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL Dwight Eisenhower (who is now Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces in North Africa) is probably one of the best-loved soldiers in the American Army. He has been a fighting man since 1915, but until now the breaks have kept him from actual combat. He barely missed the last war. He was supposed to sail for France on November 12 but got crossed up by the Armistice on the 11th.

General "Ike" (his boyhood nickname) is the son of a Quaker family in Kansas. His father, a farmer and ice-maker, was a strict disciplinarian. "Ike" was the third of six brothers. The Eisenhower's mother, now 81 years old, lives in Abilene, Kansas.

"Ike" was a good cook as a boy, but no sissy. A good athlete, he played football and baseball at West Point until his leg was broken in a football game. He was an average student at West Point, but after his graduation he became an omnivorous reader and student of military science and later an authority on mechanized warfare. He graduated with top honours from the Army War College in Washington and from the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. To-day he is a recognized authority on strategy and tactics.

In 1940 Eisenhower was made Chief of Staff of the Third Army. When the United States entered the war, he was made Chief of War Plans. Some time ago he went to Britain as Commander-in-Chief of the American forces.

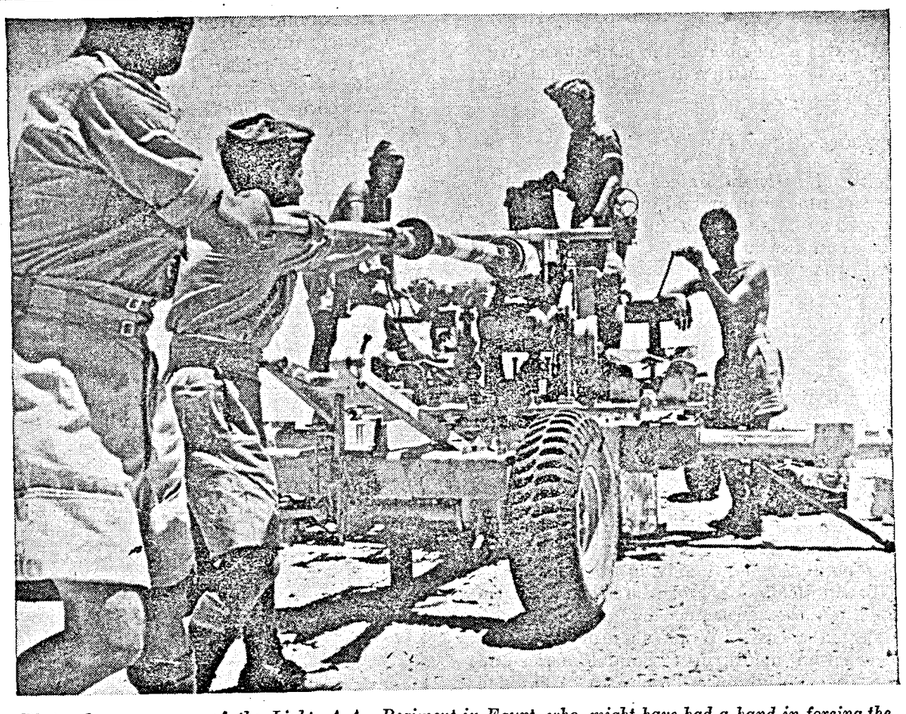


Photo shows gunners of the Light A.A. Regiment in Egypt, who might have had a hand in forcing the non-stop retreat of Rommel's forces. They have a record of ten enemy planes in two weeks and are taking care of the guns which "did the trick"!

General Eisenhower is well-liked by both officers and soldiers. He knows when to be tough. He hates indecision and mistakes. When aroused, he has a razor-sharp tongue. He is generally considered a brilliant conversationalist. A good mixer and bridge player, he still likes to cook.

General Eisenhower's wife Mamie lives in Washington. Their first son died. Their second son is now a second-year man at West Point.

OTHER AMERICAN GENERALS

Major-General Clark

Major-General Mark W. Clark, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces in North Africa, has been in command of American Ground Forces in the European war theatre since May. He has also been General Eisenhower's Chief of Staff in London. He is an infantry warfare specialist.

General Clark graduated from West Point in 1917, serving with the Supply Services in France, Belgium and Germany in the last war. He was awarded the oldest American military decoration, the Purple Heart.

General Clark did post-graduate work at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia; at the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and at the Army War College in Washington.

He was a member of the staff at the Army War College until he received the European assignment.

Brigadier-General Doolittle

Brigadier-General James H. Doolittle, who led the American air raid on Tokyo last April and is now commanding the United States Air Forces in North Africa, is a veteran of two wars who won aviation fame in peacetime as a pilot.

General Doolittle was born in Alameda, California, on December 14, 1896. In World War I, he served as a flight gunnery instructor at air training centres in the United States. In September 1922, he made the first cross-country flight from Florida to California and won the Congressional Medal and international fame.

He won the Schneider Trophy Race and the Mackay Trophy in 1925, then travelled in South America giving demonstration flights in 1926. He broke both his ankles in Chile, but demonstrated his plane with his ankles in a cast. While an army flyer, he made several more trips to South America and won the Harmon Air Trophy in 1930. He resigned from the Army in 1930 and became Aviation Manager of the Shell Oil Company.

In 1940, General Doolittle returned to the Army as a Major in the Air Corps Reserve. He supervised aviation procurement in *Indianapolis* and later supervised the conversion of automobile plants to aircraft production in Detroit.

General Doolittle arrived in London on August 17, four months after the Tokyo raid. Some of the flyers of his squadron in the Tokyo raid joined him in London and are now supporting the American forces in North Africa.

The following are brief biographies of some of the American military and naval chiefs in North Africa :—

Major-General Patton

Major-General George S. Patton, Jr., Commander of American Forces landing on the west coast of Africa, is a noted exponent of tank warfare who organized and commanded the first American tank brigade in the last war. He recently taught American troops the type of fighting which is now underway on the Egyptian front. Born at Sea Gabriel, California, in 1885, he graduated from West Point and in World War I on foot led a tank brigade into the Meuse-Argonne offensive. After the war, he commanded a tank brigade, then a horse cavalry unit, but returned to tanks in July 1940. General Patton was an Olympics swimming champion in 1912.

Rear-Admiral Hewett

Rear-Admiral Henry K. Hewett, Commander of American Naval Forces, was the Captain of the cruiser *Indianapolis* on President Roosevelt's South American tour in 1936. He was born in Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1887. He won the Navy Cross for Distinguished Service in the last war for convoying troops and supplies successfully through dangerous waters. After the war Admiral Hewett taught at Annapolis and at the Naval War College.

Major-General Ryder

Major-General Charles W. Ryder, Commander of American Forces landing at Algiers, served in the infantry in the last war. He won the Distinguished Service Cross with an Oak Leaf Cluster, the Silver Heart, the Purple Heart, the Croix de Guerre with Palm, and was awarded a membership in the Legion d'Honneur. He was with the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department from 1934 to 1937 and then served as Commandant of Cadets at West Point.

Britain Impresses

"I was impressed by the way every citizen in Britain fitted into a necessary war function after special training by the Government or by private industry."

—MRS. ROOSEVELT, *at a Press Conference in Washington after her return from Britain.*

Objects of American Landings

ALLIED operations in North Africa can be divided into two spheres, writes the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent, recently returned from North Africa.

For the moment landings in Morocco and Algeria may be thought of as having two distinct immediate objectives. Morocco is a protectorate with its own Sultan and Government, and Algeria is an integral part of France, in theory at least as much a part of France as the Isle of Wight is a part of Britain. The Atlantic coast of Morocco is for the most part flat and presents no great obstacles to landing operations.

All the main ports seem to have been occupied with the exception of Mogador. Safi lies to the south of Casablanca. Casablanca itself with its magnificent modern port is the largest town in North Africa outside of Egypt. Fedhala, north of Casablanca, is a smallish place with important fish canneries. Kasbabouznika and Mehdia (not to be confounded with Medhia on the east coast of Tunisia) are all points on lines of communication, which in Morocco in addition to excellent roads consist of a normal gauge double-track railway. This runs from Marrakesh in the south of the country via Casablanca, the principal port, Rabat, the capital; Meknes, Fez, Taza and Oujda just beyond which it joins the Algerian railway system. In fact there is an effective railway link between southern Morocco through Algeria and Tunisia.

MOROCCO'S LIFE-LINE CUT

The only obstacle to the intensive use of the lines is the comparative lack of fuel. By their occupation of Morocco's life-line the Allies have cut land communications with Dakar, which is joined to Casablanca by a 1,800-mile road, mostly a desert track.

Operations in Algeria constitute a more immediate threat to the whole Axis military position. Algeria is a mountainous country. In most places its Mediterranean coast is precipitous and steep.

The communications, however—although all from east to west—are excellent. The main railway which runs just back from the coast goes as far as Algiers, then continues along the shore into northern Tunisia.

Allied forces seem to have attacked or occupied the most strategic points along the Mediterranean from Arzeu, just near Oran to Mostaganem. Sidi Ferruch, where the French Expeditionary Force which conquered Algeria in 1830 landed, 30 miles east of Algiers, has been occupied by American troops. It is clear, therefore, that vital communications in Algeria are either in Allied hands, or are about to fall in them.

East of the Algiers City, a coast railway and two main roads into Tunisia afford ample opportunity of swift advance into the vital Tunisian area. It cannot be doubted that the occupation of Tunisia is the main objective of the Allies. Northern Tunisia may be taken as a geographical extension of Algeria.

BIZERTA

Bizerta is perhaps the finest harbour in the whole of the Mediterranean. From the extremity of Cape Bon, just south-east of Tunia City, it is but 90 miles to the shores of Sicily. To the south of Tunis itself there is not only a double-track narrow gauge line with electric locomotives running as far south as Gabes, but the eastern portion of Tunisia, being a flat plain is covered with a network of excellent roads. It is a 5-hour run from Tunis to Gabes. From there, there are good roads to Mareth, and a line 30 miles wide from the last spurs of the North Africa mountain system to the sea. The line was heavily fortified although it was, under the armistice terms, to be dismantled and it is still susceptible of making an effective barrier to an advance from the south-east.

Beyond Ben Gardane, the road is not so good. The French have never wanted to make it easy for the Italians to invade Tunisia. But it is perfectly manageable as far as Bou Chemmesc, the Italian frontier post. From there through Zuara and Sabratha, a first-class tarmac runs into Tripoli and through it to the Egyptian frontier. It is a matter of five hours' run or less from Tripoli to Ben Gardane.

'Not a Single Soldier Lost'

Wes Gallagher, correspondent of the American Associated Press, reports that Admiral Cunningham, Commander of the Allied fleet which supported the North African landings, said: "I believe I am correct in saying that the British and American navies brought this vast force of troops to their assault points without a single soldier being lost at sea."

Significance of Allied Success in Egypt

BY

WICKHAM STEED

THE British and Allied victory in Egypt is the best thing that has happened for a long time. It may turn out to be as important as the Russian stand before Moscow last December, which converted Hitler's offensive into a frost-bitten defensive, and brought the German armies to the verge of disaster.

Militarily, and above all, psychologically, the splendid deeds of the Eighth Army may have consequences even more far-reaching than those of the German failure in Russia 11 months ago. For the first time since this war began a strong enemy army, entrenched in depth on a comparatively narrow front, has been routed by frontal attack in a pitched battle.

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT

This would, in any event, have been a remarkable achievement, but when it is remembered that the enemy could be supplied and reinforced from a base in Italy, and from secondary bases in Greece and Crete that were near to the scene of action, whereas the British and Allied forces had to be transported and supplied by sea routes 12,000 miles long, the achievement becomes more remarkable still.

Much, of course, may depend upon the way in which this initial victory can be followed up by the effective destruction of the enemy's power in North Africa. We shall know before long, how far it has been possible to do this. A good deal of it seems already to have been done. For the moment, what interests me most are the moral or psychological effects of the victory throughout the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, in Italy, the Balkans and among all the satellites of the Axis.

EFFECT ON SATELLITES

I said something recently of the imponderables in war, which as Bismarck clearly understood, may weigh heavier than the heaviest armour. Hitler had staked everything on a swift victory by overwhelming force and I thought that a stage had already been reached in which overwhelming force would no longer be on the side of the enemy. This was my conclusion as an observer at some distance from the actual fighting.

It did not follow that Hitler's satellites, or even neutral countries still threatened by German power, would have reached the same conclusion. But now the victory in Egypt will give a jolt to their imaginations, and will weaken their belief in German invincibility, if it does not immediately convince them that Germany is doomed to total defeat.

There will be a change in the set of their feathers. It will become more noticeable in the near future, and I should not be surprised if the change were noticeable in places, as far apart as Japan, Vichy France and French North Africa. In Italy we may be sure that Mussolini has got one of the worst headaches he has ever had.

It is especially good that the great news from Egypt should have coincided with the capture of Kokoda by the gallant Australians in New Guinea; with the successful defence of the Solomons by the United States; and with the failure of desperate, and perhaps despairing, German attacks at Stalingrad. Not even the limited German gains in the Caucasus would have availed to temper the disappointment and gloom in Germany.

There had been some talk of appointing Rommel to be Commander-in-Chief of the whole German Army under Hitler. He was given a huge ovation when he attended Hitler's "Winter Help" harangue in Berlin a few weeks ago. And on October 3 he said proudly to representatives of the Press: "The gateway of Egypt is in our grasp—our intention is to act." He could hardly have meant that his action would be to skidaddle westwards, away from the gate of Egypt, with the Eighth Army at his heels. So his chances of becoming Hitler's Commander-in-Chief may to-day be fainter.

ROMMEL'S DISCOMFITURE

Outside the concentration camps, in which the Nazis keep and outrageously maltreat their German victims, I can think of only one quarter in the Third Reich where something like malicious satisfaction will be felt at the discomfiture of Rommel. This quarter is among the Field Marshals and Generals of the older Prussian military caste, who look upon Rommel as a Nazi guttersnipe, whom Hitler has been delighted to honour.

CONCEIVABLE CONSEQUENCES

But till we know how far, and with what effect, the brilliant victory of the Eighth Army can be followed up, it would be premature to speculate over-much upon its conceivable consequences. Anything like the complete destruction of enemy power in North Africa might, indeed, open the Mediterranean once more to Allied shipping.

The latest victory over French and Allied interests by the wretched Laval—the handing

Controlled Materials Plan

"During the coming year we shall produce in military goods alone more than the entire nation produced for all purposes during the biggest peacetime boom year. We are fighting an enemy who does not care what happens to his own business people, his own industrialists, his own labour or indeed to any single right or privilege which any of his people may have been lucky enough to have retained . . . We are going to beat him but we cannot without stripping for action, and we have still a long way to go . . . We are fighting to maintain a way of life based on the greatest possible degree of plenty for the greatest possible number of people. We have evolved a new method of distributing materials to war plants, that is going to be essential in civilian economy. This new plan, called the 'Controlled Materials Plan', will ensure that materials will be distributed to spots where they will be needed on time and in the proper quantity."

—MR. DONALD NELSON, *Chairman, U.S. War Production Board*, in a recent speech.

R.A.F. "KILLS" A SUPPLY TRAIN

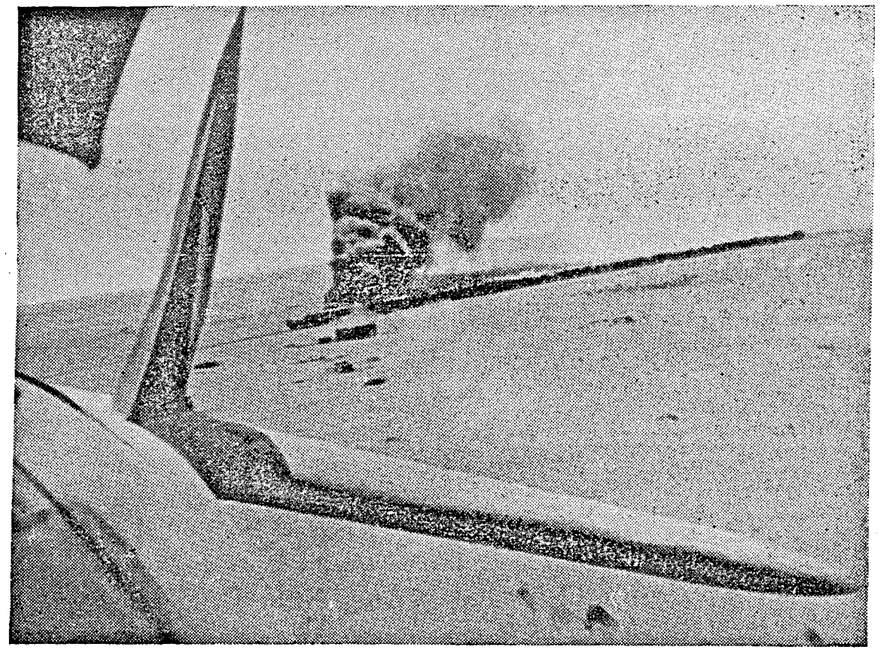


Photo shows an Axis supply train in Libya with 26 trucks left shattered and burning after an attack by the R.A.F. An ammunition truck was blown to pieces and the locomotive set on fire, as the fighters, flying low, raked the train, time after time, with fire from their cannon.

over to the Axis of 35 Allied merchant vessels detained in French Mediterranean ports—this would be of small account, and German designs to get hold of French North Africa might be hampered or upset.

These desirable, yet still uncertain developments, ought not, however, to blind us to the silent worldwide victory over space and danger that now has already been won by British sea power.

BRITISH PRODUCTION

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary, and Minister of Home Security, did well to draw a picture of this victory the other day, for the enlightenment of our friends and of ourselves. He pointed out that Great Britain, with only 45,000,000 inhabitants, has achieved a war output per head of population, greater than that of any country in the world—Allied or enemy.

Our enthusiasm over the tremendous output of the shipbuilding industry in the United States should not, he went on, belittle the fact that the output of shipbuilding workers in British yards is still twice as large per worker as that of any other country. Moreover, 80 per cent of British production is shipped overseas, together with every fighting man for whom shipping space can be found, quite apart from the transport to Great Britain of a high proportion of American war production, and of the unceasing flow of food with which the United States is helping to nourish us. "If this battle of production and transport had not to be fought in secrecy," said Mr. Morrison, "it would grip our imaginations, and encourage us not less than the magnificent exploits of the Russian armies.

ROLE OF SEA POWER

"Hard though it must be for any land power to realize the part which sea power is playing in the conduct of the war," Mr. Morrison continued, "it ought to be remembered that tanks, aircraft and oil, the life-blood of them both, have to fight their way over a distance equal to the 2,000-mile length of the Russian front, when they go from us to Russia—the same distance from America to us; the same distance from us to Malta, and over five times the length of the vast Russian front, when they go from us round the Cape to the Middle East.

"The British Navy is regularly patrolling over 80,000 miles of trade routes, besides keeping guard over the 2,000 or 3,000 British and Allied merchant vessels, which are always at sea. It sweeps mines from over 14,000 miles of sea lanes; its warships and the aircraft of the Fleet and the Royal Air Force have escorted over 120,000 voyages in convoy, and have brought safely to port 199 out of every 200 ships in these convoys. It has swept the enemy from the high seas, and destroyed, captured or damaged more than 125 enemy warships, and over 6,000,000 tons of enemy merchant shipping."

PATTERN OF WAR

"So," Mr. Morrison concluded, "it is a superficial and misguided view to imagine that Britain is only playing a marginal part in the present phase of the war. If you look at the pattern of the war as a whole, and remember the real meaning of the never-ceasing struggle at sea we may begin to realize that the part we are playing on the stage of world conflict is as near to the heart of achievement and the centre of action, as ever it was in the days when we stood alone."

Mr. Morrison spoke before the gladdening tidings of victory had come from Egypt, yet what he said is helpful as a reminder of the things our shipping may do, if the victory of the Eighth Army should set free a proportion of it for work in other directions. Hitler knows well that these other directions would hardly run toward any strengthening of his grip upon the occupied countries of Europe, or indeed on the grip of Japan upon her provisional conquests in Asia and the Pacific, and if only for this reason, the discomfiture of Rommel is likely to mitigate any misplaced satisfaction that may be felt in Berlin and Tokyo over the results of the November elections in the United States.

HOOVER'S DECLARATION

In Great Britain, we view those results with a strictly impartial eye. We look upon the whole people of the United States as our ally, and not any particular section of it. Grateful as we have been and are for President Roosevelt's splendid leadership in this war, we accept with complete confidence ex-President Hoover's declaration that if there was a strong element of protest in the vote cast for candidates of the Republican Party, the protest was a protest of insistence upon the more effective organization of the war. And that can be no comfort to the enemy.

The enemy, for his part, may rejoice at the thought that a portion of the United States electorate has given the "war-monger".

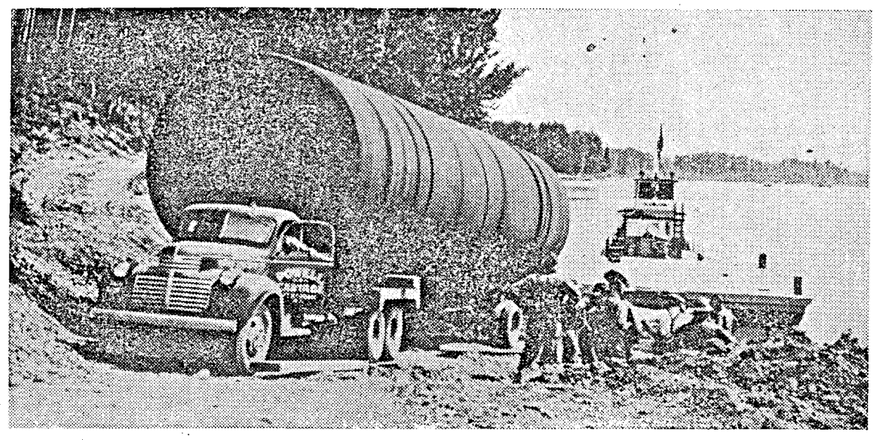
(*Continued on page* 14.)

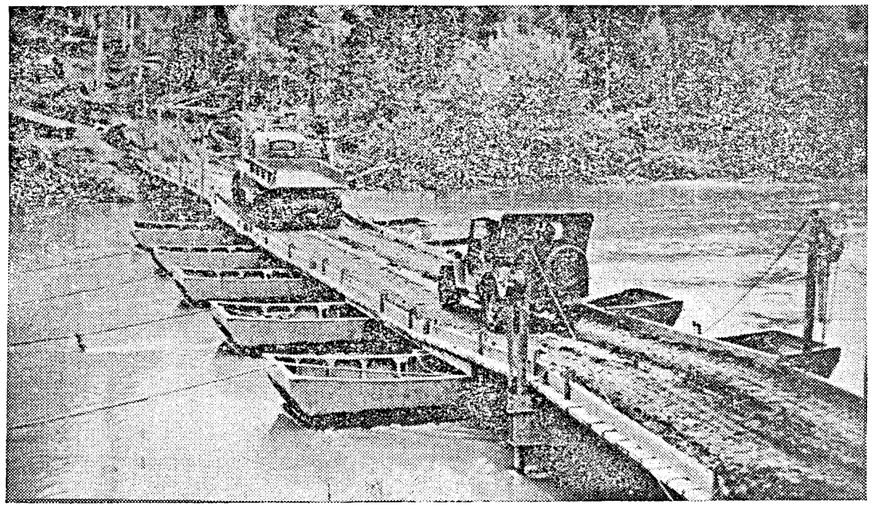
Speed and Save

"Every day by which we speed victory we save our young men for work of construction."

—*International Youth Conference declaration.*

THE ALASKA HIGHWAY





Above are three photographs of the Alaska Highway. There is now a proposal before the Congress for a second highway linking the United States and Alaska, and this has been endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior. The idea is to have a direct highway connection between the West Coast and Alaska. The route proposed is about 125 miles inland from the coast. It would be linked with the present highway.

SIGNIFICANCE OF ALLIED SUCCESS IN EGYPT

(*Continued from page* 12.)

Roosevelt a slap in the face, just as the enemy might rejoice if any considerable number of by-elections in Great Britain were to go against the war-monger, ". Churchill. What the enemy does not understand is that in the United States as in Great Britain, this war is a people's war, not a war of Government or dictators; not an imperialistic venture, and that the common people mean to see it through until so complete a victory has been gained over the forces of oppression and enslavement that the world can again be a place, or rather a better place, for free peoples to live free lives in.

MID-TERM ELECTION

Speaking personally, and without any title or desire to interpret British public opinion, I think it is not a bad thing that the critics of President Roosevelt's Administration should now be enabled to bear a fuller share of responsibilities for the conduct of the war. I think it good, too, that this mid-term election should have been held while war is still being waged, and not, as was the case in November 1918, when victory had been won and the Armistice was in sight.

The defeat which President Wilson suffered in the election of November 1918, created a situation so ambiguous that it led to serious misunderstanding of the position in America by more than one Allied people and Government. This misunderstanding was not least among the causes of European surprise, that President Wilson should have been unable to secure ratification of the Peace Treaty, and American membership of the League of Nations.

NO COMFORT FOR ENEMY

In Europe, he had been welcomed as the First Citizen of the world, at a time when his own people were doubting whether he was fully representative of them as the First Citizen of the United States. Now there could be no room for doubt that the Republican as well as the Democratic Party stands behind the President for a vigorous prosecution of the war, and that whatever contribution the United States may make to a progressive solution of the problems of peace, will reflect the views and the feelings of the American people as a whole.

So, in the long run, as well as in the short run, I am inclined to agree with ex-President Hoover that there can be no comfort for the enemy in the outcome of the 1942 mid-term elections.

I have a notion that in the weeks and months to come, the enemy in Europe and Africa, no less than in the South-Western Pacific and the Far East, will sorely need every scrap of comfort he can extract from a threatening, and presently a disastrous situation. Hitherto one thing has been lacking in the discomfort which, from the bottom of my heart, I wish him to experience in full measure. Until now, the enemy had not felt the impact of unquestionable military defeat, in a fair field without favour.

Now he has felt it. May he continue to feel it, until he cries "Hold, enough," and the United Nations answer his cry by beating him remorselessly to the ground.

—*In a recent B.B.C. talk.*

ON PARADE AT 92

This old soldier when he reaches the age of 92, puts on his uniform again, travels 30 miles,—and goes on parade.

Jemadar Ismail Khan with many other Indian Officers of the old Madras Army, attended the official opening of the Training Centre of the 3rd Madras Regiment.

> He became young in heart again when he heard the familiar words of command and the call of the bugle—so young that he went on to the sports, ate the splendid tea in the Indian Officer's Mess and would'nt have missed any of it for anything.

The opening of the centre, which was attended by the Governor of Madras celebrated the reconstruction of the old 3rd Madras Regiment, after a lapse of 15 years. The day was the anniversary of the famous victory of Assaye, when the Madras Battalions were the only Indian troops present.

Supreme moment was the handing over to the 'new' Regiment of the old 3rd Colours.

Libyan Campaign in New Perspective

◆

THE announcement of American landings in Algeria and Morocco places in a new perspective the meaning of General Alexander's great victory over Rommel writes *The Times*. It shows at once, how vast were the issues that hung upon the attack of the Eighth Army and how complete was the confidence reposed in it; for it is obvious that the latest operation must have been planned far ahead in expectation of just such a defeat as has been inflicted on the Axis power in Egypt.

It is the culmination of a strategic process which has been in motion with many vicissitudes of fortune for more than two years and which in its course has been compelled to embrace the whole of the continent of Africa. It has included the most completely successful campaign waged by any Allied army in this war which resulted in the liberation of Ethiopia and the total overthrow of Mussolini's East African Empire; the maintenance of the supply route, 14,000 miles long around the continent, and the transport over that great distance of multitudinous necessities of mechanized war with which General Alexander was to achieve his resounding success; and such episodes as the occupation of Madagascar by the British and Liberia by American troops which were incidental to the protection of that route.

RE-OPENING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

Now all lines of African strategy converge upon the supreme objective that gives its meaning and justifies all the sacrifices that have been made for the mastery of this continent. This objective is the reopening of the sea way of the Mediterranean to the traffic of the United Nations—a way of double possibilities. For it is of the highest importance to substitute a short passage from Gibraltar to Asen for the long journey round the Cape into the Indian Ocean and so give relief throughout the world to the extreme strain that has been imposed on Allied sea power.

The prospects are now opening of establishing Allied power along the whole coast of North Africa so as to confront across the comparatively narrow sea all the southern shore of enslaved Europe and threaten by many possible routes the ultimate blows at the heart of Germany. Events are now marching with such speed that few can have foreseen the attainment of this objective. The means to achieve it is the total destruction of the Axis power in North Africa.

The basis of enemy's military strength there was Rommel's mechanized army in the desert. This has been struck shattering blows. Leaving the Italian infantry to its fate, the remnant of the panzer divisions is still in headlong retreat. Meanwhile the principal supply port of Genoa on which the enemy depends for survival is being battered by the Royal Air Force and heavy toll is taken of such ships as still attempt the Mediterranean crossing.

A FRESH BLOW

Now while the structure of the Axis power in North Africa is swaying at last, a fresh blow is struck against the German political domination of French territories to the west. The enemy has been aware for some time of the assembly of a formidable fleet of warships and transport at Gibraltar and has not concealed perturbation. He was not, however, able to forecast the time and place of the coming blow; or if he was, he knew himself that he was powerless to forestall it. The Italian fleet, for instance, has conspicuously refrained from any attempt to intervene which may be an admission of the irresistible power of the Allied naval armament.

To equip this great force is in itself a notable achievement at the end of a year in which Allied production and shipping had been so severely taxed to maintain the supply of materials of war both round the north Cape to Russia and round the Cape of Good Hope to Alexandria.

Egypt and Britain

"Egypt has been able to realise how much the representatives of the British Government and forces understand Egypt's viewpoints in respect of the sovereignty and independence of the country and value Egypt's rights and interests."

—MR. NAHAS PASHA, *at the Egyptian Parliament.*

Bizerta and Beyond

AXIS counter-action has yet to reach its peak. The importance of Bizerta is as well understood in Berlin and Rome as in London and Washington. Its immediate importance is as a point of rallying and escape for Rommel's broken and fleeing forces—"advancing to the west" as the latest German euphemism puts it. Virginio Gayda, who has served Mussolini so long as mouthpiece, sounds the alarm but also states facts when he says that Allied operations in the Mediterranean threaten the whole Axis.

Outside the Axis, the military and psychological effects of the events in Africa have been wholly encouraging and have afforded a fresh stimulus to the sense of common destiny and common effort binding together the great company of United Nations. Stalin, with the sure strategical insight which he has shown ever since the German attack on his country, and with the hard realism which has throughout marked his own political career, has in a few sentences explained to the Russians what the new battle of the Mediterranean means to them and to total victory. His statement is telling and forthright.

When, in his recent report to Parliament, Mr. Churchill spoke of the sense of frustration at the absence of a second front while the Russians were bearing an almost unbearable burden on land, he was expressing the true sentiment of the nation—a sentiment reinforced by the British people's recollection of their own hard fight when they held the breach alone. Stalin has dispelled lurking suspicion and created among the Russian people a clear consciousness of the magnitude of what is now on foot in Africa. He truly sees the Anglo-American offensive as a major operation among the results of which will be an easing of pressure on the Russian front, the possibility of forcing Italy out of the war by a decisive blow and the setting-up of necessary conditions for a second front "nearer Germany's vital centres". Finally he gives assurance of the certainty—of which Russia's proved services and sacrifices are ample and unimpeachable testimony—that Russia herself "will fulfil her task with honour" when the moment comes, as come it will, for her to join her own offensive action with that of her allies.

Recovery by the United Nations of command of the Mediterranean is a vital preliminary to those further and still more powerful blows which they will have to strike in common before the enemy is laid low—*The Times*.

Indians' Part in Defence of British Isles

MEN and women from India and other Eastern countries are now playing an active—in some cases a prominent—part in the defence of the British Isles, reports the Arab News Agency.

Several hundred, particularly women, are giving their services in a civilian capacity, but there are many more men from the East in the fighting forces in British than is generally known.

The Royal Air Force has been a great attraction for young men who were students in England when the war broke out. Many have been outstandingly successful in the air and about 40 have been commissioned from the ranks of the Royal Air Force.

A remarkable reputation has been gained by the Indian Pioneer Corps in Britain composed principally of students, seamen and others to whom a life in khaki appealed. All receive British service rates of pay, and when the Luftwaffe harried London they earned every penny of it.

Accustomed to working without heavy gear, they astonished the more orthodox British Pioneers by the speed with which they cleared away awkward debris. They won such a reputation that it was common place for them to be assigned to tasks where the introduction of heavy clearance machinery was impracticable.

Many doctors from India are serving in the R.A.M.C. Numbers of students unable to return to their own countries have undergone Government engineering courses and the majority are now earning an average of £7 a week in munition factories.

Organizations which in peacetime had frequently to assist needy students report that they have had no call on their funds for a long time, as all those in whom they take a beneficient interest are earning good money and are far removed from financial stringency.

So far there is only one girl from the East in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. She is from India. But there are hundreds in the fire-fighting, nursing and comfort-distributing organizations. These women did especially fine work during the London and Liverpool blitzes when they operated in bands, usually under the direction of male relatives who are doctors or medical students.

A Madras Battalion on the N.W. Frontier

(From a Correspondent)

A very pleasant function took place in the V.C.O.s' Club of the 3rd Madras Regiment a few days ago to bid farewell to two senior V.C.Os. whose excellent services have been rewarded by their being sent shortly to Dehra Dun to qualify for an emergency commission. They are Subedar Major K. C. Govindan and Subedar K. O. Kunni Raman Nambiar.

All the officers of the battalion were present as also the British officers' wives, and although socially enjoyable, it was a very sad day for the battalion. Whilst tea was being served, the departing V.C.Os. and the senior officers and their wives were garlanded. The sunset glow on the hills across from the V.C.O.s' Club typified the closing of the services of those two distinguished Indian Officers as V.C.Os.

Subedar Neelambaran in well-chosen terms eulogised the services of his departing brother officers, and the outstanding ability of the Subedar-Major in guiding and advising the junior officers in a very tactful but firm manner.

The Commandant referred to the help he had always received from these two officers in the difficult task of virtually raising a new battalion. He wished them, on behalf of all present, the best of luck in their new venture.

The departing officers in very able speeches thanked the gathering for their good wishes and affirmed their intention of returning, so far as it lay in their power, to their present unit.

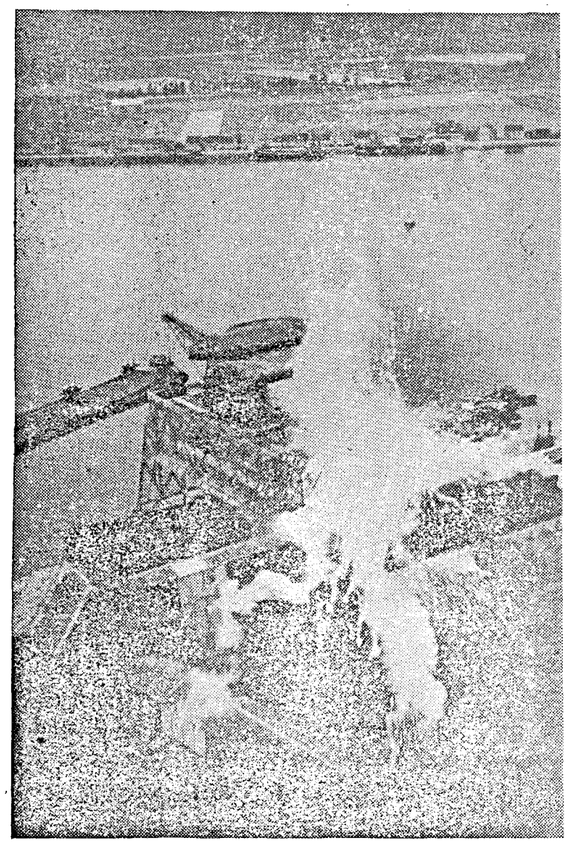
Subedar-Major Govindan is the second senior in service of the remaining personnel of the 12th Malabar Battalion from which territorial unit the battalion was formed. He joined the 12th Malabar Battalion in 1931, and has been Subedar-Major for the last seven months.

Subedar Nambiar joined the 12th Malabar Battalion in 1932 and like the Subedar-Major was embodied with the battalion in September 1940.

The function terminated all too soon by the necessity of the married officers having to leave the battalion hutted camp and re-enter the main perimeter before sunset. A hearty farewell was taken of the two guests of honour.

TWO GALLANT ACTS

Meanwhile, the battalion is learning as quickly as possible its role among the frontier hills. Two recent instances of galantry bear witness to the spirit which animates the battalion and which will enable them to deal effectively with the enemy. On the afternoon of 2nd November Sepoy M. Subbiah Pillai of "B" company showed great presence of mind and disregard of danger when line sentry over a gate on the road leading down from the battalion camp. Two mules in an A.T. cart took fright and bolted down the hill and Sepoy Subbiah Pillai, in the nick of time, managed single-handed to drag a knife rest across the road and stop the runaways. But for his coolness, the mules might have caused much damage to life and property in the station. Sepoy Subbiah Pillai is a Tamilian from Anaikulam village in Tinnevelly district.



A Boston of Bomber Command R.A.F. which recently made an unescorted attack in daylight on objectives at Sluiskil, an inland port in South West Holland, returned with photograph showing bombing from roof-top height. Photo shows remarkable close-up of bomb explosion.

Just before the unit recently left Kohat, Sepoy Selvam of the Pioneer P-1 displayed ingenuity and bravery in dealing with a rabid dog which attacked him. Although unarmed and bitten in the process he managed to seize the animal by the hind legs and continued swinging it around his head till he reached a convenient wall against which to dash it and kill it. Sepoy Selvam, aged only 18, is a Christian from Venganthur village in South Arcot district. His gallant act prevented other jawans from incurring possible injury and a spell in hospital such as he is himself undergoing at present.

Behind the Enemy Lines in Russia

BY

Y. CHERNUKHIN

"BEHIND the Enemy Lines," the first book of the Soviet war correspondent, A. Polyakov, was translated into English and received a warm reception in Great Britain and the United States. The Soviet Writers' Publishing House has just published a new book by Polyakov, "White Mammoths."

The "White Mammoths" are the Soviet fifty-ton "KV" heavy tanks. Their armour-plating can withstand any amount of enemy shells and is invulnerable even to German land mines. "KV" tanks can simply cut straight through the woods, crush enemy artillery batteries and armoured cars, reducing them to mere slabs of metal. Polyakov's new book tells the story of five of these titanic machines from the day they left the large tank works in the Urals.

He also tells you about their builders, the plant director, the Assistant Peoples' Commissar of the tank industry, Hero of Socialist Labour, Yaltsman and the daughter of the famous Russian military leader, once the Peoples' Commissar of Defence, M. Frunze. Tatyana Frunze is now a military technician employed in the plant's laboratory. He tells you the story of youthful Kostya Vladek, the twelve-year old apprentice, who is proud of his job of cutting tiny bolts for tank parts. Kostya, too, is a tank builder. Neighbouring the plant is the tank training school. The future crew of each tank is attached to the machine when it is only in the stage of metal framework and together with the workers', help, build and assemble the vehicle.

One of the most stirring pages in Polyakov's books is the description of a meeting between fresh tank corps recruits and veteran front-line fighters. Among the latter one tells the new-comers about Major Segeda who commanded several important tank operations, Senior Sergeant Nydin, an artillery gun commander who disposed of eleven enemy tanks.

TANK SEES 40 ATTACKS

There was also the tank driver, Sergeant Tsekalov who saw his machine through forty attacks. His tank received 212 direct hits, but even the biggest shells failed to do anything more than dent the armour. The author introduces Junior Sergeant Gordeyev, the "master of ramming tactics." Here is a brief description of one of Gordeyev's numerous exploits. During an engagement his tank broke into a village occupied by the enemy and crushed two German field pieces. But there were two more concealed behind a stone wall. The village street was too narrow for the tank to manœuvre and reach the guns. Gordeyev put his machine in reverse, broke through the stone wall and rammed the guns. Volley after volley was discharged at his machine from a roof nearby. Gordeyev dashed his giant into the house, went clean through it with the roof on top. Then he turned and shot down the surviving Germans with his machine guns.

Another incident described by Polyakov is the feat of the tank crew under Commander Astakhov. For two days Astakhov's brave men held their own against heavy odds, their only shelter being the damaged tank. They refused to surrender and shot down over 100 attackers. Finally they dismantled their machine-guns, wrecked the tank and broke through the German lines to our positions. The damaged machine was salvaged later.

ACROSS A FROZEN RIVER

The reader will undoubtedly be moved by Polyakov's description of a tank column crossing a frozen river. At times it seemed that the ice was just about to crack under the mighty machines. In the words of one of the participants, it was "like walking on a shaky mattress." But here, too, the tank corps was able to cope with the situation and overcome numerous difficulties.

One is moved by the story of the heroic death met by the tank crew commanded by Kalinchev. His machine penetrated deep into the enemy's lines and disappeared forever. Only with the help of the police dog nicknamed "Trophy"—captured from the Germans were the Soviet troops able to locate the bodies of the crew. "Trophy" was very much attached to the driver, Dormidontov and when the latter disappeared the dog became terribly restless. It was sent out on a fresh scent and returned to the Soviet lines with a note from Kalinchev: "These will probably be our last lines and I'm sending them with 'Trophy.' We're still alive and using up our last rounds of ammunition. We shall not surrender."

BURNT ALIVE

These men were burnt alive by Hitler's monsters. Like a cliff, the grave of steel containing the bodies of these valiant men stands out on the scorched field. Our soldiers visit this spot time and again, remove their helmets and stand in silence before the ruins of this tank. Very often Dormidontov's mascot "Trophy" is with them. Polyakov's description of a British tank going into battle side by side with one of the "KV" machines reads like a symbol of the fighting unity which binds two freedom-loving peoples in a joint struggle against the German forces.

Soviet tankmen fondly call their British tanks "Pals." In one battle a Nazi plane dived to bomb a British machine operated by a Soviet crew. There ensued a bitter duel between tank and airplane. But the British "pal" emerged victor.

Soviet Psychology

BY

MAURICE HINDUS

I have been in this country three months. I have travelled extensively. I have been at the front. I have talked to all manner of people, soldiers and civilians, peasants and city folk, adults and children. Now my mind teems with so many impressions that it is difficult in a brief article even to hint at them.

Everyday I see or hear something new and full of meaning. For example, at Pogoreloye Gorodishche, which the Red Army recently reconquered from the Germans, one of the cars in which correspondents travelled lurched into a rain-soaked rut and the chauffeur had difficulty in getting it out. A Red Army major came along, glanced around the road and asked the chauffeur where he kept his spade. The chauffeur told him. The major got the spade, dug dirt into the rut and the track and told the chauffeur to go ahead. The car rolled out as easily as if it were on an asphalt road. The major put the spade back into the car and after brushing off his hands and his clothes went on his way.

The sanctity and the glory of labour, any kind of labour, anywhere, has become such an integral part of Soviet psychology that no one in or out of the army, however high his position, even has the feeling that the handling of a spade, a hammer, a saw, performing any kind of menial task, is in and of itself beneath the dignity of his position or his person. There can be no doubt that this spirit of democracy is in no small measure responsible for the high morale of the Red Army.

CHILDREN AND WAR

The other day while strolling along a remote section of Moscow I came upon a group of children in a side street who were leaning over a box of sand talking excitedly. I stopped to watch them and asked what they were doing. "Putting out bombs," said a sprightly little girl of about five or six. "But I see no bombs," I said. Lifting a round little stick out of the box, she said, "Here is the bomb," and with a scoopful of sand proceeded to demonstrate how to put it out.

Soon other children in the street gathered about. Older folk also stopped. There was much animated talk as there always is whenever a Russian crowd gathers in the street. From this talk I learned for the first time the momentousness of the part that children played in putting out incendiary bombs and preventing fires in Moscow in the days when the Germans were making air raids on the city.

I was in America at the time and had read of it in the press. But the printed stories could not convey the heroism of children in those days as vividly as did the living words of the children themselves and their parents. In this war of wars the part that children are playing in the defence of the country not only in Moscow but all over the land—on farms, in hospitals, in guerilla detachment behind the enemy's lines—constitutes one of the most dramatic chapters in the history not only of the Soviet Union but of the world. I do not know of any other time anywhere when children rendered their country as much service as Russian children are doing now.

Yet to me the one outstanding thing of the so-called Russian rear is the magnitude of the

NAZI RULE IN THE UKRAINE.—This picture which reached London through a neutral source, was taken in the scorched earth of the Ukraine, where the Nazis are using old men, women and even children to replace horses. A Russian family is seen forced to draw a harrow.

work that the collective farms are now performing. Perhaps it is because I am by my original profession an agronome that collectivization holds so much meaning for me. I watched this extraordinary revolution in Russian agriculture since the days of its inception, and only now when Russia is fighting a war " not of life but of death " as the Russian press keeps continually emphasizing, is the purely military aspect of it so impressive.

ENGINE-MINDED

This is a war of engines. To fight nowadays, the soldier has to understand an engine as well as a gun. Prior to collectivization the peasantry in the mass had not the least conception what an engine was. But collectivization, riding, one might say, on the wheels of a tractor into the Russian countryside, made the engine as much an everyday fact as the plough. Within about five years millions and millions of young folk in the villages, boys and girls, became engine-minded. Suppose there had been no collectivization and no tractor in the Russian village in the years preceding Germany's attack on Russia. One shudders to think what the consequences would have been. But because the Russians, especially the youth, are so intensively engine-minded the country can fight on and on with no other thought than to achieve complete victory over the enemy.

I have visited a number of collective farms in the Kuityshev region. I saw how well-tilled were the lands, how fine were the crops, the rye, the wheat, the potatoes, the sunflower—this despite the fact that the work is largely in the hands of women and older folk. I couldn't help wondering what would have been the condition of the crops had the fields been worked in the old-fashioned way—each peasant ploughing, harrowing, sowing, weeding, cultivating his own patch of land, in his own manner, with no particular regard for climatic conditions, for selection of a seed, for any of the other purely scientific requisites to good farming with which collectivization has richly endowed the Russian countryside.

Collectivization has made Russian engine-minded nation and, has made possible not only scientific tillage of the land but planned distribution of food, so that the army and the civilian population can be adequately nourished in these grim fighting times. I am certain that the future historian will point to collectivization as one of the most stupendous achievements not only of the Russian revolution but of all times. Indeed, without it victory over Germany would have been impossible; with it, in this writer's judgment, it is more than certain.—*Moscow News.*

The Soldiers' Oath

◆

[We gladly reprint an illuminating extract on the important subject of civilian and military relations—*Ed.*]

"I would remind you that every soldier takes the oath to lay down his life for the protection of the civilian, and he will be your protection in future." These were the words of a senior military officer speaking at a joint civilian-troops tea party in the Presidency recently. He also made the point that " civilians had a harder time in many ways than the services who went to war." " I think there is too much difference of opinion between civilians and the services and *this is usually because we don't know sufficient about each other* ", he added.

Certainly this type of joint tea party is doing a great deal to bring the two closer together, and these functions taking place now in all parts of the Presidency are proving increasingly popular and entertaining. Moreover, the effect on the morale of the troops is admirable for they can see that their sacrifices are appreciated, while the civilians can get to know the sepoys much better and to understand them.

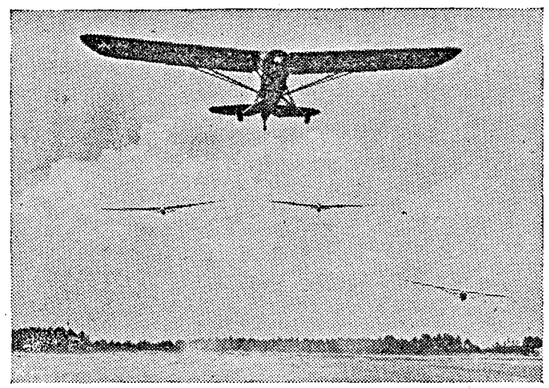
Prominent civilians were present and over 100 men from various services were entertained by an Indian orchestra comprising veena, tabla, mridangam and violin.

The host, Rao Bahadur P. S. G. Rangaswami Nayudu, struck the note prevailing at the party when he said: " the public have to realize well the responsibilities that the Fighting Forces undertake and they must be sympathetic towards them. Soldiers should for their part show due respect to the public. Mutual respect and friendliness will beget great good in the defence of the country and its well being."

RANGOON IS HERE

"Saturday Soldiers"—the name given to men of the Rangoon Field Brigade because they were civilians who donned uniform only at week-ends in peacetime—have now been entirely re-organized, and are manning some of the big coastal guns which defend India's shores against the dangers of a sea-borne invasion.

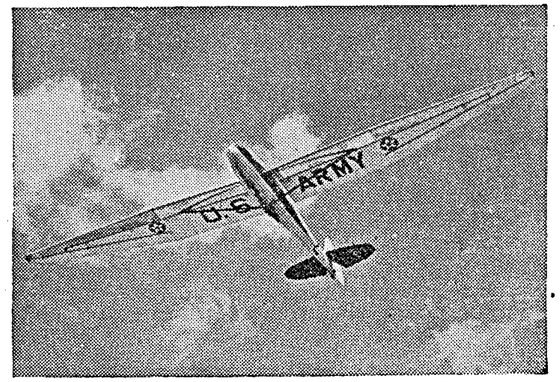
U.S. GLIDER TROOPS



In 1884 an American, Professor J. J. Montgomery, made the first successful glider flight in history—a glide of some 600 feet from the top of a hill on the U.S. West Coast. Today the glider is one of the most spectacular developments of warfare. These photos, made at one of the glider-troop training grounds in the U.S., show how American soldiers are preparing for offensive action with the aid of these motorless sky carriers.

◆

In a burst of dust, a triple-tow formation of light gliders leaves the runway. The gliders, being lighter than their tow ship, leave the ground first and stay slightly above the tow ship throughout the flight. The deceptive appearance of the gliders behind the plane in this picture is due to the angle from which the photograph was taken.



Released by the tow ship this glider soars toward its destination.

Out of nowhere, glider fighters drop to earth to attack enemy positions. The man on the right holds a gun ready though he is still discarding his parachute.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

22nd Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast near the Hague.

23rd Nov.—Sir Stafford Cripps was appointed Minister of Aircraft Production. Mr. Herbert Morrison was appointed in his place in the War Cabinet (in addition to the post of Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security). Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, was appointed Leader of the House.

24th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked Stuttgart, the heart of the industrial district in Germany.

According to the Berlin correspondent of a Swiss paper, "The German people fervently desire peace."

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

22nd Nov.—The United States Treasury decided to borrow from non-banking investors and commercial banks 9,000 million dollars, the largest sum ever borrowed by any Government in a single operation.

Mrs. Roosevelt, in a broadcast to the American nation, said: "There is very little grumbling among the British people. If we can voluntarily give work and make sacrifices in the same spirit that the British people are giving, we may be able to shorten the war."

War-time powers were granted to President Roosevelt.

23rd Nov.—It was revealed that the war to date had cost the United States 60,000 million dollars or twice the total cost of the last war.

24th Nov.—The independence of French West Indies and French Guiana from Vichy Government was considered assured by a new agreement concluded between the United States Department's representative in Martinique and the French High Commissioner.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

21st Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Pakokku in Burma.

22nd Nov.—The Japanese aerodrome at Magwe in Burma was bombed.

23rd Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese aerodromes at Mingaladon and Toungoo in Burma and Mandalay.

24th Nov.—The Royal Air Force raided Akyab. Japanese river steamers were attacked.

25th Nov.—Japanese reinforcements were sent to Burma, Siam and Indo-China. Barges and tanks were concentrated on the west bank of the Salween river. Japanese warships arrived at Kwangchowan. Three hundred aircraft arrived at Saigon.

The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy aerodrome at Meiktila and Mandalay.

CAN WE FORGET ?

"We cannot reckon the full contribution of those gallant fighting Russians who believed death itself far better than surrender. It was their unflagging determination to maintain intact an organized military force, their grim and desperate stubbornness against overwhelming odds, that diverted the German armies from the west to the east, thus snatching for us a precious period wherein we could muster combined Allied resources of production and men, reorganize our strength and so deliver telling blows against the enemy before it was too late.

"Of the British Commonwealth and England, our prodded memories must lead us to say, 'They gave us and Russia the chance to fight.' Can we forget the risks the British ran when they stripped their island under attack and . . . sent equipment halfway around the world to hold Suez? . . . Can we forget, after the fall of France, the way that the R.A.F. repelled Hitler?"

—MR. LEWIS W. DOUGLAS, *Deputy of U.S. War Shipping Administration, in an address to the Academy of Political Sciences.*

26th Nov.—One heavily armed Japanese raider was sunk in a battle in the Indian Ocean. Two of her aircraft also were sunk by an Indian mine-sweeper, H.I.M.S. Bengal and a Dutch tanker.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

21st Nov.—Allied troops continued to advance in Tunisia and were within 32 miles to Bizerta. The French forces rejected the Nazi ultimatum to evacuate Tunisian territory or join the Axis.

German troops evacuated Benghazi. The Allies retook over 120 enemy landing grounds in Cyrenaica from Daba to Mechili. Over 550 Axis aircraft were destroyed.

Admiral Darlan broadcasting over the Algiers Radio said that Petain was still "the living incarnation of France," but that with the invasion of unoccupied territory, he had lost his freedom of action.

22nd Nov.—British troops occupied Benghazi and contacted enemy troops near Agedabia. The whole of Cyrenaica fell into British hands.

The Allies launched a three-pronged drive on Bizerta. Four large enemy aerodromes in Sicily were bombed.

It was revealed that a German submarine fleet was concentrated off Gibraltar.

Algiers was bombed.

Turin was again heavily bombed.

23rd Nov.—West of Tunis, Allied shock troops attacked German defensive positions and gained possession of a road junction. German troops crossed over from Tripolitania. Nine German planes were shot down. French troops captured several German groups west of Gabes.

American shock troops took Kasbah with a combined assault of artillery, and dive bombers.

24th Nov.—Tunis and Bizerta were surrounded. Gabes harbour fell into Axis hands but their forces were driven out of Gafsa Oasis. Axis bombers attacked Algiers. German troops were forced to withdraw from Agedabia.

According to well-informed circles, Marshal Badaglio was the head of a movement for separate peace with the Allies.

Admiral Darlan announced that French West Africa had placed itself freely at his disposal.

25th Nov.—Allied advance towards Tunis-Bizerta slowed down. The Germans had a larger number of bombers and fighters operating against the Allies, most of them withdrawn from the Russian front. The Royal Air Force attacked Bizerta harbour.

British troops occupied Agedabia and Gialo in the interior of Libya.

26th Nov.—An air raid alarm was sounded in Cape Town.

According to Mr. Anthony Eden, the battle in North Africa reached an "extremely critical stage."

The Royal Air Force attacked Trapani. British and American troops made their way eastwards over enormous distances. The Eighth Army continued to press the retreating Axis forces between Jedabaya and Agheila. Nazis were thrown back south of Tunis.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

21st Nov.—The Germans were in full retreat in the Caucasus, having been defeated in the battle in the approaches to Ordzonikidze in which 5,000 Germans were killed. Nazi assaults on Stalingrad were held.

22nd Nov.—The Russian army took the offensive in Mozdok area.

23rd Nov.—The Russians launched an offensive north-west and south of Stalingrad. Kalach, a town on the eastern back of the Don, was recaptured. The Germans left 14,000 dead on the field.

HI, GENERAL !

Attending a chemical warfare demonstration somewhere in India was a General who had forgotten to bring a waterproof.

Rain threatened, and he was glad to accept the protection of a golf-umbrella which somebody produced.

A moment later the voice of the demonstrations' controller, a junior officer, boomed from the loud-speaker—

"Will the officer using a golf-umbrella please note that it is no adequate protection against gas? And will he please sit down as he is obstructing the view of others in his vicinity?"

24th Nov.—The Red Army launched double offensive round Stalingrad. According to *Pravda*, that in the fighting for Stalingrad, the Germans lost 800 tanks, 1,000 planes and 100,000 officers and men killed.

25th Nov.—The Soviet army closed round on the Germans besieging Stalingrad. German line south-west of the city was penetrated. The Nazis fled precipitately from Chernyshevskaya. Eleven thousand prisoners were taken.

26th Nov.—The siege of Stalingrad was lifted. The Soviet army broke through the German fortified lines in the industrial area north of the city and pursued the retreating Nazis. Thousands of prisoners were taken. Russian forces broke through the German positions on the Rzhev front also.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

21st Nov.—According to a New York report. General Franco informed both the Axis and the United Nations that Spain would immediately accept help from the enemy of the aggressor if any of her sea or air bases were seized.

22nd Nov.—Air raid alerts were sounded in Basle and Berne.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

21st Nov.—The Royal Air Force carried out offensive patrols over France, Belgium and Holland.

General Weygand was arrested and taken to Germany.

Marshal Petain, broadcasting to the French people, said: "In the interests of France I have decided to extend M. Laval's powers."

22nd Nov.—The Vichy Radio announced the dissolution of the Committee set up for promoting better relations between France and Germany.

M. Laval, in a public speech, said: "The situation to-day is tragic. Without her empire, France cannot live. It is in the interests of France to come to direct reconciliation with Germany."

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

21st Nov.—The Japanese occupied Lanten in Portuguese Timor. There was renewed Japanese air activity over Attu island in the Aleutians.

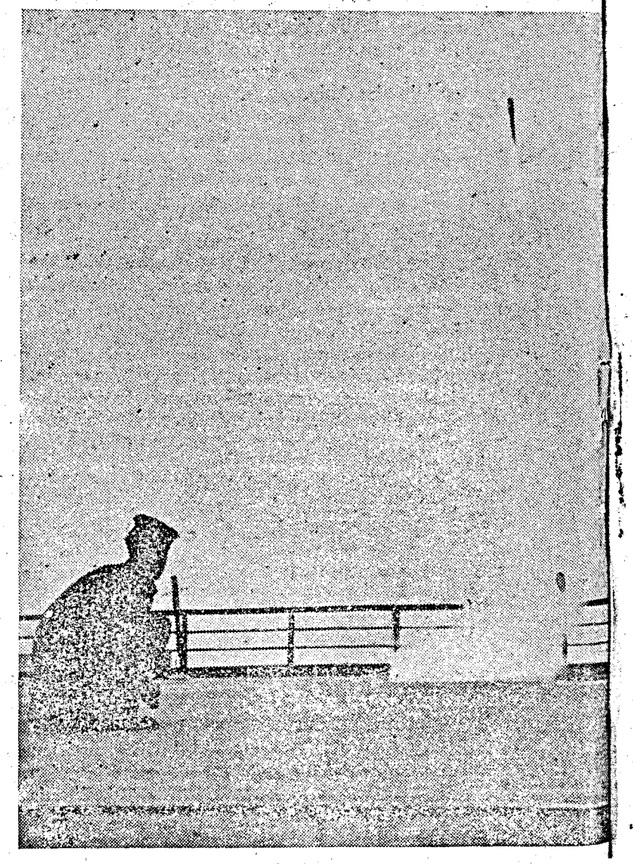
22nd Nov.—There was heavy fighting in the Buna-Gona region. It was estimated that 10,000 Japanese were killed in Guadalcanar.

23rd Nov.—American and Australian troops breaking through Japanese positions, captured Seputa, a port in Buna. American troops advanced in Guadalcanar.

24th Nov.—General MacArthur's forces were within a mile of Buna. Australian troops broke into Gona. The American forces continued to advance in Guadalcanar.

American aircraft raided Haiphong in Indo-China.

Japanese attempt to cross the Sintsiang river in northern Hunan was repulsed.



First pictures of the new device used most successfully in the defence of ships against dive bombers. The rocket apparatus shoots parachutes into the sky from which are trailed long wires—these form a deadly "wire barrage" into which many a Nazi dive bomber has had its wings cut off before being able to swerve out of the way. Photo shows the rocket leaving the gun carrying wire aloft.

25th Nov.—The Australians entered Gona, one of Japan's last two foot-holds on the New Guinea coast. Cape Endaiadere near Buna was captured.

26th Nov.—There was heavy fighting by air and land in Buna.

A new and important naval battle was raging in the Solomons.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

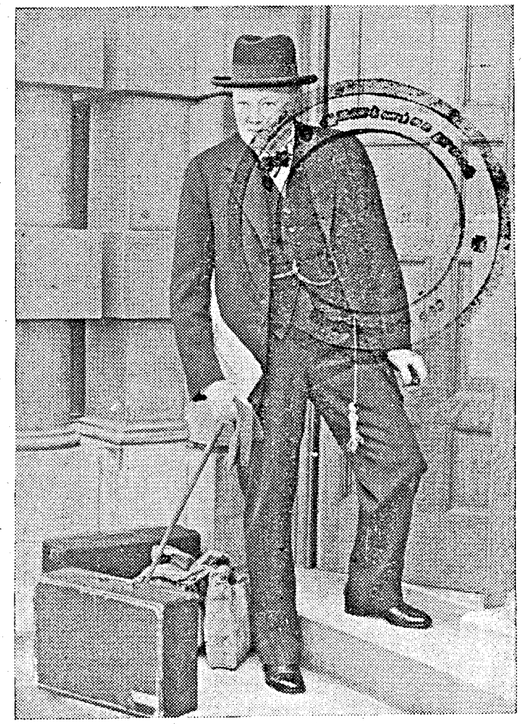
REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1942 No. 13

Lead Us To VICTORY



Mr. CHURCHILL

SALUTE and best wishes to the youthful veteran of 68, coupled with warm congratulations upon your brilliant war survey last night I returned from my English visit confident that you, in company with other grand leaders of the United Nations, will yet under the heaven's blessings lead us to one of the great victories in world history

GENERAL SMUTS, in cabling birthday greetings to Mr. Churchill on Monday (Nov. 30)

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Running Commentary	2	India's Sailors in Action	16
France will rise again	4–5	Stick on Axis Ant Heap	16
A 267-day Adventure	8	Turkey and the War	17
The Blockade Weapon	9	Opening Blows of 1943 Campaign	18
Italy's Cancer of Corruption	11	China and Britain	18
Warrior Stalin hits back	12	The Job Britons have done	19
Italians want Peace	13	British Supplies for Russia	20
Nazi "New Order" in Baltic States	14	Schoolboys bring in Wartime Harvest	21
R.A.F.'s Work in Middle East	15	Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

History Repeats itself in Russia : The Winters of 1941 and 1942.

Another great step in the Soviet plan for the destruction of Hitler's armies in Russia was taken by M. Stalin by the new offensive he has started on the Central Front. Here the Red Army has effected a break-through along a distance of 19 miles in the area of the town of Velikie Luki. To the west of the town of Rzhev, the enemy's line was broken in three places. It may be expected that the Red Army will succeed in carrying the new attack to a successful conclusion and establishing itself in the Moscow-Smolensk road area. If this is done, Smolensk itself might be captured soon and all the German armies in the Central sector facing Moscow would be in direct peril. The German armies further north would also be threatened. The successes in the Stalingrad Front will go to affect the position of the German Caucasian armies, for over the entire southern front, from Serafimovich along the Don Elbow to the Central Caucasus, the Red Army has taken the offensive. It has achieved successes in the counter-offensive operations at Novorossisk, Tuapse, Nalchik, Kalmuch and north and south of Stalingrad. These successes show that the Axis troops were not given the chance to dig in and consolidate their victories of the Summer.

History has repeated itself in the Russian campaign. Last year, at this very time, the Nazis were denying winter-quarters in Moscow and Leningrad, and this year German plans to establish winter-quarters in Stalingrad, Grozny and Trans-Caucasia have been frustrated by the Red Army. The present position bears a close resemblance to that of November of last year. The position on November 22, 1941 was that the Germans had reached the environs of Leningrad and had taken Tikhvin; encircled Moscow on three sides; advanced beyond Yeletz in the Central sector; over-run the Ukraine and Crimea; and entered the town of Rostov-on-Don. This year, at about the same time, the Germans were entrenched near Stalingrad; and having crossed the Don had swept into Northern and Central Caucasia; and were threatening Novorossisk, Tuapse and Grozny. Last year, the Russians were on the defensive all along the front, and they were helped by the advent of winter and General Auchinleck's drive to Benghazi. This drive diverted a considerable portion of the *Luftwaffe* to the Western Desert. This year winter has set in, and Allied operations in Egypt and French North Africa have diverted the *Luftwaffe* from the Russian front, enabling the Russians to launch offensives in more than one sector.

Mr. Churchill

Mr. Winston Churchill, Britain's great Prime Minister, celebrated his 68th birthday on Monday, November 30.

A birthday greeting from Field Marshal Smuts is published on the front page. The photograph of Mr. Churchill published on that page was taken soon after the outbreak of the war. Mr. Churchill who was appointed First Lord of Admiralty (the post he occupied at the outbreak of the war of 1914–18), is seen arriving at the Admiralty, London, on September 4, 1939.

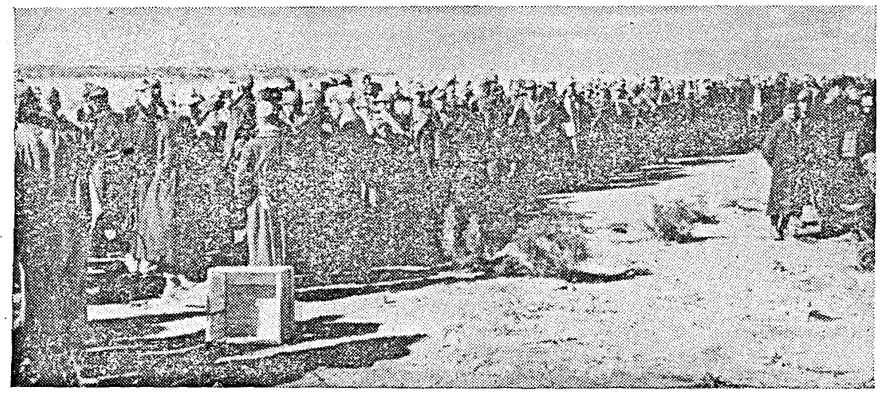
Stalin's Leadership

"All the world wonders at the giant strength which Russia has been able to conserve and to apply. The invincible defence of Stalingrad is matched by the commanding military leadership of Stalin."

—MR. CHURCHILL.

Hitler on the Defensive : Will Napoleon's Retreat be Put into Shade ?

Hitler used the winter of 1941 to recoup his losses and strengthen his forces, but this year's winter will now see a further dissipation of his strength. Tremendous casualties on the Russian front have affected the position considerably. No decisive victory has been achieved by the Germans, in spite of the enormous cost of men and material. The defensive line of the Axis is now longer than it was last winter. Hitler's U-boats have to patrol, not only the vast spaces of the Atlantic and the Arctic, but also the Mediterranean route, to prevent Allied aid reaching Russia. Hitler has to fortify the "East Wall" to prevent a Russian break-through, and the "West Wall" to prevent an attack from Britain, and construct a "South Wall" to protect Italy, in the first instance, against the threat of Allied action from the newly-acquired bases in North Africa.



German troops taken prisoner in the Western Desert Campaign.

It may be said that the situation, so far as Hitler is concerned, has worsened. Last winter, Hitler was able to stabilize his winter line at a comparatively low cost and send some of his soldiers back to German factories to produce munitions for the coming spring and summer. At that time, there was no threat of Allied activity in the West, and to offset the lull on the Eastern front Hitler called in his last reserves, the Japanese, on December 7, to engage the Allies in the Pacific. But, this year, he will have no respite of that kind, thanks to the great Allied victories in North Africa, Russia and the South Pacific. The Axis has now been definitely put on the defensive in Africa, Europe and Asia.

Hitler must have realized only too well that this means the beginning of his end. He said in his Munich speech on November 8 that Germany must now defend what she holds. So far as Russia is concerned, her immediate task is to remove the two dangerous salients north and south of Stalingrad, in the same way as she relieved the threat to Moscow last year. A good beginning has been made by the capture of Kalach, north-west of Stalingrad, and by the launching of an attack from the direction of Krassonoarmeisk in the South. The other task facing the Red Army is also the same as that of a year ago, namely, to prevent

(*Continued on page 6.*)

France Will Rise Again

IN a broadcast to the people of France five months ago (July 3), General de Gaulle said, "It is a great thing in war to have won the first battles, but it is the last one which decided everything. It will take place in France . . . . . France herself will fight this battle. In it, she will play a decisive part. Let every Frenchman prepare. This is his sole duty. This is the only solution." Many things have happened since the great General's exhortation. So far as France is concerned, Hitler's stranglehold tightened, and tightened, till it brought about its complete annihilation. In the words of Mr. Churchill, the sorry farce and fraud of the Vichy Government has become extinct by Hitler's occupation of the "free" French zone and his futile attempt to capture the French Fleet at Toulon. Mr. Churchill, in his broadcast on Sunday night, further pointed out that these developments in France were to be welcomed by the United Nations, because they were a necessary prelude to that reunion of France without which French resurrection was impossible. Now that the artificial position between occupied and unoccupied territories was swept away, all Frenchmen in France were equally under the German yoke, and would learn to hate it with equal intensity. Mr. Churchill agreed with General de Gaulle that the last scales of deception had now fallen from the eyes of the French people.

GENERAL DE GAULLE

Clemenceau's Choice

It has taken nearly two-and-a-half years for the disillusionment of the French people to become complete. Three men stood in the way of this awakening—Petain, Laval and Darlan. Petain symbolised the defeatist spirit and weakness of France. He was always a defeatist. It may be recalled that Clemenceau preferred Foch to Petain in 1917. He said, "I had to choose between a General who wanted us to retire to the banks of the Loire and lay down arms, and another General whose only wish was to keep on fighting. The choice was obvious, since I did not wish to capitulate." What France avoided in 1917 happened in 1940. Petain had a remarkable inferiority complex before the Germans and it was this which was responsible for France laying down arms on 22nd June 1940. Petain's faith in the good intentions of Hitler was childish in the extreme. Otto Abetz remarked of him that he had "eyes of a child in the head of an old man." Petain is personally an honest man and a patriot. He regarded himself as something like a French Hindenburg. In fact, he resembles him in some respects; he is old, he is honest, and he is a Marshal. Petain had been a sincere believer in the idea of "regeneration through suffering." Now that belief must have been shattered. He has been compared to a respectable *facade*, behind which all those elements of big business, finance, professional politics and treachery, which combined to ruin France, were taking cover.

The Vichy Regime

The regeneration of France, he thought, could be best achieved by collaborating with Germany, instead of fighting her. He believed that, under his paternal guidance, France will become industrious and disciplined and recover her old strength. He seemed incapable of understanding the responsibility of the army for the collapse of France and preferred to think that political corruption and intrigue were responsible for it. The Vichy regime which he established was inspired by mediæval authoritarian notions. He ignored the fact that such a thing as the French Revolution took place in 1789. He wanted France to revert to its old position as a Catholic peasant country with industry taking a second place and concerned mainly with the production of high-quality artistic goods. He thought his simple, paternal, and authoritarian rule would bring about a renaissance of the old French virtues and finally the salvation of France.

A true soldier, he thought he would treat honourably with Germany's greatest soldier, Adolf Hitler. But he never bargained for the fact that corporal Hitler would break the Armistice of 1940 and over-run unoccupied France. Petain believed that the policy of appeasement which brought about the Armistice saved France, but the Armistice has led to the annihilation of France, and he himself had to lodge a protest! Hitler's new act of aggression must have rudely awakened the Marshal, and his protest must have been the protest of a soldier who has been deeply wronged. Evidently, he now realises that he has made a mistake. But it is too late!

Marshal Petain created the most deplorable situation in France by his policy of weakness and surrender. Referring to the tragedy that overtook France and the "guilty Frenchmen" who were responsible for it, an English writer says, "It is all the more deplorable that the name of Petain—which in French eyes is still synonymous with personal honesty and public integrity—should be used to rivet the chains on France; that the man with whom is associated the heroic *Ils ne passeront pas* should be the man who is opening the door to the Germans in France. Had it been done by Laval, without the cover of Petain's name, it would not have been so dangerous, for there are no illusions in France about Laval. It is a tragi-comedy of the most ironic kind that all this should be done with the formal sanction, at least, of the old military gentleman who believes in 'peace with honour, as between soldiers'."

The Villain of the Piece

Laval is the real villain of the piece. He never made any secret of his desire to see the Germans win, and he did all in his power to help them and betray France. He helped them not only in France itself, but in Indo-China, and he attempted to do the same in Madagascar and Martinique. Though he is not popular among the French people, he became the real 'boss' of France under cover of Marshal Petain and the patronage of Hitler. Some mystery has surrounded the conduct of the men of Vichy long after the capitulation at Compiegne in 1940. Were they misguided patriots, or confirmed traitors? Were they intent on saving France or themselves from the fury of Hitler and his hordes? Different events gave different conclusions, but so far as Laval is concerned, his path seems the most clearly marked and most sinister in treacherous behaviour.

Darlan, the last of the Vichy Triumvirate, has come into the picture now with a saving grace, because of the help he rendered to the Allies in North Africa. His co-operation with the Allies has brought about a somewhat delicate and difficult situation, but President Roosevelt has made the position of the Allies clear by stating that the arrangements made by General Eisenhower with Admiral Darlan were purely of a military character, and they were made because it was essential to save American, British and French lives from unnecessary danger. Help had to be taken wherever it could be found. In a time of crisis, one cannot pick and choose.

But the one man picked and chosen to symbolise the spirit of *La France Combattante* is General de Gaulle. He joined the struggle for freedom before the men of Vichy enslaved France to the Germans. The turn of events in North Africa must have given him satisfaction, because of the great accession of Frenchmen to the cause which has as its slogan, the old Jacobian cry, *Liberte ou la mort*, and not the Vichy watchword, *L'esclavage plutot que la mort.*

The first of French patriots, General de Gaulle never pretended or aspired to be the head of a legal Government in exile like those of other nations in London. His "French National Committee" is nothing else but the directing organ of the Fighting French Movement. And it will go on and on fighting, till the Nazis are driven out from the land of the free and the brave—which owing to weak and treacherous leadership became the land of slaves and cowards.

France will decide fate of *Festung Europa*

France, as Mr. Churchill said on Sunday, will rise again, and men like General de Gaulle will play a leading part in it—a part that will restore to her the lost freedom and dignity. As the great French patriot pointed out six months ago, the real battle will have to be fought out in France, and it will decide the fate of Hitlerism in Europe. If Hitler's *Festung Europa* is to be shattered, it will have to be done mainly on the French soil. And then, France will rise, as though from a long sleep, and freedom will dawn. Meanwhile, the freedom-loving world will continue to exclaim: *La France est mort, Vive la France!*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

the Germans from establishing a straightened winter line within easy striking distance of their major objectives. It is gratifying to note that the Russians have cut the railway supply route to the German troops on the eastern bank of the Don. Their great victory at Ordzhonokidze has relieved the pressure on Grozny oil-fields, one of Hitler's very important objectives.

Viewing the whole position it is clear that Hitler's dream of capturing Leningrad, Moscow and the Caucasus is as far off as ever—perhaps further off than ever before, and we may wonder with *Reuter's* Military Commentator whether this winter and early spring may not see a German retreat from Russia which would put Napoleon's retreat from Moscow into the shade.

* * * *

Fighting in Tunisia : Serious Threat to German Forces

A great struggle has begun in right earnest for command of the strip of water in the Mediterranean bounded by Sardinia, Sicily and the Tunisian peninsula. In German hands, this will be a forward bastion for the defence of southern Europe. In Allied hands, it will be a spring-board for the invasion of France or Italy, or both. The object of the German airborne invasion of Tunisia was to get control of the entire territory under the Bey of Tunis from the Mediterranean coast to the borders of Tripolitania. They want to establish in this region air bases which would give them control of the Central Mediterranean and enable them to cut Allied sea communications between East and West North Africa. Their object is also to prevent an Allied back-door entry into Libya. It is with a view to preventing any Allied infiltration into Tunisia from Algeria that German forces have spread out west and south-west of Bizerta and Tunis.

But in spite of stiff resistance of the enemy, Allied troops have successfully effected entry into Tunisia. Advanced elements of the opposing forces are fighting each other a few miles west of Bizerta. Allied parachutists have attacked Italo-German positions near Mateur, an important railway junction on the Tunis-Bizerta line, 24 miles from Bizerta and 38 miles from Tunis. Further south, Allied forces were operating from bases along the Feriana-Gafsa railway line and are gradually advancing eastward. This advance affords a serious threat to German forces which are likely to be split into two. To prevent such a danger it is reported that German troops in Southern and Central Tunisia have been ordered to cut their way through to the North.

Germans are digging in both in the Tunis area and some 30 miles south-west of Bizerta with a view to making a resolute stand. The *Luftwaffe* is well entrenched in Tunisia, and it is expected that severe fighting will take place before the enemy is ousted. Recent reports show that Germans are using air attacks in an endeavour to hold up Allied advance but only with moderate results. Transport planes are being used by the Allies to supply troops and air forces from the main base.

Later reports state that British and American forces have driven their wedge between Tunis and Bizerta and that the Battle for Tunisia has reached a decisive stage.

* * * *

Confusion in Enemy Radio Propaganda—Berlin and Rome on African Fighting

There has been a good deal of confusion in enemy radio propaganda as a result of the sudden burst of Allied offensive activity in the Mediterranean area. In a broadcast, Mr. W. A. Sinclair, B.B.C. propaganda expert, has analysed and interpreted recent trends in Axis propaganda. A few extracts from his broadcast are given below:—

"Apart from confusions among themselves, the Italians as a whole and the Germans as a whole have gone on separate propaganda lines. The German line was that the campaign in Egypt and Cyrenaica did not greatly matter. Hitler, you will remember, in his last speech dismissed it in half of one sentence and, since then, Nazi propagandists have tried to minimise the African fighting by filling up their news bulletins with reports of enormous Allied shipping losses.

"The Italians, on the other hand, took the line that the African fighting was the most important in the whole war . . . In his effort to exaggerate Italy's importance, the radio commentator Mario Appelius, on November 7 made the absurd statement: 'Britain has throughout the war concentrated her main forces against Italy . . .' Mario Appelius, later in the same broadcast, said: 'This has been a heavy burden, but it is also a great honour that we Italians have constantly and soundly withstood the age-old might of the greatest modern empire.'"

"We know, of course" (Mr. Sinclair continued), "that, when things were going well for the Axis in Africa, the Italians carefully pointed out that the Commander-in-Chief was an Italian Marshal (whose name I have forgotten). Of late, they have taken to speaking of Rommel as being in command. It is quite plain that the Italians dislike the Germans and fear them; and it is quite plain that the Germans despise the Italians, but they have put themselves in the same boat and they have got to make shift to get on together."

Axis broadcasts give the general impression that their Governments are disturbed and alarmed about the present military situation and about the stability of the home morale of their own people. Mr. Sinclair says:

"Italian morale does seem to be at a low ebb. It seems to be fundamentally unhealthy. That is the only conclusion that anyone can draw from the weird mixture that constitutes Italian Home Propaganda. Some of it consists in almost pathetic appeals to stand firm and the rest is bombastic stuff about their lion-hearted soldiers.

He points out that one of the queerest points in Italian Home Propaganda at present is that Italians are being urged to behave with courage and composure similar to that of the British at the time of Dunkirk. Italian broadcasts say, "the behaviour of Churchill and the British was not without greatness,"

A Good Job Done Well!

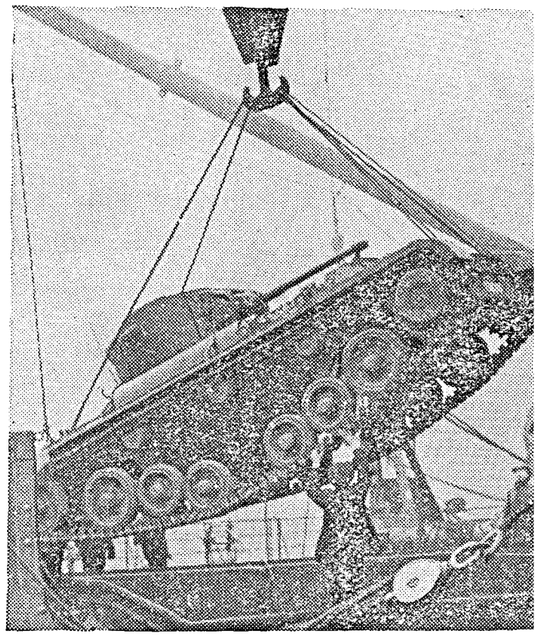
Our readers must have read in the papers about the exploits, in Solomon Islands waters, of the U.S. light cruiser *Boise*. It might interest them to know that the *Boise* underwent repairs in an Indian yard at Bombay last March by Indian labour.

To judge from the account of herself given near the Solomons, the repair job done on the *Boise* by Indian labour must have been first-rate!

THE DAWN OF 1943

"The dawn of 1943 will soon loom red before us, and we must brace ourselves to cope with the trials and problems of what must be a stern and terrible year. We do so with the assurance of ever-growing strength and as a nation with a strong will, bold heart and good conscience."

—Mr. CHURCHILL.



British "Valentine" tanks are being supplied to Allied armi in various theatres of war. Numbers sent to Russia were used the defence of Stalingrad and Moscow. Picture shows: A Briti "Valentine" Mark II tank being lowered into the hold of supply ship.

and implore the Italians to behave similarly. He also refers to considerable discontent among the German civilian population. He says :

"The German Government seems to have resigned itself to the fact that there is widespread discontent, and it seems to have decided that mere discontent as such will have to be tolerated. What will not be tolerated is action arising out of that discontent. Goebbels made this very clear in his weekly article in *Das Reich*. This was even more extensively broadcast and commented on than usual, so he must have regarded it as particularly important. He drew a distinction—I think quite a sound distinction—between the German people's mood (the German word was *Stimmung*) and their attitude or bearing, their *Haltung* as he called it. Moods of discontent and the like, he said, are temporary, they pass, they do not matter ; but bearing—*Haltung*—does matter. And then he went on to explain tactfully that the German people might indulge themselves in having a despondent or discontented mood, or *Stimmung*, from time to time, but that they would get into trouble if they had a despondent or discontented bearing."

This does not mean, Mr. Sinclair makes it clear, that because the Germans are discontented they are therefore a weaker enemy to overcome, for though discontentment in a democratic country may weaken the Government, and even bring about its downfall, in a totalitarian country like Germany, such discontent will be only a minor inconvenience. The German Government can control, not the mood of the people, but only their bearing, and it is their bearing that affects us in that it makes them fight the Allies. But if that discontent reaches a high pitch as the result of a crushing military defeat, it will affect the bearing of the German people directly as it did in 1918.

WAR IN EUROPE

"It may well be that the war in Europe will come to an end before the war in Asia. The Atlantic may be calm, while in the Pacific the hurricane rises to its full pitch."

—Mr. CHURCHILL.

A 267-Day Adventure

◆

AFTER 267 days of travel by foot, naval pinnace, canoe and raft, three A.I.F. sergeants who were in the Rabaul garrison on January 23 when the Japanese made their successful invasion have now arrived at a New Guinea base. These soldiers are three victorians : Sergeants J. Flucker, A. Vine and P. Beenie.

Evading the Japanese they made their way from Rabaul to the south coast of New Britain but got away when a Japanese naval landing party, which was subsequently cleared out by Australian forces, landed there. Flucker and his companions, hiding on a river bank, saw the Japanese emerge from the jungle on the opposite side. Continuing down the coast of New Britain, the Australians came upon a rich plantation and established camp. They assisted a number of other Australians who arrived during the few days they were there. On the beach they found a 15-foot open boat. They were not experienced sailors but decided that they would try to reach Australia.

For a week they and a few others were at sea trying to get along the coast of New Britain. The weather was bad and they were blown back to where they began. Some became sick and one died of fever. They went ashore to bury him. Returning to a small harbour on the southern coast of New Britain, the Australians were told that troops were being evacuated from the northern side of the island. They arrived five days too late to get abroad the last evacuation ship. They remained for a few days and found plenty of food.

When a small naval pinnace showed up, the party went along the coast seeking others who might be attempting to escape and were close to being picked up by a Japanese naval patrol. They landed on a small island where they hoped to be picked up, but after waiting months for transport they decided to try to push across to New Guinea. After an amazing trip from small island to small island they finally reached the north-east coast of New Guinea 200 days after first leaving Rabaul. They then tramped for weeks through the New Guinea jungle evading districts where there were Japanese. Finally they made a raft and sailed down a river to the south coast. Even then they were still 260 miles from an Allied base. It is estimated that altogether they travelled 800 miles on foot and 2,000 miles by boat. All are fit and will be posted to their unit soon.

The Blockade Weapon

BY

LEONARD INGRAMS

WAR, in its former sense of conflict between armed forces, will hardly describe this present opposition of whole economies to each other. The challenge of the Axis War States is corporate, concerted force. Their striking power is rooted in the daily lives of all their nationals. The clear dividing line between the soldiers and the people is quite untraceable. The railway, the larder, and the workshop are fronts on which their enterprise can fail. Every process in their planned economies is part of their military campaigns.

The answer to this challenge of the Axis War States is twofold. They must be met by force to match and to exceed their own, and their concentration of their own resources must be limited, confused, and dissipated in every possible way. The threatened citizens of the free world must equally concentrate their energies to the single purpose of offensive force, and while they are building up their armies the enemy must be prevented by all means possible from adding to his strength and maintaining his effort.

The day of his defeat must be hastened by mobilising the resources of the United Nations and by immobilising simultaneously the resources of the Axis—by attacking the whole complex of materials, machines, men, organisation, and will that go to make up his economic fighting power. This latter task is economic warfare. Its most impressive weapon is blockade.

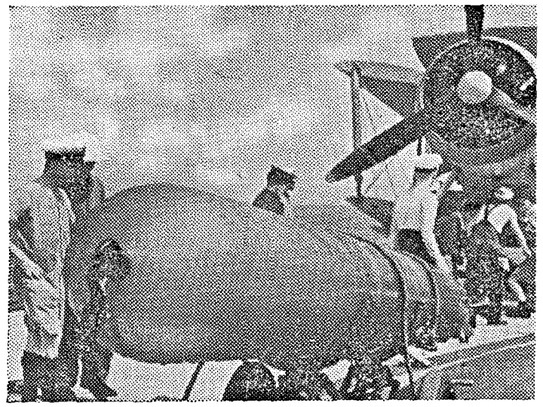
The seas were out of bounds to German shipping when the war began, and contraband, which means in practice anything to help the enemy, was seized off neutral ships as well. Britain's international commercial strength was mobilised to help the Navy. British controlled bunkers and water, repairs, towage Britain's banking facilities and insurance, were reserved around the world for friendly ships, and by the end of 1941 the enemy's supplies from neutrals overseas, however indirect, were being effectively cut off at the source.

Important penalties were placed on help to Germany from neutral territory and Europe too. Private businesses who dealt with Germany were listed as declared enemies of Britain. Now they're proclaimed enemies of America as well, and aiding or abetting Germany is most unprofitable.

The American Government, co-operating increasingly in economic warfare, has also frozen European funds in the United States, and works with Britain to buy up supplies of vital materials within reach of Germany on the European mainland in competition with the Axis.

CONQUEST OF EUROPE DID NOT BREAK THE BLOCKADE

Within their legal frontiers, neither Germany nor Japan had natural resources enough to maintain for long the effort of modern warfare against determined opposition. The plan of both was to rely on force, as bandits do, to get them what they lacked. The method of both was to pile up vast quantities of raw material and general supplies. The intention of both was to win with blitzkrieg tactics if not final victory then



BRITISH FLEET AIR ARM ACTIVE IN MEDI RANEAN : This photograph taken aboard a British aircraft c shows a torpedo being loaded on to a "Swordfish" torpedo b aircraft just before it took off, on a search for the enemy fleet.

new resources to reinforce their own and vantage points to defend them from, and then to plan, if need be, further conquest. If need be! Hostilities were far from finished when Germany's lightning conquest of almost all of Western Europe was completed. Above all, the blockade was unbroken. The Japanese explosion in the Pacific was equally impressive in its results. But of these results, by far the most important occurred on the American Continent. In neither case had the Axis partners yet gained control of an area rich enough of itself to feed the hungry mouths of their huge victorious war machines for ever. Broadly speaking, Japan has more raw materials than she wants, and Germany—with lack of raw materials and man-power—has in Europe more factory space than she can use. Both of them are short of cotton, wool, and copper, but both have huge advantages to offer to each other if they could easily exchange their products. Their greatest

need in either case is victory to give them time to exploit their gains and check the wastage of their strength in battle. And failing victory, they both must base their strategy on economic factors. The importance of military decisions will be reckoned in terms of their economic consequences, the plus and minus of resources they entail.

Germany started the war with a large reservoir of strength. Something of that ran out in the campaigns of 1939 and 1940. But her strength was replenished with loot and plant and workers when Western Europe capitulated. Early in 1941, brother Mussolini was bogged and beaten in Greece and hollering for help. In aid of Italy, the Balkans were invaded. Here on balance, the plus and minus of economic gains and losses was not so favourable; in fact, the trade agreements carefully built up for years before the war to ensure steady flow of food to Germany were thoroughly upset. Men and horses were mobilised from the fields, sowing and reaping were interfered with, and the Balkan peasantry turned actively hostile to the conquerors. In June last year Germany attacked Russia, while, as she calculated, there was still enough reserved in blockaded Europe to tide her over until Russia could be conquered and Russian territories organized to yield rich dividends.

HOW RUSSIA HAS HELPED IN THE BLOCKADE

The effects of blockade have been tremendously accelerated by the drain on Germany's reservoir that Russia's heroic resistance has made. Here was not blitzkrieg, and no loot; no systematic winter pause for men to return for a while to the fields and the factories; better still, as winter gave place to spring of this year, still more men had to be combed out of industry and agriculture for the forces. Material resources, too, ran out at a far greater rate than they could be replaced. To keep the Army up to strength and fully equipped and supplied has meant in practice that the Army has first call on manpower, oil, leather, textiles, transport and food; industrial production, agriculture, fisheries, and civilian life generally have to make do with what is left over.

In those cases particularly that I have mentioned it hasn't been enough, and now, while the blockade of Europe is still maintained, aggressive weapons in the economic war grow daily with the growing strength of the United Nations. Sea and air forces are relentlessly driving the enemies' coastwise traffic off the seas and on to over-burdened inland traffic lines. In Northern waters the offensive against shipping has notably increased this year. Bomber Command, meanwhile, has entered the scene in force. Raids on a greater scale than German raids on Britain in the winter of 1940–41 have now been carried out for several months on the key war industries of German Europe. Well-placed bombs on plant and machinery are hampering production, and more important still, they are dislocating the nice balance of the enemy's resources of man-power and materials as between his home front and his battlefront. They are striking at those daily lives of enemy nationals in which the enemy's striking power is rooted. The Germans have had to calculate —as we have seen—how much of effort could be spent upon the Army and its needs, and how little could be allocated to meet the barest civilian necessities and to maintain the health and stamina of the people and their efficiency.

Like a camel, their home front has been told to live off its hump, to make things do till the war ends; and like a camel its master has placed upon it just as much as its back is calculated to bear without breaking.

Heavy air raids create new tasks of re-equipping and rehousing displaced populations, restarting interrupted services, and reorganizing civilian life. These new tasks must call for their accomplishment, not on reserves of labour and materials—of which there are none—but on the very sinews of the war machine itself.

SPIRITUAL FORCE OF FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLES

There is another factor in the economic war, which has grown daily in force and which can equally help to paralyse the striking arm of Germany. The United Nations have no monopoly of the spiritual force that men and women derive from man's passionate insistence on his right of freedom. There is no country of Europe in which this force is not at work. In the West, workers resist pressure to fill up under duress gaps in German manpower. In the South-east, peasants rebel against an imposed lease-lend which forces them to lend to oppressors they dislike on a lease, the terms of which they distrust. Peasants of South-east Europe who exported last year only one-fifth of the corn and maize and only half of the oil seeds that they did before the war are blockading Germany as truly as a British policy that stops Argentine maize and Indian oil-cake from reaching her.

All these factors—blockade in the West and fighting in the East, dislocation from the air and rebellion on the border—are forming themselves to-day into a single scheme in which the Axis War States will be finally overthrown by military defeat—*A recent B.B.C. talk.*

Italy's Cancer of Corruption

◆

ON the credit side, Italy, in this war, has gained a few square miles around Mentone, the holiday resort on the French coast; a couple of barren border districts in Western Greece; and an Italian prince has been made King of Croatia but has not yet dared to set foot in his kingdom. On the debit side, Italy has lost half her imports and exports. Her war production to-day is little more than half of what it was three years ago. Her African Empire has crumbled to pieces and, worst of all, Italy herself has come virtually under German control.

To-day this question of German control is certainly the most vital and crucial problem, because it affects all walks of Italian life. Nazi officials are sprawling in all Italian ministries. Plain clothes Gestapo and S.S. officers, arriving in batches of fifty or a hundred, spread themselves over the country. Officially they are 'undergoing special colonial training.' German engineers and technicians hold key positions in the more important factories, mainly in chemical and armament works. The Germans have established a rate of exchange between the German reichsmark and the Italian lira to their own advantage, and they are thus able to buy up stocks of many goods sorely needed inside Italy. Specially appointed German-Italian committees are taking stock of all plants and machinery in Italian key industries. Some people say that they are preparing for a wholesale transfer of Italian factories to Germany.

ITALIAN BUSINESSMEN'S GRAVE FEARS

At a recent meeting of Italian businessmen at Pisa grave fears were expressed about the Nazis' future plans for Italy. Some Italians fear that the Nazis want to smash all Italian industries so laboriously built up in the years of Mussolini's big self-sufficiency drive. These fears and doubts were certainly not allayed by recent Nazi statements about German war aims. Italians must have heard of the sensational article by Gestapo leader Werner Best, who mapped out a plan for Germany's future rule in Europe and allotted to Italy the place of a German colony.

A prominent Fascist paper recently reproached Germany for not paying any attention to the real conditions in Italy. Italy, so the paper said, has lost its bargaining power in negotiations with other countries. Since Germany grabs all that Italians have to give, Italy cannot fulfil her obligations towards third countries in return for goods imported from them. More than 600,000 skilled Italian workers are toiling in the Reich—on East Prussian fields, in Ruhr mines and Rhineland factories. Not only manual workers, but clerks and typists have been conscripted to work in the Reich.

To-day Germany is the destination of many Italian men and women in need of work and livelihood, just as the United States was the destination of the masses of Italian emigrants before and immediately after the last war. With the difference, however, that to-day the Italians are forced and conscripted to work in a country they do not like.

BRITAIN'S "FOREIGN LEGION".—Among the aliens serving in the British Army Pioneer Corps, and largely employed in constructing camps in various parts of the United Kingdom, are engineers and architects, doctors and chemists, musicians and writers, mostly Germans and Austrians incorporated in one company. Many of them fought against Britain in the last war; yet a large number have passed through the horrors of Nazi concentration camps. They are commanded by British Officers . . . Here a carpenter from Vienna is seen at work in one of the camps.

FOOD PROBLEM IS VERY SERIOUS

The food problem is now very serious in Italy—it is probably worse than anywhere in Europe, except perhaps Greece and Finland. If you want to grasp the whole relationship between the junior and the senior partners of the Axis, you only have to compare Italian and German food rations. The Italian housewife gets only half as much bread a week as her opposite number in Germany. She gets one-third as much meat, just over half as much sugar, and just about half as much fats. The bread situation has lately grown worse, and the daily ration of the Italian

amounts to little more than an equivalent of two small rolls. Potatoes are rationed locally. In Rome, for instance, the ordinary citizen, this summer, was allowed one small potato a day.

In industrial districts the food shortage makes itself particularly felt. Mussolini himself admitted this recently in a message to the workers of Milan. Nearly every day Italian newspapers contain appeals asking the public to be patient with those in charge of food distribution. One day Rome housewives find the fruit and vegetable markets empty. The next day women in Turin or Genoa search in vain for meat.

As a matter of fact, the first proper Food Offices to supervise rationing regulations and food distribution were only set up in August of this year. Italians who were asking for an explanation of this state of affairs were given one reason. It was stated bluntly in the annual report of one of the most important Italian financial concerns, the Bank of Naples. It said: 'We Italians have made a mistake about the duration of this war, and the result of our miscalculation, which we have maintained for fifteen months, was that the most important requirements of the war effort have been neglected.'

If this is a plausible reason for faults of organisation it is certainly no excuse for the extent of racketeering and profiteering going on in Fascist Italy to-day. The Black Market is thriving. Day by day scores of butchers, grocers, wine merchants, and innkeepers are taken to account before emergency tribunals. Restaurants and bars sell food and drink at exorbitant prices. Farmers who are ordered to sell their produce at fixed rates to the so-called Wheat Pools, which the Government established at the outbreak of the war, now prefer to sell on the Black Market. This Black Market has not only become a general problem, but one involving the leaders of the Fascist Party. The cancer of corruption has penetrated deeply into the body of Fascism.

SEVERE REVISION

Officials of the Fascist Party have taken advantage of their special privileges. They have forged ration cards, hoarded foodstuffs, and sold stocks from the State Depots. They have discredited the prestige of the Fascist Party and its Duce in the eyes of even the most tolerant Italian. Little more than a month ago Mussolini summoned the chiefs of the Fascist Party to his marble-walled study at the Palazzo Venezia. At the end of this conference he signed a decree expelling some sixty-six thousand members of the Party and dismissing scores of officials. A fortnight later he appointed two new regional inspectors and five provincial leaders of the Fascist movement. But the crisis is by no means over. Only a few days ago one of the Vice-Secretaries of the Fascist Party, Carlo Ravasio, said in a speech at Trieste: 'Party comrades: at present a severe revision of the Fascist Party's ranks is being made.'

The task of carrying out this 'revision' of the declining Fascist movement has fallen to a new man—to Vidussoni, Mussolini's twenty-six-year-old Secretary of the Fascist Party. Vidussoni is a fanatic. He belongs to that young generation of Italians who only know Fascism, who have grown up in the Fascist mentality, fed by such empty phrases as 'Italian glory,' 'living space,' 'Italy's imperial mission,' and so on. To-day these young Fascists are perhaps the most disappointed of all Italians. They are disgusted with the inefficiency, slackness, and corruption of the bigwigs. To Mussolini they might become dangerous. He, therefore, decided to take the wind out of their sails and appointed one of them, Vidussoni, his second in command. The indifference, the almost cynical attitude of many Italians to this war comes out in a quip which is current in Italy at the present moment. It runs: 'If England wins the war, we are losers; if Germany wins it, we are lost.'—*From a recent B.B.C. talk.*

Warrior Stalin Hits Back

THE Germans expected the Russian blow between Leningrad and Moscow. It has come at Stalingrad. Every man hopes that it is only the start, writes the *Daily Express*.

All through the dangers of the summer, warrior Stalin has been putting by. He has been grouping armies and assembling supplies for an offensive that has hit the invaders with its first blast.

A few months ago the Germans would not have regarded the fact of being partly surrounded as danger. They would have found safety in attack. They would have snapped bigger pincers outside the Russian pincers. They would have held hedgehog defences even nine-tenths surrounded. They would have been ready to burst out as Rommel has done more than once.

That is no longer the German attitude. More prisoners are among the Russian booty. What has made this difference? The difference is that the Allied attacks have been smashers. They have not under-estimated the enemy. They were designed to paralyse his power to hit back of which Hitler and Goering have been talking.

The Russians have learned the need to hit hard or not at all. So has the Bomber Command of the Royal Air Force. So have the men who planned the Allied campaigns in Africa and crowded big guns into every 23 yards of the Egyptian front.

Italians Want Peace

By GUIDAO DELLA ROSA

ONE important result of the Allied victories in North Africa is their reaction among the Italian people. The invincible Rommel has been routed, abandoning a large part of the Italian forces to their fate—destruction or imprisonment—while the occupation of French North Africa by the Americans has brought a direct threat to the Italian mainland.

More than ever before the Italians feel that the continuation of war can bring them no advantage and that they are merely pawns in the German game and their only hope for the future lies in a speedy end to hostilities. The longing for peace was widespread among the Italians long before the events in Africa brought the danger close to Italy itself.

The causes of this war-weariness are not difficult to find. Here we will summarise the more important.

(1) Italy has known no respite from war for nearly eight years. The war in Abyssinia launched in 1935 was followed by the Albanian and the Spanish campaigns until Mussolini dragged his country into the world war.

MORAL SICKNESS

(2) The Italian people are profoundly dissatisfied with the Fascist regime. The antagonism of the individual citizen to the existing regime can best be likened to a moral sickness affecting the life of the whole country. During the nine months of dangerous equivocal neutrality from September 1939 to June 1940 there was a certain revival of faith in Mussolini as saviour of the people but disillusionment was all the greater when on June 10, 1940, war was declared on the Allies and now dissatisfaction has become general loathing of Mussolini and his regime.

(3) All Mussolini's propaganda has not been able to counteract the strong Catholic traditions of the Italians and his attitude to the Church has not made him more popular with the deeply religious masses of the people. The Pope's frequent denunciations of dictators have only served to intensify the people's fundamental hatred of the Fascist party and war.

(4) Hatred of the Germans is now stronger than fear of Allied victory. The Italians have never felt any particular fondness for the Germans and their dislike has been sharpened to outright hatred by resentment at the arrogant behaviour of the German soldiers, the secret police and officials who are interfering in so many fields of Italian life and at the German treatment of the Italian Divisions in the battle of Egypt.

FOOD SHORTAGE

(5) Food shortage has brought unparalleled privation and hardship to the Italians during the last two years. Yet under cover of "trade agreement" the Germans continue to rob Italy of its home-produced supplies. In recent months, it has frequently happened that trains on their way to Germany from Italy have been stopped and pillaged by angry crowds.

(6) The economic and financial crisis is growing month by month more acute and the German policy of withholding raw materials and war products is reducing Italy to complete economic dependence upon the Reich.

(7) It can no longer be hidden from the Italian people that their army and navy have suffered one defeat after another—in Greece, Abyssinia, Libya and in frequent engagements with the British fleet in the Mediterranean—now in new battles in North Africa.

(8) The Royal Air Force bombing attacks on large Italian towns have brought home to the Italian civilian population the full horror of modern war and have filled them with terror and panic from which only an end to the war can save them.

OVERSTAYED HIS WELCOME

All these factors have influenced in greater or lesser degree the different classes composing the Italian population each of which has its own particular reasons for desiring peace.

(1) The Crown is realizing more and more clearly that Mussolini has overstayed his welcome and that the hour is ripe to translate the wishes of the people into action against the Fascist party before it is too late.

(2) The Church has for years watched the fluctuations of Fascist policy and is ready at the right moment to exert the powerful influence that it has always had among the Italian people.

(3) The armed forces have lost all hope of victory and are realizing that the only way to avoid disaster is to leave the Germans to fight their own battles.

(4) The peasants and workers alike long for peace, the peasants because they are compelled to surrender their crops and are suffering more and more from labour shortage, and workers because they see their own factories on the verge of closing down altogether for lack of materials and live in constant dread of transfer to Germany.

(5) The industrialists have realized that their country is ruined economically, with its industry and resources pledged to Germany and that only one way of escape lies open—to ask for peace. Peace can only be attained in one way—by the overthrow of Mussolini and the Fascist regime. Italy must pay the price for peace, she must pay for the years she has allowed herself to be dragged along the German war path and prove her readiness for peace by cleansing her own country of Nazis.

Nazi "New Order" in Baltic States

BY

J. PALECKIS,

Chairman of the Presidium of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic.

WHILE indulging in demagogic talk about rights of self-government and promising the Baltic peoples a "fitting place" in the "New Europe," the Nazis are actually robbing them of all state sovereignty, obliterating the very names of Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia from the map by designating them all under the general title of "Ostland." Hundreds of thousands of persons are languishing in prisons and concentration camps, or have been transported for slave labour.

In order to weaken the Baltic nations and paralyze their resistance, the German Fascists are shipping large numbers of workers, particularly the youth, to Germany for slave labour either in Germany or to the region of the front. Moreover, a certain number of men have been deluded and forced to take up arms against their countrymen. According to a recent announcement, high school graduates are admitted into college only on condition that they serve in Hitler's army or work in Germany.

COUNTRY STRIPPED BARE

Openly declaring that all the interests of the Baltic are wholly subordinated to the task of supplying the Nazi army stationed in the Baltic states, the occupationists are stripping our countries bare. Peasants are made to give up all their produce but a small quantity barely sufficient to keep body and soul together. The population has been forced under the threat of severe punishment to give up all metal and rubber articles, bicycles, warm clothing and footwear.

In view of the wide boycott of such orders, particularly on the part of the peasants, the Hitlerite authorities have threatened to deal with offenders as with enemies at the front, i.e., shoot them on the spot.

In the kingdom of lawlessness and oppression established by the occupationists in the Baltic, the Germans are placed in a privileged position. Every German receives twice as much bread as a Lithuanian, Latvian or Esthonian worker. The Baltic peoples are made to feel at every step that the German is the master in their lands.

POLICY OF "GERMANIZATION"

The policy of "Germanization" is being systematically carried out through the schools, the cinema, radio and other cultural institutions. The German language has been declared the first official language, and a knowledge of it is obligatory for students enrolling in local colleges. Publishing houses are engaged in issuing Fascist, anti-Semitic literature.

There is no doubt that the aim of the Fascist "new order" in the Baltic is to exterminate the local peoples and turn the Baltic into an adjunct of Germany as has been done in the case of west Poland.

This aim, however, is too obvious to the peoples of the Baltic, and they are resisting it with all their strength. The guerilla movement is spreading steadily in Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia.

A large number of men from these countries are fighting in national units in the Red Army.

The peoples of the Soviet Baltic firmly believe that the heroic struggle of the Soviet peoples, suported by their brothers-in-arms in Great Britain and the United States and the other countries at war with Hitler, will bring liberation and victory.—*Condensed from Moscow News.*

Mussolini Squeals

Referring to the R.A.F. raids on Northern Italy, Mussolini said in an address to the Fascist Party on Wednesday, that the Italian casualties, as a result of R.A.F. raids on Northern Italy, were 1,876 killed and over 3,300 injured. In Genoa the number of houses destroyed was 5,772. "We have made hundreds of millions of lire on shelters that can resist the biggest bombs," he said.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Britain's Home Secretary, in a speech in London on the same day said that it is clear from the Duce's figures that the R.A.F. must have been exceedingly successful in finding military targets at which it aimed. He added: "When Britain underwent its blitz, the British did not squeal. Mussolini does."

R.A.F.'s Work in Middle East

THE first thing that struck me on visiting the Royal Air Force in Egypt was the complete absence of traditional English class distinctions. In the Royal Air Force of to-day the only criterion is courage. Mechanics, clerks, writers, lords, sergeant-pilots or officers share the same mess, and one cannot help being struck by the complete camaraderie between them, writes the Special Correspondent of the *Yeni Sabah* and *La Turguie.*

Another noticeable fact in the Royal Air Force is that there is none of the traditional stern military discipline but, instead, an instinctive understanding that every man has his duty and will do it. These new hard, courageous youngsters who have learned to fight and to kill are very different from when they first came out. Then they regarded fighting as a gentlemanly sort of sport. If they have any regrets to-day, it is only that they could not kill more.

Another striking fact about the Royal Air Force is their extreme conservatism in claiming the destruction of enemy aircraft. Unless a pilot can actually see a plane crashing on the ground and bursting into flames, he cannot claim it as shot down. An enemy machine may be coming down completely wrapped in smoke, so that there is not the slightest doubt that it will crash, but the pilot can only claim it as probably lost.

MAGNIFICENT WORK

Every officer I met could not give enough praise to the magnificent work being done by the Royal Air Force ground crews. On busy days these men work from two hours before dawn all the day through in insufferable heat far into the bitterly cold desert night. Fighters will be taking off and landing all the day long, and the task of reloading, refuelling and repairing never ceases. One Royal Air Force officer told me that he had once landed with the tail of his machine shot to pieces, but in a few hours a new one had been fitted and he could take off again.

With such adversaries it is not perhaps surprising that nowadays German and Italian airmen show no desire to fight. Spitfires are the *bete noire* of Axis flyers. Whenever they see Spitfires, they invariably bolt for home. Even the best Axis fighter, the Messerschmitt-109, always does its utmost to avoid Spitfires.

One has to be out in the desert with the Royal Air Force and see them at work, to appreciate the truth of General Auchinleck's words when he spoke of the "great and glorious part played by the Royal Air Force."

Another remarkable feature in the desert is the work of the tank and aircraft salvage units. They work in the frontline, often under enemy fire, and share all the hardships and dangers of fighting men. I have seen the heaviest tanks hauled back on tank recovery trucks to desert workshops, or rather factories, where repair work goes on 24 hours a day.

The Eighth Army paratroops are the toughest possible individual fighters. All are picked men between 20 and 25, and their training is harder and more strenuous than any other unit. They have nightly marches of between 20 and 30 miles in the desert, and learn to jump on and off trucks moving at 30 miles an hour.

The extreme simplicity and unequalled efficiency of the "Owen" gun has proved it to be the best light sub-machine gun of the war. With a lower trajectory over 300 yards it is far deadlier than other Tommy-guns, firing with greater velocity, deeper penetration and less recoil. It is mudproof and sandproof, can fire 30 rounds in three seconds. A flick of the finger gives either automatic or trigger control, while a simple catch allows spent magazines and hot barrels to be released instantly. Invented and being mass produced in Australia, the "Owen" gun weighs 10½ lb. and costs less than six Australian pounds.

Picture shows: An Australian soldier charging the 30-round magazine of the "Owen" gun, so named from its inventor.

I have seen British service women in thousands in the Middle East doing splendid work. They drive heavy lorries, cook, do cyphering and many other kinds of work to release men for the frontline. The devotion and heroism of British nurses will never be forgotten. They are everywhere, even in the most forward positions, working night and day. They never grumble, and always think of their patients, never of themselves.

India's Sailors in Action

SAILORS of the Royal Indian Navy who have recently brought to India some of the Navy's new warships constructed in the United Kingdom describe experiences of submarine warfare during the voyage to their motherland.

In protecting merchantmen in convoy they helped to beat off several attacks by enemy submarines.

One of India's new warships towed a badly damaged vessel for no less than 500 miles. Another sighted survivors from a torpedoed vessel and picked them up. Her log book tersely tells the story:

"1015. Raft bearing Green 90. Away sea-boat's crew." A little later: "Sea-boat secured. Resume course and speed."

A further entry reads: "At sea. A ship torpedoed astern."

The convoy system, under which merchantmen proceed in company escorted by warships, has reduced the loss of merchant shipping to small proportions. Some losses are, nevertheless, bound to occur, but fortunately a steady toll is taken of the attacking submarines.

At one period the warship mentioned above formed part of the escort for a convoy of 40 vessels.

Officers and men serving in the new warships are now eager to play their part in the defence of the sea lanes round India—and they serve in ships whose capabilities match this enthusiasm.

Compact and fast, these additions to the fleet are well equipped for dealing a death-blow to marauding submarines and aircraft, and are also fitted for minesweeping.

By Candlelight!

Old Lady: "Ten pence a pound for candles. That's very dear, ain't it?"

Grocer: "Yes, but you see they are dearer now on account of the war."

Old Lady (in surprise): "Lor' a mussy! You don't say so. An' be they a-fightin' by candlelight now?"

Stick on Axis Ant Heap

BY

MAJOR LEWIS HASTINGS

WHAT does it mean, this great design, as the Prime Minister called it, this rapid extension of Allied power over the coast of Africa? The first objective of the operation—reaching from the Nile to Casablanca, and surely this must be the biggest synchronised task in military history—of course, is the possession of the whole North African coast—every yard of it. What will this mean, if it comes about?

Well, first of all, far more effective command of the Mediterranean, and together with that immense relief to our shipping. As the airfields fill with Allied aircraft all along this coast, sea power in the great inner sea will come into its own again. The value of a powerful fleet to-day such as, thank God, we possess, is not doubled, but quadrupled, when it can operate under the protection of shore-based aircraft.

INESCAPABLE FACT

Then it means that the soft flank—what the Prime Minister called the "under belly"—of the Axis, is now exposed to attack, first from the air, and next, well, as it may seem good to the Allied command. And then, dispersion of force, which has had tragic consequences for us in the past, is now a weakness inflicted on Hitler. You can see something of that already. The effect on the Axis has been just like pushing a stick into an ant heap—all Nazi Europe is buzzing with anxious activity.

The fog of war is pretty dense just at present. We are not giving anything away to the enemy, and there is no sense in guesswork, but it is an inescapable fact that at last, at long last, the strategic initiative of this war is in the hands of the Allied Nations. Of course, the Germans will react with all the violence with which they are capable—they are reacting already—but I do not believe they will ever regain that control of events that they have had for three full years.

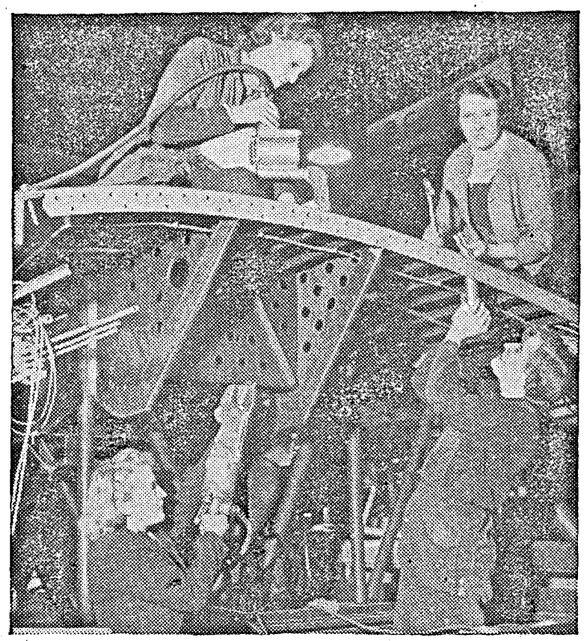
. . . Something has been started in the Mediterranean, and there is not going to be a fade-out. Things may often be slow, but they will keep going.

—In a recent B.B.C. talk.

Turkey and the War

◆

FOR the moment it seems as though the immediate danger of which President Inonu recently warned the country has been postponed, at least for weeks, perhaps for months (observes Gordon Young in a cable to the *Daily Express* from Istanbul). But, calmly studying plain military facts, Turkish experts see a number of compelling reasons why, as the President said, Turkey is now nearer war than she has ever been before.



BUILDING GIANT BOMBERS: Girls in every part of the British Isles are working on the construction of Stirling heavy bombers, which weigh 30 tons and carry 8 tons of bombs. Once their bomb load is dropped these monster aircraft possess exceptional manœuvrability, often surpassing that of German fighter aircraft. This photograph shows five British girls working on a section of a "Stirling" bomber.

Nobody supposes that Turkey could be invaded by Hitler like France or Holland. Obviously he could not make a sudden sweep in winter through a vast country stretching 1,000 miles into Asia and traversed everywhere by rugged mountains while about a million Turkish soldiers stand under arms and another million can be mobilised at short notice. But he could, and might, decide on a sudden blitzkrieg with limited objectives on that small corner of Turkey which lies in Europe. He might try to thrust quickly through the 150 miles of plain which is all that lies between the Turco-Bulgarian frontier and the Bosphorus—the entrance to the Black Sea.

THREE REASONS

There are three reasons why Turks think this possible, if not probable. First, it would give Hitler a quick, spectacular move admirable for the propaganda purpose of diversing attention from German failures elsewhere. Secondly, if successful, it would give him control of the Dardenelles and enable him to send Italian ships against the Russian Black Sea fleet. Thirdly, it would allow him to make the best possible use of Bulgaria's half a million soldiers by sending them against Turkey, exploiting the traditional hostility between the two countries.

The clearing of North Africa by the Allies would alter the whole Mediterranean picture for the Turks in many important ways. For one thing, it would mean that Turkey could receive Allied shipments of food and other supplies much more quickly. There would also be changes in the Balkans to which Turkey could hardly remain indifferent.

FACED WITH GRAVE DECISIONS

It seems clear, therefore, that by next spring—if not before—Turkey is going to be faced with some grave decisions of her own on matters of both internal and external policy. In making these decisions, she will certainly bear in mind her desire to remain neutral and unmolested and her determination to be represented at the final peace conference.

That determination is strong. All Turks to whom I have spoken made it clear that no post-war settlement in Eastern Europe can be permanent or satisfactory if Turkey does not have a voice in it corresponding to the importance of her strategic and political position.

You can be sure that any decisions that Turkey may take in the coming months will be influenced neither by Nazi threats nor foreign propaganda nor emotionalism but by the strictest military and political considerations. As far as the country's private sentiments go, conversations that I have had with Turks of every class show that their natural friendship for Britain has been strongly reinforced by our successes in North Africa. It was Premier Sarajoglu himself who recently referred to the Turco-British alliance as the "most fundamental factor in our political system."

Opening Blows of 1943 Campaign

◆

IT is scarcely too much to say that before he has begun to recover from the Russian campaign of 1942 the enemy has felt the opening blows of the campaign of 1943, declares *The Times* in a leading article. The paper refers to the German attempt to blame the Rumanians for the failure at Stalingrad and observes that Germany's satellites, fighting as they do in the cause of their own enslavement, can scarcely be expected to maintain their enthusiasm when their faith in the invincibility of their masters is shaken. Signals of distress from Italy have already shown that this flagging among his helots may become an increasing factor in the enemy's embarrassments, says *The Times*; but his own direct losses are likely to be the greatest of all. Within the past month he has seen two panzer divisions smashed in Africa and two more badly mutilated in the Caucasus, while now three have come to grief between the Volga and the Don. At the same time it is now known that since the beginning of the war British and American tanks to equip 20 divisions have been delivered to Russia.

Even if the demands of defence against the new threat from Africa were not about to drain Nazi strength, the enemy would at this date be looking for a respite and recuperation on the eastern front, continues *The Times*. But he is well aware that Russian strength is being marshalled at many points of it and that the offensive spirit of the Soviet will not be quenched by winter.

China and Britain

◆

THE official *Chung Yang Sao Tang Jih Pao* in a leading article welcoming the British Parliamentary Mission observes that the visit will not only create a new page in the history of Anglo-Chinese relations but leave an indelible record in the history of democracy. It is the first time in the 700 years' history of the British Parliament that a goodwill mission has been sent abroad on behalf of both Houses of Parliament. The paper says that the Mission's four members are old and distinguished statesmen, representative not only of both Houses of Parliament and of the three major parties of Britain but also of British business and labour.

Relations between Britain and China have a long history, observes the paper. Between the two cultural intercourse has been unceasing. In her reconstruction China has received much assistance from Britain. British influence over China has been prominent. Since the beginning of China's war of resistance, Britain has given China great assistance in communications and technical matters. Had it not been for this assistance, declares the paper, China's situation to-day might not have been what it is. Such kind assistance from the British Government and people will linger for ever in China's memory.

RE-BUILDING WORLD PEACE

The paper proceeds to say that it is not only necessary to retain their present friendship but to promote it so that it may become a most effective link between the two nations. In war the two countries have fought shoulder to shoulder and shared tribulations and perils. After the war they will shoulder jointly the great task of re-building world peace. They must co-operate not only economically but also politically, militarily and culturally. China needs a strong and prosperous Britain no less than Britain needs a free and prosperous China.

The *Ta Kung Pao* (independent) observes that the creation of a new front in North Africa is in accordance with the demands of Anglo-American strategy. It will have a vital bearing on the future of the war and can produce the same effect as a second front in Europe. Allied control of the Southern Mediterranean will render easy the invasion of the Continent from Africa. When the Allies stage this invasion, the Axis will not only move their guns stationed along the Atlantic coast to the Mediterranean but also move troops from the Russian front to the Mediterranean, thus relieving pressure on the Soviet. The Allies are passing from the defensive to the offensive and Axis collapse is not far off.

The Job Britons Have Done

BY

WALTER KARIG

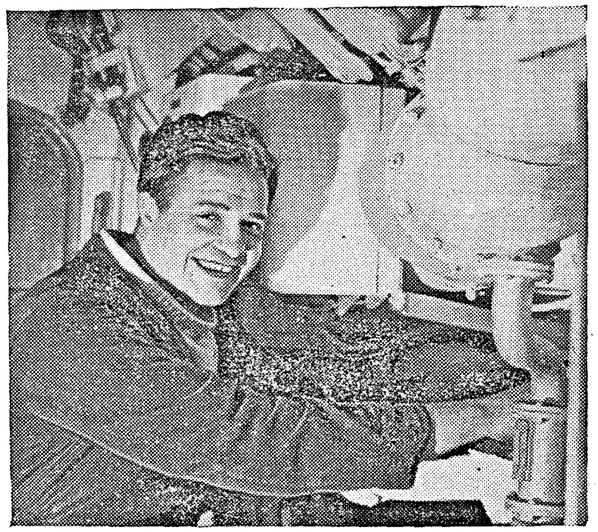
LET us take a look at the job the English are doing and have done. If they had not done it so superlatively well, Hitler would be in Windsor Castle today. He might even be in Ottawa, to hearten his troops invading the United States.

Remember that for more than two years the concentrated Nazi might and power has been perched only 18 miles from England, and that the island has been under almost continuous bombardment all that time. Old stuff, but remember it anyhow.

Everything in Britain is mobilized for the winning of the war—everything and everybody. Two out of every three persons—not men alone but women and children, too—who are abe-bodied and between the ages of 14 and 65 are working full-time in the armed forces, in civilian defence, or in war industries.

Every able-bodied male between 18½ and 51 has been drafted into the armed forces unless irreplaceable in an essential industry. In England you work in a munitions factory or you fight, unless you are bedridden or imbecilic.

Seven million British women have been registered for the draft. Unmarried women between 20 and 30 are being sent into the uniformed auxiliary services of the army, navy, and air force. Women of any age can be drafted for war work. Already 5,500,000 are toiling in the munitions industries, and millions of other housewives are working part time.



Ever since the treacherous German invasion of Holland, Dutch warships and submarines, escaped from their bases, have operated as an integral part of the British Royal Navy. Dutch submarines in particular have taken part in many successful actions against the enemy. Photo shows a typical rating aboard a Dutch submarine.

What the British are doing and have done is of tremendous importance to each and every one of us who are their partners in this war and in the peace to come. It is also an object lesson in what "all-out war" means, which we are going to find out for ourselves as sure as shooting.

EVERYTHING MOBILIZED

The time is not far off when the petty inconveniences of sugar, gasoline, and tyre rationing are going to seem like fun. What we are going to do without is not just silk stockings and trouser cuffs. Before this war is many months older we are going to live almost as austerely as the British have been doing for a long, long time.

CIVILIAN DEFENCE

Every person able to walk is trained in some duty during air raids. There are 1,500,000 trained civilian defence workers, 4,400,000 fire-fighters, 2,000,000 invasion-repelling Home Guards—all civilians who undertake these duties after the day's turn in mill, mine, or field is finished.

Industrially, the 6,500,000 unionized war workers cannot quit their jobs nor can they be fired without Government permission. In the factories joint labour-management committees work out what troubles arise, be they problems of personnel or production.

One home in every five has been destroyed or damaged by bombs, and more than 44,000 civilians have been killed in air raids.

All right. What are these British accomplishing with all this daily regime of blood, sweat, and tears?

Last year we sent the British about 2,500 airplanes. Britain sent out to Allied war fronts 9,781 of her own manufacture. We sent them about 200 tanks; they put 3,000 into action. Sure, we are doing better this year, tremendously better, and the best is yet to come. But the same things are true of the "limeys." Their production of airplanes has doubled in the last 12 months.

A pair of shoes has to last the average British wearer, strictly rationed on clothing, two or three years. But that is because the British have sent some 4,000,000 pairs to Russia.

For every airplane England imports from the United States she exports four of her own manufacture to Russia. She has sent the Red Army 2,000 tanks in eight months. British railroad shop workers did a year's work in ten weeks to build 1,000 freight cars for the Trans-Persian line which American engineers completed to carry British and American supplies from the Persian gulf to the Caucasus.

To amplify this transportation, the British built an automotive assembly plant on the Persian Gulf, and every month it turns out 200 big trucks which are loaded with supplies and delivered, complete, to the Soviet forces.

On top of all that, Britain is maintaining an army of more than 2,000,000 men, is equipping and supporting military and naval units of the Free French, Norwegian, Polish and Netherlands Governments in exile, and is not doing a bad job with its own navy.

There are no profiteers in England. On an income of $3,000 a married man pays $955 in direct income-taxes; on $25,000 he pays $15,000. Excess profits are taxed 100 per cent. But the per capita purchase of war savings bonds is $318, and the English have subscribed $15,000,000 to Russian War Relief. —*Condensed from Liberty, New York.*

JAPANESE NOT TRUE ASIATICS

There is a very good reason why Japan's war-cry of 'Asia for the Asiatics' does not, and never will appeal to the rest of Asia, namely, that the Japanese are not *true* Asiatics themselves—and this is admitted by the author of 'The True Face of Japan.' They are chiefly a mixture of the aboriginal stock of Ainos who now inhabit the far north of Japan, Mongoloids from the continent and Malays from the southern Pacific islands of Polynesia. The temperate climate of Japan has turned this mixture into a hardy, maritime, if somewhat imitative race, but it has not eliminated that spirit of ruthlessness and that want of sensitiveness to the dictates of humanity which is said to be so characteristic of 'a savage.'—*Dr. Reginald le May, in a recent B.B.C. talk.*

British Supplies for Russia

IN September 1940, Britain was sorely pressed to make good the heavy losses in war materials she had sustained in France. Today, in the space of those two years—years of battle in many theatres of war—she has succeeded in building up a vast arsenal, enough not only for her own needs, but also to help supply those of her mighty Russian ally.

British tanks are shipped to the U.S.S.R. at the rate of 50 every week. For every hundred planes Britain promised her companion in arms, she has sent 111, as good measure. And she has sent many a hundred and eleven. Moreover, an endless flow of essential raw materials—aluminium, rubber, copper, tin, wool, lead, jute, shellac, cobalt and many others—pour forth from the British Isles, to reach Soviet factories via one or other of the two main supply routes. Everything that Britain undertook to send has been despatched to Russia, from the last ounce of phosphorus, to the last yard of army cloth. That is one of the ways in which two great nations make common cause to defeat the common foe.

NAZI LOSSES

Then, too, the Anglo-Soviet forces are slowly, but inexorably, draining Germany of a commodity for which the Nazis can supply no 'ersatz' substitute—man-power. Nazi losses on the Eastern battlefront are colossal.

Furthermore, the British blockade in playing an important part in increasing Germany's man-power problem. Huge quantities of war materials must now be made synthetically by the Nazis—a method that is highly extravagant in its use of men. For instance, to produce the 4,000,000 tons of synthetic petrol needed every year, the Nazis must employ not only 100,000 workers in the actual factories, but 50,000 miners in the pits who must first of all bring up the necessary coal. And petrol, of course, is but one of the commodities which Germany is forced to produce by synthesisation.

On land, the effects of Britain's blockade are even greater—the lack of imported foodstuffs and fertilizers has forced the Nazis to employ 4,300,000 extra farm hands to grow the same amount of crops she produced in 1939. Altogether, it has been estimated reliably that no fewer than 5,000,000 Nazi workers, who might otherwise be directing their efforts to the support of the German forces in Russia, must now try and make good the deficiencies caused by the British stranglehold.

Schoolboys Bring in Wartime Harvest

By HOMER SMITH

HAD it not been for the fact that one of them was riding an ox into the field, the three Kuibyshev schoolboys on the big Volga collective farm where this writer was a week-end guest might have been called the "three horsemen."

A few months ago Genadi Grafkin, 14, and Ilya Frenkin, 15, fifth-class pupils in Kuibyshev Secondary School No. 25, would not have approached any too close to the horses parked on Kuibyshev's streets. As for Victor Smirnov, 15, sixth-class pupil in the same school, I doubt whether he was any too familiar with the habits of oxen.

The war has changed all that, as it has radically altered so many other aspects of Soviet life. Now these three city boys not only nonchalantly ride these animals, but drive them all day long during the harvest campaign. Even the country lads born and bred, we were told by one of the farmers, are beginning to envy the skill with which their temporary city-born fellows handle their animals.

"SIGNED UP"

Along with thousands of other city school pupils who swarmed to the countryside to help with the crops, Genadi, Ilya and Victor signed up "for the duration" (of the school holiday) at the Way of the Peasant Collective Farm.

"They arrived with big eyes, loads of ambition and 'pep,' but no knowledge of farm work," stated Kirill Safonov, chairman of the farm. "Everything was new to these young city greenhorns and I hardly knew what to do with them. But here they were, I was short of help, so I decided that they might like to become acquainted with horses as a change from the automobiles of Kuibyshev."

When Genadi and Ilya were first handed the harness for their horses they were not sure whether the bridle bit went into the horse's mouth or under its tail, and when the horse looked around at them, as horses will do, they quaked inwardly. Three days of instruction by a farm boy, and all the "mysteries" were solved.

CHAUFFEURING ONE-SPEED BEAST

As for Victor, he admits that at first he thought they were "pulling his leg" when they gave him the ox. But since no more horses were available, he resigned himself to "chauffeuring" this docile and one-speed beast.

"Weren't you afraid at first?" we asked Victor.

"Just a bit," he confessed, "but I soon found him to be quite gentle and harmless. The only trouble with him is that he's too slow and seems always to be half asleep. I tried speeding him up but the country folk tell me it's no use."

Threshing of rye was almost over when we arrived at the collective farm. Genadi and Ilya and their horses and wagons hauled the threshed grain from the threshing machine to the grain elevators about one mile away. Victor covers less territory—he drives his ox and rake only a few feet, drawing the straw away from the threshing machine to the hay pile nearby.

"GETTING FINE"

During the dinner intermission we asked Genadi and Ilya how they were getting along with their work.

"Khorosho" (Fine), they answered in unison, as they buried their sun-tanned faces into slices of watermelon from the farm's melon patch. Without being asked, Genadi proudly added that his father was driving a tank at the front. When we suggested that within four years he would be of military age and could also drive a tank, he looked up and in a tone of assurance mixed with disappointment, remarked that "the war won't last that long."

Ilya seemed somewhat downcast at the thought that the secondary school would be re-opening shortly, and that he would have to leave his horse and the broad, golden steppe, the chug-chug of tractors and mountains of rye around the threshing machine for the four walls of the class room.

TYPICAL OF THE DOZENS

"These three lads are typical of the dozens of Kuibyshev school pupils helping us this summer," declared chairman Safonov, when we asked him for a brief estimate of his youthful auxiliary help from the city. "Once they are 'broken in,' they work just as well as, and in some cases better than, farm-born youngsters.

"They show comparatively better discipline and susceptibility to organization, which is natural and characteristic of city folk in general, as compared with rural people. They have coped well with all the tasks assigned them. And there was plenty to be done before the present threshing: weeding potatoes, pulling corn, sheafing wheat, gathering vegetables, etc."

—*Moscow News.*

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

27th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in north France and Brittany.

28th Nov.—Two German fighters machine-gunned in a coastal district in south-east England.

29th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked and scored a hit on an enemy supply ship off the Dutch coast.

30th Nov.—In a broadcast, Mr. Churchill said: "We are becoming ever more entitled to be sure that the awful perils which might well have blotted out our life and all that we cherish will be surmounted for further service in the vanguard of mankind."

The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Holland and northern France.

Mr. Churchill was the recipient of good wishes and congratulations from all parts of the world on the occasion of his 68th birthday.

1st Dec.—According to "Frontline, 1940–41", a book issued by Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security, revealing official secrets of Nazi blitz on Britain, "In three months from September 1940, 36,000 bombs fell on London and nearly 13,000 people were killed. London was bombed for 57 consecutive nights. In 11 months, between 45,000 and 50,000 bombs hit London. In nine months, 1,150,000 London homes were destroyed and 375,000 people made homeless. During the whole air attack on Britain, 43,667 civilians were killed and 50,387 seriously injured".

2nd Dec.—The Royal Air Force raided railway yards in northern France.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

27th Nov.—President Roosevelt and more than 200 leaders of armed and civilian services led the nation in a special thanksgiving ceremony at the White House, Washington, joining in prayer for peace to ultimately unite the world in "firmer fellowship" for the good of all mankind.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

27th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked the railway station at Myingyan in Burma. Three Japanese aerodromes in Heho, Mingaladon and Meiktila were also attacked.

29th Nov.—British troops occupied Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

30th Nov.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Shwebo in Burma.

1st Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Magwe in Burma.

2nd Dec.—American aircraft made a daylight raid on Port Blair in the Andamans. Docks and warehouses at Rangoon were heavily bombed in a night attack.

It was revealed that the Japanese do not hold the whole of Burma.

3rd Dec.—The Japanese brought up supplies to Akyab from Rangoon. The Japanese Commander-in-Chief in south-west Pacific inspected Burma, Thailand and Indo-China. The Royal Air Force raided Akyab and Toungoo. A Chinese military spokesman revealed that the Japanese were preparing for an invasion of India.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

27th Nov.—It was revealed that in the Royal Air Force raid on Genoa on November 13, the aircraft carrier *Roma* was sunk and a 35,000-ton battleship *Impero* was damaged. The damage done in Milan was enormous.

Allied forces contacted enemy between Jedabaya and El Agheila.

It was revealed that many Italian paratroops refused to jump.

Bizerta was heavily bombed.

General Smuts said at a press conference: "The initiative now rests with the Allies and for them the war is entering the offensive phase."

28th Nov.—Toulon was occupied by German forces. French troops offered resistance to German and Italian troops. All vessels of the French squadron at Toulon harbour scuttled themselves. A big wave of Nazi bombers flew over Toulon.

Allied troops were 10 miles from Tunis. Ships in the harbour in Homo and Tripoli were bombed. American planes raided Tunis.

Mussolini assumed command of the Italian forces in Libya.

According to a Vichy Radio announcement, Admiral Darlan and General Giraud were deprived of their nationality.

Francesco Agello, Italian ace fighter pilot, was killed in a test flight.

29th Nov.—Nine Axis supply ships were sunk and three damaged in the Mediterranean.

British troops infiltrated into Axis lines in the Medjez El Bah region.

Three hundred and fifty thousand people left Milan from fear of further British air raids.

30th Nov.—The Royal Air Force bombed targets in Bizerta. Allied troops occupied Djedeirda, north-east of Tebourba. Two German paratroops in Arab dress were captured by an Allied patrol.

Allied troops contacted Axis forces near El Agheila.

The Royal Air Force raided Turin and great damage was caused.

1st Dec.—Hitler held an extraordinary meeting of his High Command at Berchtesgaden to discuss future operations in Africa.

A simultaneous conference was held in Rome.

It was reported that all Axis forces would be withdrawn from Tunisia and Tripoli within six days.

Tunis and Bizerta were bombed by Allied aircraft. Fighting continued on the eastern side of Djedeirda.

It was reported that Mussolini was seriously ill. Hitler sent more Gestapo men to Italy.

The Royal Air Force attacked Turin. About 300,000 people evacuated Turin.

Plans were made for the trial of those responsible for scuttling the French Fleet at Toulon.

2nd Dec.—Allied forward units maintained pressure on enemy's positions near Matour and Djedeirda. American Flying Fortresses attacked Bizerta, Tunis and Gabes.

Riots broke out in the naval arsenal at Toulon. The French army and navy were disbanded.

French submarines that escaped from Toulon reached Algiers and Valencia.

3rd Dec.—Mussolini, speaking to Italian officials and Fascist party members, said that in the Royal Air Force raids on Italian cities, 1,876 were killed and 3,300 injured; 5,772 houses were destroyed in Genoa. During 30 months of war, 40,000 Italians were killed, 232,700 taken prisoner.

The Italian Socialist Party distributed leaflets, appealing to the Italians to launch a civil disobedience movement.

British and American forces smashed the biggest German counter-offensive in Tunisia. Coast between Sfax and Gabes was reached.

Admiral Darlan assumed the powers of Chief of State in French Africa.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

27th Nov.—Axis troops, 300,000 in number, were trapped in the Don elbow as the Russian pincers closed in. The Kharkov-Stalingrad railway was cut. There was no sign of a German counter-offensive to save the trapped troops from annihilation.

28th Nov.—The Russians made new thrusts near Nalchik and Tuapse. They made a fairly deep penetration on the Toropetz front. German forces retreated across the Don. The Red Army reached the area of Veliki Luki, an important key-centre north west of Smolensk.

UNITED NATIONS AND CHINA

"The United Nations cannot afford to let China be cut off . . . This is fully appreciated in London, Washington and Delhi, of course, and the Anglo-American raids on Burma are presumably just tokens of what will be done about it. Let no one doubt that it is worth doing thoroughly, for a Japanese failure to make good there, before communications with India are reopened through the Mediterranean, would have as depressing an effect on Tokyo as Japanese occupation of the Kunming airport would have on Chungking."

—*New York Herald Tribune.*

29th Nov.—Russians retook Kletskaya. The Russian pincer closed on the Don, south of Kalach, surrounding the large Axis army in the Stalingrad pocket.

30th Nov.—The Russians opened an offensive in the Central Sector; 30,000 Axis troops were killed. Soviet forces were near Voronezh. The entire factory area in Stalingrad was recaptured.

According to *Izvestia*, the total of Germans killed on all fronts in Russia in the past 10 days was 100,000.

1st Dec.—The Red Army advanced on the Rzhev-Vyazma front. Enemy defence line was broken through on the eastern bank of the Don.

2nd Dec.—The Red Army made 4 to 6-mile advance before Stalingrad. Between Kalinin and Toropetz, a great tank battle was in progress.

M. Stalin assumed personal command of the Russian forces in the Central Sector.

3rd Dec.—It was reported that M. Stalin was personally directing the battle at the Rzhev front. The Red Army repelled seven German counter-attacks north of Stalingrad.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

27th Nov.—All members of 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941 classes in all military regions were called up under partial mobilization order in Spain. Spain also strengthened her garrisons in the Canary Islands, Spanish Morocco and the Balearic Islands.

28th Nov.—Air raid alerts were sounded twice at Lausanne and Geneva.

1st Dec.—An air raid alert was sounded in West Switzerland.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

27th Nov.—Hitler ordered the extermination of all Jews in occupied Europe by the end of 1942.

All Jews in Norway numbering 2,300 were arrested by Nazis.

Mass murders of the Jewish population were carried out in Poland by the order of Herr Himmler.

1st Dec.—Mr. Cordell Hull appealed indirectly to the people of Albania to revolt.

2nd Dec.—It was revealed that when British and American forces landed in North Africa, the Vichy Cabinet refused, by 8 to 6 votes, against the German demand, to declare war on the Allies.

THE FAR EAST

27th Nov.—Allied bombers sunk two Japanese destroyers and damaged a third in south-west Pacific. Japanese aircraft raided Guadalcanar.

American aircraft attacked the Japanese controlled oil refinery in Bangkok, Thailand.

28th Nov.—The Japanese landed reinforcements in Buna. Darwin was raided by Japanese bombers. Damage was slight.

29th Nov.—The Japanese bombed Guadalcanar. Their counter-attacks were repulsed in New Guinea.

30th Nov.—Allied aircraft raided Timor. The Japanese reoccupied Attu island.

1st Dec.—One Japanese destroyer was sunk and another probably sunk in south-west Pacific.

In an air raid on Canton by the American air force, 19 Japanese planes were destroyed. A 10,000-ton ship was sunk and another damaged.

2nd Dec.—United States aircraft bombed the Japanese coaling station and power station at Hongay in Indo-China.

Twenty-three Japanese planes were shot down over Canton by American aircraft.

A Japanese convoy west of New Georgia were attacked by American aircraft. Three enemy planes were shot down.

3rd Dec.—The Japanese renewed their attempts to reinforce Buna. It was revealed that the Japanese sustained heavy shipping losses.

Two Messages

"When I was leaving the Kremlin, in the middle of August, I said to Premier Stalin: 'When we have decisively defeated Rommel in Egypt, I will send you a telegram'; and he replied, 'When we make our counter-offensive here'—and he drew an arrow on the map—'I will send you one.' Both messages have duly arrived."

—MR. CHURCHILL, *in a Broadcast on Sunday (November 29).*

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1942 No. 14

GENERAL WAVELL

Axis Design Checked

We have already been successful in helping to check the Axis design of a great pincer drive from east and west towards India, or of forcing on us a fatal dispersion of our strength in men, ships, aircraft and equipment at the crisis of last summer when the enemy's offensive power was at full blast. We have thus greatly aided the successes we are now winning in Africa and the Russian counter-offensive

The United States forces in the South-West Pacific can justly claim to have avenged Pearl Harbour and our other setbacks at sea. The day will come when you will also avenge our reverses on land. I can assure you that I am doing all in my power to hasten the approach of that day

GENERAL WAVELL, in a broadcast to the armed forces in India on Tuesday (Dec. 8)

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Running Commentary	2	Do the Nazis know they're licked ?	16
Pearl Harbour Avenged	4–5	Italy in Two Years of War	18
Amenities for Troops	9	Man who did not believe in Peace	18
Cheerful and Courageous Warriors	11	Alarm in Italy	19
Seven Men who sank a Raider	12	A Raid a day	20
Author of the Grand Alliance	14	"One-Ship Fleet"	21
Japs following German Methods	15	Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

"French Pearl Harbour:" Col. Knox's Report. In a broadcast speech published by the Fighting French newspaper, *La Marseillaise* on Sunday (December 6th) General de Gaulle said, "French soldiers whether they fought in Tunisia, in Libya, or in the Pacific, were not soldiers of any one person, they were soldiers of France." It was a realization of this fact which was mainly responsible for the great act of self-immolation of the French Fleet at Toulon, an act which has excited the admiration of the whole world. Referring to the fate of the French fleet General de Gaulle said some time ago, "In one brief instant, captains, officers and ratings saw through the odious veil of lies which, since June 1940, has hung before their eyes. In one instant, they understood to what a terrible end they had been led." This great act by which France redeemed its honour has deprived Hitler of a prize which the occupation of the whole of France would have given. It is not generally known that the French Navy till recently was a considerable fighting force and had suffered but small losses since the outbreak of the war. All that France lost up to Dunkirk was one cruiser, a mine-layer and two destroyers. At Dunkirk itself, when the British and French forces were withdrawing, seven destroyers, and several minor vessels, which were giving them cover, were sunk by the enemy. Before the tragedy of Toulon, Vichy France had four great battleships, excluding *Jean Bart* which was damaged during the Allied landings in North Africa, namely, *Richelieu* (35,000 tons) at Dakar, *Strasbourg* and *Dunkerque* (26,500 tons each) and *Provence* (22,000 tons) at Toulon. In addition to these battleships, Vichy France had 2 aircraft-carriers, 35 destroyers and about 50 submarines. At the time of scuttling, Toulon was supposed to contain the following units of the French Fleet :—

Battleships : *Strasbourg, Dunkerque* and *Provence.*

Heavy Cruisers : *Colbert, Algerie, Foch, Dupleix* (10,000 tons each).

Light Cruisers : *La Galissoniere, Jeanne de Vienne* and *La Marseillaise* (7,600 tons each).

Seaplane Carrier : *Commandant Teste* and 25 destroyers and 26 submarines and sloops.

The report of Col. Knox, U.S. Navy Secretary, published in Wednesday's papers, reveals details of what happened at the "French Pearl Harbour." Col. Knox says that one-quarter of the French Fleet at Toulon has been captured intact by the Axis forces. Only four French submarines escaped from Toulon. Altogether fifty warships had been damaged or sunk and fifteen warships were left "afloat and apparently intact." The battleships *Strasbourg, Dunkerque* and *Provence* were damaged. The seaplane carrier *Commandant Teste* was severely damaged. Out of 19 submarines originally at Toulon, six were in dry docks; two of these were damaged. Of the remaining 13 submarines four are in Allied ports. The fifth is reported to have hit a mine and been sunk while attempting to escape. Eight submarines remain unaccounted for.

The two old battleships *Paris* and *Courbet* are in English waters. The Free French Fleet which consists of forty warships is mainly composed of submarines and destroyers.

* * * *

Beast wounded, but not stricken : Mr. Churchill's War Review. In a speech from the steps of the Bradford Town Hall on Saturday (December 5) after a tour of factories in North-East England, Mr. Churchill stated that the struggle was approaching

(*Continued on page* 6.)

MADRAS'S GENEROUS GIFT

◆ ◆ ◆

The following letter has been received from the Commanding Officer of the 7th Light Cavalry :—

I have the honour to write on behalf of all Ranks of the Regiment to thank you most sincerely for your most generous gift of nineteen Armoured Carriers and five Armoured Cars, a gift which is greatly appreciated by all.

The Regiment is proud of the fact that it was originally in the Madras Army and bore the title of Madras Cavalry. Now by your generosity our old connections are freshed in our memories, and we will be proud to go on service with some of our armour named after certain communities of the Madras Presidency.

(Signed) J. M. H.....

Lt.-Col.

Pearl Harbour Avenged

A year ago Japan entered the war. On December 7, 1941, she attacked Pearl Harbour, the U.S. naval base in the Pacific. It was a stab in the back. There was not the slightest provocation or excuse for it. Negotiations were then going on in Washington between the emissaries of Japan and the representatives of the United States Government to see whether a peaceful settlement could not be arrived at. Subsequent events proved that these peace talks were intended to be a blind, under cover of which Japan wanted to prepare and launch a large-scale attack in the Pacific with a view to putting the American fleet out of commission altogether.

The full story of the treacherous Japanese attack has now been told, after the lapse of one full year, in all its detail. "If everything had been told about our losses," said Senator Russel of the Senate Naval Committee, "the Japanese would have been in there over-running the place. And if we had lost our bastion at Hawaii the war would have reached our own west coast by now." Senator Walsh, Chairman of the Senate Naval Committee, said it was unfortunate that owing to a desire to prevent the Japanese from having information the losses at Pearl Harbour could not be given to the public earlier.

The secret was well kept. Its disclosure now is coupled with the revelation that the heavy losses inflicted by the Japanese have been set right. Senator Walsh said that the most outstanding fact was that 105 enemy aircraft destroyed 177 Army and Navy planes, killed or wounded over 4,000, and sunk or damaged 19 vessels, including eight battleships, and observed that the American Navy's record in repairing the damage was "most gratifying."

Pearl Harbour has been avenged—and more than avenged. The Japanese claimed to have irreparably crippled 42 per cent of the Pacific Fleet of the U.S. Navy, but it is this "crippled" Navy which has inflicted heavy losses on the Japanese in the Solomons area during the last year. The Pearl Harbour anniversary record of loss inflicted on the enemy is as follows :—

> Three battle-ships, six aircraft-carriers, 28 cruisers, 47 destroyers and 7 submarines sunk, at least 265 war vessels damaged, and a large number of transports and supply vessels sunk or damaged.

Referring to these and other successes, General Sir Archibald Wavell, our Commander-in-Chief, said in a broadcast from Delhi on Tuesday night : "The United States forces in the South-West Pacific can justly claim to have avenged Pearl Harbour and our other setbacks at sea." "The day will come," he added, "when you will also avenge our reverses on land." He was addressing the naval, land and air forces under his command in India. Mr. Churchill in a message to them, which was read out by General Wavell, said :

> "As Britain has been held in the West, so India must be held in the East, and all the time you, to whom this defence is entrusted, must ceaselessly prepare for the day when you will advance and drive the aggressor from the peaceful lands which he has overrun."

Mr. Churchill observed that the period of waiting must be irksome to all of them who were eager to share in the victories which Allied arms were winning elsewhere, but he added, "the great forces assembling in the India Command are destined to play, before the end, a glorious part in achieving the downfall of our enemies." The day of this downfall is being hastened by a number of factors. For instance, Japan's maritime strength has considerably diminished, and is diminishing.

In the words of Col. Knox, the U.S. Navy Secretary :

> "The time is actually close when the Japanese forces in the occupied islands in the Pacific will suffer from lack of replacements of manpower, weapons, ammunition and medical supplies, owing to lack of ships to transport them."

Col. Knox said that the patient whittling away of the ship strength of the enemy lessened the magnitude of the task of the American forces along the road to Tokyo.

This task is lessened not only by the diminishing naval strength of Japan, but also by her growing insufficiency in machine-power. An American writer points out that every undertaking upon which Japan embarks has its genesis in one small area in Japan, from which must come every plane, every spare engine, every spare tread for a tank, every torpedo, shell and bomb. No matter how far-flung Japan's temporary gains may be, he says, a knock-out blow against her areas of productive power must bring inevitable collapse. How is this to be done ? He draws attention to the fact that America has produced a long-range of heavy-bombers unprecedented in size and destructive power. They can fly well over 1,000 miles at 300 miles an hour, do their job, and return without refuelling.

He says :—

> "This great air armada is now beginning to emerge. By 1943 the United States will produce those great four-engined bombers at the rate of more than 500 a month, and also a much larger number of long-range medium bombers. This is an air striking power as different from that of Hitler, as Niagara is different from a fire-hose."

He estimates that, for the destruction of Japan, we require more than 1,000 heavy bombers operating from bases 700 to 1,000 miles from their objectives—bases which will contain all the maintenance and repair facilities essential to the task of keeping 1,000 great planes in the air. In fact, the Pacific War, particularly in the south, may be said to be a battle for air bases. If the Allies are to make their counter-attacks successfully effective, they must gain suitable air bases, and that is the object of the American and Australian attacks on Japanese positions in that area.

Japan must be deprived of her ill-gotten gains, and she will be, either by the long arm of the Allied air forces or by the heavy guns of Allied fleet in the Pacific, or by both. The growing power of the United Nations, says Mr. Churchill, will press steadfastly on till Japan is stripped of her conquests, punished for her treachery, and deprived of her powers of evil. He adds, "Retribution was always sure : It is now growing near." In a reply message to Mr. Churchill on the occasion of the anniversary of the Americans' entry into the war, President Roosevelt said :

> "*Partial retribution in kind has been meted out to Japanese forces during the last seven months. This is only the beginning. We will continue to strike them with ever increasing forces. I welcome your statement and join with you in the resolution that Japanese aggressive power must be totally destroyed. In no other way can we be certain that their infamous aggression will not be repeated.*"

After the Washington Conference in 1921, which averted a war in the Pacific, Mr. H. G. Wells felt sympathetically inclined towards the Japanese. He said, "The idea of them as of a people intensely patriotic, patriotically subtle and treacherous, mysterious and mentally inaccessible, has been largely dispelled." But the fact was an illusion was created, not dispelled. This was made very clear in December last year, and to-day it remains more clear than ever before that the treacherous aggressive military imperialism should be totally destroyed to save the East from barbarism.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

its most tense part and that the hard core of Nazi resistance and villainy was not yet broken in upon. In his previous broadcast speech also, Mr. Churchill uttered a word of warning and caution. He said he could guarantee nothing, not even "that more successes are not on the way." He said, "I know of nothing that had happened yet, which justifies the hope that the war will not be long, or that bitter and bloody years do not lie ahead." Therefore, he added, "do not let us be led away by any fair-seeming appearance of fortune." He then gave a catalogue of German strength and said that the beast was wounded, not yet stricken, and it would be all the more ferocious for its pain and fear.

As regards the future, he gave an encouraging account of the rapidly growing Allied air strength as against that of the Axis. The Axis construction was not keeping pace with their losses and their front line was weakening both in numbers and quality. He referred to the U-boat campaign as one of the chief Axis dangers which remained to be overcome and pointed out that the Allies had sunk or heavily damaged an Axis submarine in the Mediterranean for every supply ship lost and had gained two tons for every ton sunk.

Mr. Churchill's broadcast speech may be regarded as the British reply for Hitler's taunts in October when he boasted of the greatness of the German achievement and ridiculed Allied efforts. Within two months, Mr. Churchill was able to throw these words back at Hitler and point to a string of Axis failures and Allied successes. In October Hitler expected a winter devoted to quiet defensive warfare, except perhaps in Egypt, while he recruited his strength to resist an invasion of France next spring. But now, he finds himself confronted with a new front in North Africa which threatens the whole Mediterranean position.

This has happened at a time when Rommel's forces have been sent reeling out of Egypt and the Russians are revealing unsuspected reserves of strength by opening two major offensives on the threshold of winter.

The Russian Counter-Offensive—Powerful and Methodically Planned. Last Friday was a memorable day for all Soviet citizens, for it marked the anniversary of the beginning of the successful Russian counter-offensive which pushed back the Germans before Moscow. This year, the Soviet counter-offensive was launched three weeks earlier than last year, and is inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Axis forces attacking Stalingrad have lost more than 100,000 men. After three months of grinding frustration, they are now having the disheartening experience of seeing the defenders of the "doomed" City take up the offensive and cause devastating attacks upon their rear. Axis forces have already lost much of their striking power by the annihilation of three of their armoured divisions.

The Russian armies are advancing north and south towards each other. Their movements represent, not hastily improvised diversions, but a very powerful and methodically-planned counter-offensive. The Germans had constructed a shield of fortified positions along the right bank of the Don and across to the Volga above Stalingrad. This was so strong that Marshal Timoshenko's pressure against it, when Stalingrad was very much hard pressed, made little headway, but now, a new striking force, supported by mass artillery and heavy tanks, has pierced through the fortified positions to a present depth of about 80 miles.

If the Russian forces west of Stalingrad and Rostov consolidate their present positions and press westward towards the estuary of the Don, they will be closing the gateway of the Caucasus and Hitler will have to clear out of North Caucasus bag and baggage. Realizing the magnitude of this danger, it may be expected that he will send in a very powerful force to keep the gateway of the Caucasus open, and, if possible to extricate his army in front of Stalingrad. But if Hitler diverts a considerable number of the Axis forces from the north to the south, he will be taking a very grave step, for the Red Army has already shown itself capable of launching a heavy counter-offensive in the north as it did last winter.

* * * *

Causes of Hitler's Failure in Russia What will Hitler do in the present position? Will he, for the sake of prestige, face the appalling losses that would be incurred if he tries to maintain positions in front of Stalingrad, particularly at this time when the freezing of the Volga will deprive the City of its military significance until the spring? Will he persist in trying to hold the 700 mile bulge in the Caucasus because of possible Russian attacks in the Northern and Central Sectors? Or will he conserve his manpower by shortening the line, that is to say, by exchanging 700 miles in the Caucasus for the 300-mile stretch between Vorenezh and Rostov, as advised by Halder, his former Chief of Staff, and, before him, by Brauchitsch a year ago. Whatever decision he takes, the Nazis will still be faced with a terrible winter, during which all their resources and powers of endurance will be needed to hold the line. There may not be much chance of withdrawing a considerable number of divisions from the eastern front either for rest and recuperation or for meeting commitments in Southern and Western Europe.

It is clear beyond any doubt whatever that Hitler's military record in Russia this year is "failure." He failed because he under-estimated the Russian capacity of patriotic sacrifice and endurance. He thought that the breaking

Rewards for rescue work

Rewards are offered for the rescue of airmen who come down into the sea around the coasts of India. Fishermen and others using coastal craft are asked to co-operate in short distance rescues of Air Force personnel in distress.

The Government of India has sanctioned as a wartime measure money payments to private individuals and bodies who effect rescues.

The rewards, which will be paid through the local civil authorities, are—

	Rs.
For each person rescued alive.	100
For each dead body recovered.	50

Owing to the vast extent of coastline along which our aircraft operate, the aid of the public will be a valuable supplement to officially organized rescue services.

STANDING LABOUR COMMITTEE: The Standing Labour Committee, set up on the recommendation of the recent Tripartite Labour Conference, held its first meeting on November 30, and December 1, 1942, in New Delhi, when representatives of Provinces, States and the Government of India and of labour and employers discussed a wide range of subjects relating to labour.

Our photo shows the Hon'ble Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (black coat), Labour Member of the Government of India, who presided, with the Hon'ble Mr. H. C. Prior, Secretary, Labour Department, Government of India, by his side and some of the representatives of Provincial Governments.

point in Russian resistance would be reached this winter when the Russians went hungry from lack of Ukranian and Caucasian wheat and began to despair as they saw farm tractors and factory machines cease working for want of oil and coal. Hitler was confident, from wide experience of resistance in other countries in Europe, that there was a point of Russian suffering at which her endurance would break. But all his confidence and calculation went wrong. He could not cripple the Russian war-machine, nor could he bring about the physical destruction of the Red Army. It stands to the great credit of Marshal Timoshenko that he avoided the break-up of the Red Army, though this was done at colossal sacrifice of rich food-growing and mineral-bearing territory.

* * * *

Battle for Stalingrad : Russia's Three Calculations.

Now the Battle for Stalingrad is still going on. Three weeks ago, the Russians launched their offensive. The Germans are beginning the counter-attack in an organized manner and are moving up reinforcements from Rostov along part of the North Caucasian rail line which they still control. They fiercely counter-attacked advanced Soviet positions on the south-west of Stalingrad front, but they were thrown back with great losses. The Red Army pressure north-west of Stalingrad is not slackening both inside the triangle and along the river Chir area. Thus Stalingrad still stands as a great challenge of the spirit of resistance of the Russians to German aggression.

The Soviet Command decided to take very great risks with regard to Stalingrad —risks which have proved to be worth while. Hitler said that he would take the City at all costs and pledged his credit. The Russians said that they would defend the City named after their great leader, Stalin, at all costs. In deciding to wage one of the greatest battles of all time to save Stalingrad from the grip of the Nazis, the Soviet Government acted on three calculations. They were :—

(1) The superb quality of the Russian soldier with his back to the wall could hold the Germans in a dangerous salient until deadly counter-strokes could be prepared and delivered.

(2) The Russian people could survive and surmount the winter's suffering.

(3) The prodigious organizational effort of Central Russia and the Urals helped by enormous quantities of tanks and other material sent by Britain and America could keep the war-machine going at full pressure, at least during the critical winter months.

All these calculations have proved to be well-based. Hitler was lured into dissipating his resources. He has already lost 12 divisions in "killed" and prisoners, apart from wounded, and has suffered tremendous losses of valuable equipment since the Russian offensive on the Stalingrad front. His great blunder lay in battering at Stalingrad and creating a danger for himself at the Caucasian gateway and proceeding to invade the Caucasus without waiting for the danger to be removed. He had two simultaneous objectives, namely, to seize the Grozny oil fields and expel the Red Fleet from its harbours on the Black sea coast, so that a way may be opened for an advance into Trans-Caucasia and the great oil fields of Baku. His attempts at both these objectives have been halted, and the Germans are now faced with the possibility of complete failure in this campaign. This is due to the great quality of the Russians to face losses and endure suffering, which would break the heart of most people, and then strike back at the enemy when he has become distended and over-confident.

MALE NURSES FOR MILITARY HOSPITALS

Last April the Government of India in a press note announced their intention to recruit male nurses for military hospitals during the present emergency.

They are now pleased to announce improved terms and conditions of recruitment in respect of this category of Medical personnel. The scale of pay has been raised from Rs. 50-5-75 to 75-5-100 with an additional emergency allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem. Male nurses will be given the rank of Warrant officers, Class I, in the Indian Medical Department and on appointment will also be entitled to travelling allowances as for second-grade officers.

Amenities for Troops

THE Joint War Charities Depot in Madras has been doing Amenities for Troops work since the beginning of the War. At first there was not much that could be done beyond the purchase and knitting up of wool into warm *garments for the men in the Middle East*. A further step was taken with last year's special appeal for *Christmas presents for the troops overseas*; presents of food were packed in standard cases for 21,000 men, in the proportion of 9 Indians to 1 British, and extra gifts of radios, gramophones, biscuits and sweets were also sent.

The first Women's Auxiliary Air Force formed in South Africa, took its origin from the South African Women's Aviation Association begun in 1938. It has over 4,000 W.A.A.F.'s on full-time service under the command of 24-year old Lieut.-Col. (Mrs.) Dunning. The W.A.A.F.'s work at aerodromes as artisans, parachute-packers, meteorologists, photographers, draughtsmen, armament instructors, link trainer instructors, decoding and technical education officers and range-finders, etc., filling posts on S.A.A.F. establishments all over South Africa, East Africa and the Middle East. Here two South African W.A.A.F. specialists are seen working on the metal work of a main plane of an aircraft.

A further amenity for the troops provided at this time was the Joint War Charities *Harbour Canteen* for troops embarking for Burma, which provided them with tea, cold drinks, cigarettes, biscuits, soap, etc.

In April 1942, however, the whole nature and scope of the work changed completely. It was no longer a matter of doing what we could for troops overseas or embarking for overseas; *Madras itself was threatened, and it became our task to do what we could for the comfort of the troops who came here to defend us.* Most of them had and are still having a very uncomfortable time; they arrived in a great hurry, with no time to make any proper provision for them; they came at the beginning of the hot weather, when many of them had only just arrived from England, and had no experience at all of a tropical climate; they were in many cases at the mercy of unscrupulous contractors, because they knew no better; and they had little or no provision for any kind of recreation.

FORMS OF HELP

It was to help these troops, both Indian and British, that His Excellency the Governor made his special appeal for funds. Grants have been made to *voluntary canteens* opened for their benefit all over the Presidency, and also to *mobile canteens* operating in the district round Madras. *The Joint War Charities Depot* at the Banqueting Hall has become a centre for the supply of wireless sets, gramophones, outdoor and indoor games and all the other necessaries for making life a little pleasanter for men living out in the fields, away from any opportunities of recreation. Where they have money to pay for these, we help by buying the goods in bulk, and passing them on at a price well below the ordinary retail rate; where they have a little money but not enough, we provide the goods and take only part payment; in some cases, particularly of small isolated units, we provide gramophones and games free. If more money came into the fund we could do more in the way of free gifts.

The Depot also provide a *free circulating library of books and gramophone records* for troops within reach of Madras; some who are sixty or seventy miles away, but can manage to get in once a fortnight or so, avail themselves of this service.

The work of the Joint War Charities Depot is not limited to the troops in the Madras Presidency. These have a special call upon us, but so have the *Madrassi Units serving*

overseas and also in other parts of India, where their own languages are not spoken. To them we have sent off consignments of Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam books and gramophones, records, musical instruments, games, beedies and cheroots, pickles, poppadums, tamarinds and cashewnuts, which have been enthusiastically received. Here again we could do much more, if there were more support to the Amenities for Troops Fund. It is obviously reasonable that we should cater for the needs of the Madrassi Units, since we can get books in the languages they speak and the kind of musical instruments and foodstuffs that they like. It would make things much easier if some organization in the north of India would do the same for the soldiers from the north now in the Madras Presidency; but since so far there does not seem to be anything of the kind we are doing the best we can. It is not easy for us to get Urdu and Punjabi literature and gramophone records and the men ask for musical instruments that are unfamiliar in the south; but we are making arrangements to supply these needs as well.

THE ESSENCE OF THE WORK

There is one other activity of the Joint War Charities Depot which, though it ultimately pays for itself, yet necessarily requires a good deal of capital. The Troops who arrived here, either from Great Britain or from the North of India, found themselves in a completely unknown country; they did not know the language, they did not know where to get anything, and most of them were a long way from any shopping centre. They were dependent upon contractors, and many of these seized the opportunity to make enormous profits. To remedy this, we tried an experiment with one or two units; they ran their own canteen without the intervention of a contractor, and we supplied the stock as cheaply as we could get it. The experiment was so successful that we now supply nearly all the units who can come into Madras by lorry, and many to whom we send consignments by rail; we provide cigarettes, tobacco, soap, razors, tooth brushes, sweets, lime juice, vests and pants, and many other items; and the work has grown till *we are now a kind of co-operative wholesale supply stores, making no profits and charging no overheads.*

That is the essence of the work of the Joint War Charities Depot; there are no overheads. *Every anna subscribed to this work goes for the benefit of the troops. The workers at the Depot are all voluntary, and the small clerical staff and other overhead charges are paid by the Government of Madras.* The troops themselves express the greatest appreciation of the work being done here; but unless more financial support is forthcoming, there is grave risk that it may have to be curtailed. Prices go up all the time; radios and gramophones are hard to get, and unless we have enough money to buy them in quantity as and when we can get hold of them, we cannot supply the needs of the troops.

Some districts may like to adopt a special unit, or the Tamils, Telugus or Malayalees in certain units. It will be realized that the location of any individual unit has to be kept confidential but *consignments of literature, musical instruments, games and foodstuffs can be forwarded from the Joint War Charities Depot to any individual unit,* and will certainly be most gratefully acknowledged.

Or perhaps some district may like to adopt one of the military hospitals in this Presidency, all of whom we supply with Red Cross equipment and amenities for the patients. The Joint War Charities Depot is responsible for all such assistance to *military hospitals, casualty clearing stations and field ambulances* in the whole Madras Presidency, and it will be understood that the need of financial assistance is very great.

THE TURNING POINT

"The battle about to begin will be one of the decisive battles in history. It will be the turning point in the war, and will swing our way. It may be a hard battle, and the Germans will fight, but we shall drive the Boche out of Africa. There is no alternative."

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in an interview before the battle of El Agheila, on December 8.*

Cheerful and Courageous Warriors

(By a British officer in a B.B.C. talk.)

[A British officer who does not know India, but during the last year and more has served beside Indian troops of all kinds in battle in Syria, Egypt and Libya, pays tribute to Indian soldiers.]

I know nothing of the internal conditions in India, but during the last year and more I have seen Indian troops of all kinds in battle in Syria, Egypt and Libya. I do not know whether it is generally realized that an infantry brigade in the Indian Army consists of two Indian battalions and one English or Scottish battalion. The gunners are usually British. The Indian battalions themselves frequently consist of companies from different parts of India, Punjabis or Sikhs or Mahrattas or Rajputss or Jats or units from other parts of India or the Gurkhas from our ally Nepal.

IN DAMASCUS

I was lucky enough to be present on more than one occassion when these fine fighting troops went into action. The capture of Damascus in June last year was largely, if not wholly, due to an Indian infantry brigade, whose sole survivors at the end of a bloody battle consisted of one company. I shall never forget the house and garden in the suburbs of Damascus where the gallant troops, having forced their way in through intense fire, held out to the last round and to the last man. When they were finally overwhelmed by tanks and guns at short range, there was not one of the 50 survivors who was unwounded.

Nor shall I forget November last year at Sidi Omar, when a very strong position occupied by Germans and Italians was being attacked by the Sussex Regiment, the Sikhs and the Punjabis, the stirring sight of the Indians coming up into battle in their trucks —packed 20 to a truck—through heavy enemy fire, singing their battle songs, smiles on their faces and high courage in their hearts.

JOBS WELL DONE

To tell of all their battles during the last few months would take up too much time. I should, however, like to give you one or two examples of the sort of jobs they did so well. At Derna, for instance, where the Sikhs stormed the aerodrome while German aircraft were still coming down and taking off, there is a very steep cliff or escarpment facing the sea, with a most important road cut into its face—incidentally, a great feat of engineering. Huge portions of this road had been demolished. By manual labour, piling stone upon stone, the Indian sappers had got the road open, and we were able to make use of it with our heaviest vehicles.

Again, the roads were heavily mined; no traffic could possibly use them until the sappers had been along and removed the mines and other traps laid for the unwary. The sappers were up at work almost before the enemy had gone.

A JOB AND MORE

Later in the campaign, when we were on the Gazala line, and mines were being laid, my battalion had taken up a position next to an Indian brigade, and it was my job to find out how far the Indian sappers would go with their mine-laying before nightfall in order that our patrols might not unknowingly cross the mines. So keen, however, were these sappers to get on with their job that when night came and our patrols went out, it was found that they had laid mines nearly a mile beyond the limit which could have been expected. You can imagine the confusion in the dark when a patrol of Scotsmen came unexpectedly upon a patrol of Indians. This was not lessened by the Indians' insistence on trying to extract the password—which wass the only English word they could speak—from a number of Scotsmen who did not know it!

This particular minefield was a monument of labour and ingenuity, for these sappers had suffered casualties from enemy bobby-traps and were determined to get their own back. On this occasion they filled the minefield with so many ingineous contraptions that I don't envy any human being who endeavoured to walk through it.

RELIABLE FRIENDS

Whenever one came across Indian detachments in the desert and they were scattered wide and far—one could always rely on obtaining from them—if they had it—whatever one required in the way of petrol, water, food or anything else.

I spent a few weeks on a course in anti-tank gunnery with some of these Indian soldiers. It was really amazing to see how in a few days they picked up the intricacies and the drill in spite of the handicap of working through an interpreter who knew no more of the subject than they did. At the end of ten days, when it came to firing at moving targets, British units did well if they got off 15 rounds with ten hits in the allotted time. These Indians I am speaking of, however, had no difficulty in getting off 22 rounds and making 20 hits.

In conclusion, I for one could wish for nothing better than to fight with my unit alongside these cheerful and courageous warriors. Their utter dependability to support their sister British battalions in a tight spot in the past is well known throughout the Middle East. This high standard will, I am convinced, be maintained wherever British and Indian troops find themselves together.

Seven Men who sank A Raider

Two Madrassis in R.I.N.'s Achievement

"NO praise is great enough for their magnificent conduct in face of the greatest danger." In those words the Commanding Officer of H.M.I.S. *Bengal* summed up their shipmates' tribute to the Indian gunners who manned the 12-pounder in the epic fight against two heavily armed raiders. With Japanese shells exploding around, and sharpnel whipping over the ship, these seven ratings of the Royal Indian Navy wanted to keep on firing even when the order came to cease fire.

Their names are Petty Officer Mohammed Ibrahim, Mohammed Khan, Ismail Mohammed, Raghunath Sahee, Ismail Babar, P. K. Nair and Balachandra. Three of them come from Bombay, two from Madras and two from the Punjab.

ENEMY OPENED FIRE FIRST

Petty Officer Mohammed Ibrahim, the Stalwart Gunner's Mate, has served for nine years in the Navy, and his home is in Bombay. Describing the gun crew's experiences during the battle he said :—

" I was cleaning the starboard machine gun when action stations sounded. We immediately ran to our gun, as we have often done during drills, and saw the Japanese ships coming at us at full speed. The enemy opened fire first, and it seemed they would get us very quickly. But the Captain went straight for them, and the command came to open fire. We were very glad to have a go at the Japanese, and fired as quickly as we could.

" When the sixth round got the raider's magazine, we all cheered but kept on firing. It was wonderful and we were all very pleased.

" A shell burst just below our gun—a near miss—but my men carried on as though nothing had happened," added Petty Officer Mohammed Ibrahim.

" We were very sorry when the Captain ordered ' cease fire,' for we all wanted to go on firing. But we had scarcely any ammunition left. It was wonderful to see the enemy ship go up in flames, and we knew we had done a good job, but I didn't think we should ever get away."

NONE OF THEM EVER IN ACTION BEFORE

Lieutenant J. Mehra, Royal Indian Naval Reserve, who is a Punjabi and was in action in the Red Sea during the campaign against Italian East Africa, said :—

" As navigating officer I was on the bridge when the raiders were first sighted. It was wonderful to see the excitement among the men when ' Action Stations ' was sounded. None of them had ever been in action before. They went to their stations with perfect discipline, all of them obviously eager to have a shot at their first raider.

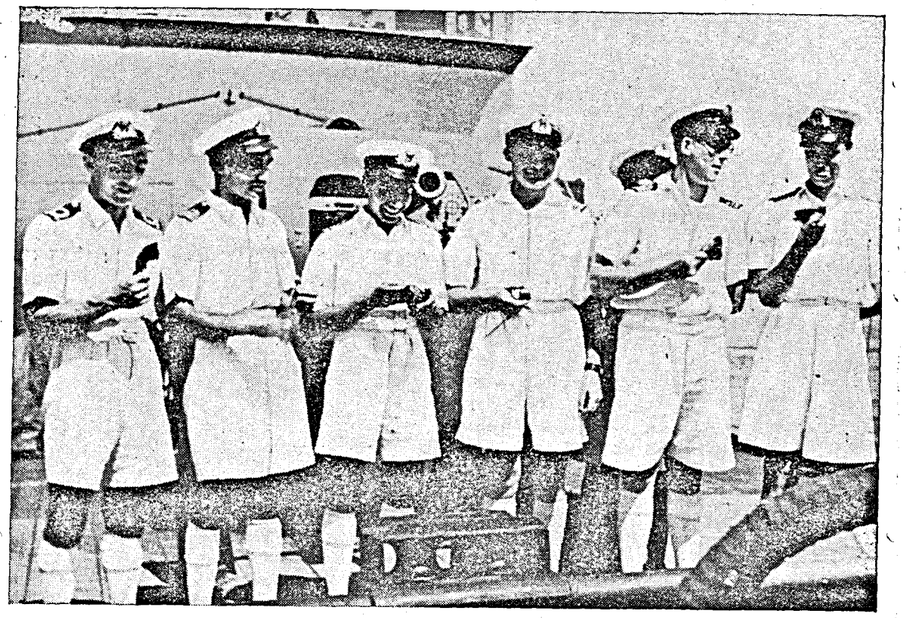
" The Captain was magnificent. He never turned a hair, inspired us all with his coolness and courage . . . It seemed hopeless from the start, and there is no doubt that his prompt decision to chance everything on a bold dash saved the day."

An amusing incident took place during the heat of the action, when H.M.I.S. *Bengal* was under heavy fire from the 10,000-ton raider's 5·5 inch guns.

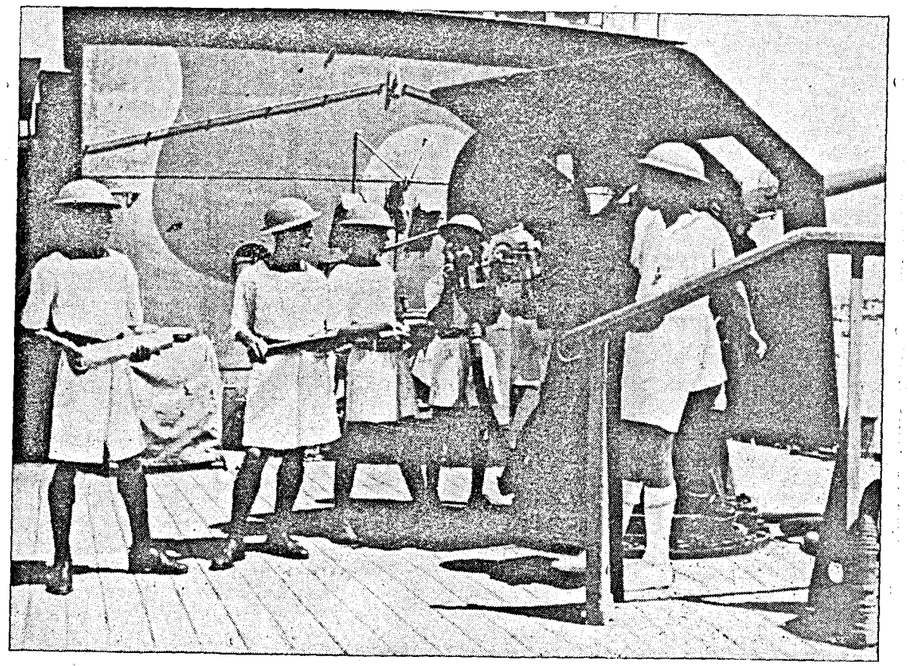
The Engineer Officer, leaving the engine room for a peep above to see what was happening, called to the Captain : " And what are the wild waves saying now, Sir? " That got quite a laugh.

A jest in the midst of a life and death struggle—in that little incident can be seen the spirit of all on board H.M.I.S. *Bengal*.

H.M.I.S. *BENGAL'S* EPIC BATTLE



The photograph, taken in port after the battle, show Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve, (third from the right) and other officers of H.M.I.S. Bengal. *This Royal Indian Navy warship engaged two Japanese raiders, which were ten times her size and far more heavily armed, in a successful endeavour to save a tanker she was escorting. She sank one 10,000-ton raider. The officers are holding " Souvenirs " of the battle—pieces of sharpnel found on the decks.*



The photograph shows the gallant gun crew of H.M.I.S. Bengal *at action stations at the 12-pounder gun. Three of these Royal Indian Navy men come from Bombay Presidency, two from Madras Presidency and two from the Punjab.*

Author of the Grand Alliance

◆

[*The following sketch of Mr. Churchill whose 68th birthday was celebrated last week will be read with interest.*]

THE British Prime Minister is the living embodiment of those traditional qualities of dynamic statesmanship, experience and vision which show the outstanding contribution which British leadership has made to the war and will make in the post-war world. There are two centuries-old principles in Britain's policy: armed resistance against any attempt to dominate the Continent by force—Philip of Spain, Louis XIV, Napoleon, Kaiser and Hitler have learnt this—and maintenance of peace in the world for free development of independent peoples. British idealism is also realistic since Britain's interests increasingly tend to coincide with those of other peoples.

Churchill is especially fitted to guide and interpret Britain's policy by being a bold man of action and an imaginative historian (a descendant of Marlborough). He combines determination and vision. In April 1939 Churchill summed up Britain's twofold policy by saying: "Let me say with regard to the action of our country for centuries that in all great struggles in which we have been engaged we have survived and emerged victorious not only because of the prowess of great commanders or famous battles gained on land and sea but also because the true interests of Britain have coincided with those of so many other States or nations and that we have been able to march in great company along the high road of progress and freedom for all."

"ARMS AND THE COVENANT"

Churchill before the war steadily advocated "Arms and the Covenant" as the modern expression of Britain's traditional twofold policy. On March 14, 1938—the day after the German annexation of Austria—Churchill urged a Grand Alliance against aggression to prevent the coming of war. He was not heeded till too late.

On September 3, 1939, Churchill was First Lord of the Admiralty as in the Great War. (Britain's strategy was vital on the seas.) He stated the same day: "In this solemn hour it is a consolation to recall and dwell on our repeated efforts for peace. All have been ill-starred but all have been faithful and sincere. This is of the highest moral value—not only moral value but practical. This moral conviction alone affords that ever-fresh resilience which renews the strength and the energy of a people in long, doubtful, dark days. Our consciences are at rest. We must expect many disappointments and many unpleasant surprises. If great trials were to come on our island, there is a generation of Britons here and now ready to prove itself not unworthy. We are fighting to save the whole world from the pestilence of Nazi tyranny and in defence of all that is most sacred to man."

THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN

Churchill became Prime Minister on May 10, 1940. On May 13 he sasid: "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat." In Britain's supreme testing time the Prime Minister's leadership inspired the British to uprise with clearer vision, and nobler effort in the national renaissance when the British Empire stood alone against the great German might.

After Dunkirk on June 4, 1940, the Prime Minister declared: "We will not be content with a defensive war. We must put our defences in this island into such a high state of organization that the fewest possible numbers will be required to give effective security and that the largest possible potential of offensive effort may be realized. We will prove ourselves once again able to defend our island home, to outride the storm of war and outlive the "menace of tyranny, if necessary for years, if necessary alone. We will go on to the end; we will never surrender."

BRITONS BEAT BLITZ

The Royal Air Force beat the Luftwaffe—"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Britons beat the Blitz—there were over 90,000 raid casualties in 1940. Meanwhile the Prime Minister worked day and night often in his air raid shelter adressed in his famous siren suit.

FORGING THE GRAND ALLIANCE

The Prime Minister worked for the realization of the pre-war Grand Alliance project. Britain had become the rallying point for weakened but undaunted Allies. On June 18, 1940, the Prime Minister stated: "We abate nothing of our just demands, not one jot or tittle do we recede. The Czech, the Poles, the Norwegians, the Dutch and the Belgians have joined their causes to our own. All these will be restored."

On June 12, 1941, an Allied conference took place in London. Ten days later Germany invaded Russia. The very same day the Prime Minister said: "We must speak now and at once, without a day's delay. We have but one aim, one single irrevocable purpose. We are resolved to destroy Hitler and every vestige of the Nazi regime. From this nothing will turn us—nothing. We will never parley, we will fight him by sea, we will fight him in the air until with God's help we will rid the earth of him and liberate other people from his yoke. That is our policy, that is our declaration. It follows, therefore, that we will give whatever help we can to Russia and the Russian people."

On July 12, 1941, an Anglo-Russian agreement was signed pledging mutual assistance and no separate armistice. Meanwhile, Britain had also strengthened her ties with America. A destroyer-bases agreement was signed.

THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

Anglo-American economic partnership was expanded to an idealistic partnership on August 14, 1941, by the Atlantic Charter. It was typical of Churchillian enterprise and defiance to steam into the U-boat-infested Atlantic.

On August 15, 1941, Churchill and Roosevelt sent to Stalin a message of solidarity proposing co-ordination, which resulted in the Beaverbrook-Harriman meeting in Moscow on September 28. Two days later the Prime Minister warned: "In order to enable Russia to remain indefinitely in the field as a first-class war making power, sacrifices of the most serious kind and the most extreme efforts will have to be made by the British people."

The greatly extended British war effort was further strained by the Japanese entry into the war about which the Prime Minister frankly warned on December 11, 1941: "It may well be that we will have to suffer considerable punishment. We have a very hard period to go through."

The United States and China became our new Allies and in December 1941, Wavell went to Chungking, Eden to Moscow, and the Prime Minister to Washington—Britain's activity in consolidating Churchill's long-advocated Grand Alliance which was formally achieved on January 1, 1942, by a pledge in the Atlantic Charter by 26 United Nations.

On January 27, 1942, the Prime Minister proclaimed: "We have formed a league of 26 United Nations which will march forward together."

The United Nations co-operation was largely based on the Anglo-American machinery—the combined Chiefs of Staffs Committee, the Pacific War Council, the Mutual Aid agreement and Combined Board for War Economics. Britain and the United States were working in close collaboration with Russia.

On May 26, 1942, a 20-year Anglo-Soviet Alliance was signed followed by Molotov's visit to Washington achieving a Russo-American understanding.

In July an American mission to London agreed with the British Government on the North African attack. In August the Prime Minister travelled to Moscow to inform Stalin of this agreed alternative to attacking in western Europe. Britain was keeping faith with her Allies.

UNITING THE UNITED NATIONS

The Prime Minister stated on November 11, 1942: "President Roosevelt has not found it possible to leave the United States nor Stalin to leave Russia. Therefore, I have had to make journeys in each direction carrying with me to and fro the most important military authorities and other experts and to labour so far as possible to bring all plans into concert and harmony."

That is the key to the importance of the Prime Minister's individual initiative and vital personality in uniting the United Nations. The Prime Minister's spacious vision and purpose embraced not only the formation of the United Nations but also the strategy essential for their victory.

Japs Following German Methods

By NICHOLAS GREGORY

JAPAN is employing virtually the same type of economic robbery as the Germans invented and perfected in exploiting occupied Europe. The Japanese are using the same attempts at legality and outright seizure in occupied China, Burma, Indo-China, the Netherlands East Indies and the Philippines.

Official Japanese broadcasts, monitored by the Federal Communications Commission and compiled by the Office of War Information, reveal the trickery that the Japanese are using in the Far East in a desperate attempt to put the occupied territories on a paying basis. The broadcasts reveal the frantic preoccupation with adverse economic conditions in Japan.

One problem that the Japanese are tackling is the disposal of many manufactured goods, mostly textiles, which have jammed warehouses, either because of no shipping space or because of the fear of American submarines operating in waters off the Japanese mainland. A special Government committee will purchase the goods, which will probably be forced on merchants of occupied countries.

One broadcast disclosed that Japan is experiencing a shortage of consumer goods at home. To meet the shortage, the Japanese announced on November 7 plans providing that "material shortages at home will be filled by the direct import of raw materials from the Southern regions."

A shortage also exists in foodstuffs, as is indicated by a 20 per cent increase in the price at which the Government purchases wheat, rye and barley.

Do the Nazis Know They're Licked?

[*By* ALEX DREIER, *former Berlin corresponding of the National Broadcasting Company.*]

I saw the first crack in German morale when the blitz victory over Russia, promised by Hitler, failed to materialize. Later, I saw the widespread uncertainty of victory grow into a conviction of defeat.

A year ago I would not have bothered to ask the man on the street what he thought of Hitler or the war. But, on the eve of Pearl Harbor, Germany had been so undermined with hopelessness that taxicab drivers, shopkeepers, and even Nazi officials talked to me openly of their fears of ultimate disaster. I don't mean that the Nazi regime is about to crack up. Far from it. Its fighting machine is still magnificent—despite losses on the Russian Front estimated at upwards of 1,000,000 men killed. In fact, recent setbacks have given Germany a will to fight with new ferocity.

The Germans believe that when they stop fighting, a murderous horde of avengers—Russians, Poles, Czechs, Serbs, Norwegians, Belgians, Danes, Dutch and French—will swarm over their land.

"If Germany is defeated," a Nazi officer told me, "thirty million Germans will die—and not on the battlefield."

Where we of the United Nations are fighting for victory, the Germans are fighting to delay defeat. Hitler's personal insistence on the Russian war has shaken the people's confidence in his omniscience, and I question whether any later victories can completely erase the doubt they have acquired in recent months.

To-day the average German—and I talked with persons in every segment of society—faces the war like this: "We've knocked over nine countries, and what has it got us? Our food isn't better, and our clothes are worse. Something has gone wrong in Russia, and now we've got the United States against us, too. We'll be licked in the end, but can't quit."

HITLER'S BIG MISTAKE

One day, shortly before I left Berlin, an army captain who serves as an official spokesman for the High Command was sitting with me in the bar of the Kaiserhof Hotel.

"Not going exactly as you boys planned in Russia?" I ventured.

The captain hesitated, then muttered confidentially, "Trouble is, there is no terminal point. In every other campaign, there was. In Holland, Rotterdam; in France, Paris. In England, it would be London. But in Russia where is it? Not Leningrad or Moscow—those Bolsheviks would keep right on fighting." He grinned sourly. "May be it's Vladivostok?"

"But, now that you've started it, when are you going to finish it?"

"Who knows?" he shrugged. When he spoke again, there was a tinge of sadness in his voice: "Perhaps never. It was *his* big mistake."

The next day I was in a Berlin apartment with a half dozen German friends listening to a BBC news program. Watching the group, you'd never suspect that they could have lost their heads if the Gestapo had caught them listening to "foreign propaganda." Among the guests was a German major-general, a brilliant geologist, whom I had known for some time. Within a week he was to go to Occupied Russia to search for chemicals and minerals to help supply the Nazi war machine. He told me, in short, bitter sentences, what he thought of the Nazis.

"You may think you hate them," he said gravely, "but really to hate them, you've got to be German. Look at the situation they've put us in. If we win the war, they'll have a tighter grip around our necks than ever. If we lose . . ."

In what he left unsaid I sensed that universal fear of postwar reprisals.

"Then why," I asked him, "do you keep on obeying the orders of the Nazi leaders?"

His eyes flashed as he replied. "What else could I do?" Yet he gave me at least a hint that there is little love lost between the generals and the Nazis.

A CHALLENGE

One evening shortly before I left Berlin, I challenged the military censor of the German radio, a Lieutenant Obermeyer, to make a tour of Berlin with me. "We'll talk with cab drivers, waiters, newspaper vendors, and grocery clerks," I proposed. "We'll ask them what they think of the government. If more than one in five say anything favorable, I'll pay you 50 marks. Of course, you'll have to wear civilian clothes and keep your mouth shut. How about it?"

Lieutenant Obermeyer's only reply was to laugh uneasily and stride haughtily away.

For Americans, it's difficult to imagine the disbelief with which the average German reads his papers or listens to the radio. When Colonel Werner Moelders, Germany's 26-year-old war ace, credited with shooting down 115 enemy planes, crashed to death in a transport plane on November 22, Goering published in the party newspapers a moving tribute to the dead aviator. But another story spread through Berlin like wildfire.

According to this account, Moelders, a Catholic Youth leader prior to the Nazi regime, was disturbed by the increasing government seizures of church property. He was especially distressed when he heard that the Gestapo was about to close a cloister in Breslau where his sister was a nun. The Bishop of Breslau appealed to Moelders to intercede with Hitler, and Moelders acted without delay. "I cannot continue to fight for the Fatherland," he telegraphed to the Führer, "if the Gestapo continues to attack the home front." The Gestapo revenge was prompt: its agents engineered an explosion in the transport plane in which Moelders was a passenger.

I can't vouch for that story. But it's significant because I heard it from a dozen German citizens and minor officials during my last days in Berlin. They were, in short, charging their own government with lying and murder.

Grumbling in Germany increased tremendously when the promised Russian blitz turned into a prolonged campaign. To-day the average German is grumbling about taxes—for five years now, he has been paying one-third of his income to the government in direct taxes, to say nothing of dozens of indirect taxes which bring his tribute up closer to 50 per cent. He seldom sees eggs or bacon, and he never sees coffee—unless he knows some Nazi bigwig. Although he knows he won't starve, he's grumbling about the shortage of food.

TERRIFIC DEATH TOLL

But what disturbs the German far more fundamentally than these inconveniences is the terrific death toll on the Russian Front. The people aren't accustomed to *German* deaths. Berlin has been practically untouched by Royal Air Force bombings. For the first time, the Russians brought the realities of war home to the Germans. As I left Berlin, families were being informed of the deaths of their sons in the curt manner of Nazi officialdom: "Several weeks ago your son, Hans Wolfgang, died in the greater glory of his Fatherland and Führer. It is the wish of the German High Command that the relatives concerned do not go into obvious mourning."

I met innumerable Germans who reacted to the racial and cultural theories of the Nazis as if they were pure nonsense. During my entire stay in Germany, I never saw a German civilian participate in an attack on a Jew, despite the relentless press campaign exposing the "Jewish menace." A Berlin rabbi told me that only Hitler's SS troops continue to torture the Jews. He added that many Aryan Germans risk their lives by giving milk and fresh vegetables to Jewish families. But the Nuremburg laws and the SS men suffice to make the lot of the Jew in Germany pitiable. When I left Berlin, Jewish suicides were running as high as 300 a night. As many as 2,000 Jews were being transported in trucks to Poland every day. In Switzerland I heard reliable reports that hundreds were being gassed to death en route.

After two-and-a-half years of war, Germany is rife with anti-war and anti-Nazi sentiment but the Allies must not commit the unpardonable sin of underestimating German strength. There is no immediate chance of internal collapse in Germany. There is no organization among the dissatisfied elements. Catholic and Protestant clergymen are not prepared to take political action. Communist units are springing up again throughout the Reich, but they are waiting until the day of defeat to act openly. So far as I know, only one secret radio station is operating, and I suspect it is controlled by the army. It attacks only the Nazi party, never the military leaders or Hitler himself. These are not the days of the French Revolution. You can't overthrow a government with leaflets, pitchforks and ideals.

—*Condensed from 'The American Magazine'.*

A King prays with Jawans

High Egyptian Army officers and Government officials gave up their places to enable Indian soldiers to sit around King Farouk in Cairo, recently.

A huge crowd assembled to offer prayers in the historic Mosque of Amr, when it was learned that the King was to pray there. The officers and officials insisted that the Indian troops, many of whom bore marks of Western Desert fighting, should occupy the front rows.

Soon after the troops had taken their places in the seats of honour the thunder of guns was heard firing the Royal Salute. A great volume of cheering indicated that the King was on his way.

It was a proud moment for the Jawans when the King entered, and took his place among them.

Italy in Two Years of War

ITALY'S present front-line army totals about 75 Divisions—something over a million men. In the two and a half years that Italy has been in the war it has lost nearly half its strength—as well as an empire.

Before General Alexander's present campaign began on October 25, we held 262,000 Italian prisoners. Now that figure considerably exceeds 300,000. It includes 80 Generals and complete staffs of dozens of Divisions.

Few armies in modern times have fought worse or suffered more severely in proportion to its size. Yet it would be wrong to suppose that it will fight badly in defence of its own land—supposing it gets a chance to do so.

At present there are some 25 Divisions of front-line troops in Italy and the Italian islands. After them come probably 750,000 second-line troops—the Fascist Militia and partially trained units.

Mussolini sent 10 Divisions to be butchered in Russia. From Albania across the Balkans to the Dodecanese he has spread 30 Divisions to act as policemen for the Axis. The remainder—10 to 11 Divisions—are in North Africa, the majority of them casualties.

This is how the Duce's soldiers have melted away in casualties:

General Wavell's Libyan campaign—Four regular Divisions, four Black Shirt Militia Divisions and two Colonial Divisions.

In Eritrea, East Africa and Abyssinia—Twelve Italian Divisions and 25 Colonial Divisions.

The Greek invasion—Eleven Metropolitan Divisions.

General Auchinleck's campaign—Two Metropolitan Divisions.

General Alexander's offensive—Eight Metropolitan Divisions.

The Russian and the Balkan campaigns—Five Divisions.

What Mussolini is left of the "eight million gleaming bayonets" he once bragged about is an army ill-equipped in armour, fairly strong in field artillery but desperately weak in anti-aircraft power. There is probably only one tank division in it. The best Italian tanks match with the fourth best British model. The air cover supplied by the Regia Aeronautica is quite inadequate to a modern army. Italy's first-line aircraft production does not exceed 700 aircraft per month. No type is comparable with the best British and American models. The Italian army has not only to face a possible invasion from the forces of the United Nations but from the German army.

Man who did not Believe in Peace

HERE are extracts from Mussolini's speeches in the past 20 years:—

"To me violence is perfetcly moral—more moral than compromise or bargaining. Words are very fine things, but rifles, machine-guns, warships, aeroplanes and cannon are still finer things."

"The legend that Italians are not fighters must be dispelled."

"War is to man as maternity is to woman. I do not believe in perpetual peace."

"I hold out an olive branch, but it is one that springs from 8,000,000 bayonets."

"Let it be said again that the foundation of our doctrine and civilization is a preparation for ever more intense use of the Italian people for military life."

"Great Britain has not revealed marked warlike tendency for the past few years."

"Between gold and iron, Machiavelli chose iron. In the dilemma 'gold or guns' we have already made our choice—guns."

From his speech at the review of Italy's armed forces in March 1938:—

"Army—If need be, Italy can mobilize 9,000,000 men and can put 4,000,000 men into the field. The morale of these troops is simply superb.

"Navy—Italy has the most powerful submarine fleet in the world. To those who say in future that battleships will remain locked in ports, I reply that this will not happen to Italy. All Italy's ships will be on the water, fighting.

"Air force—The Italian air force has become one of the first in the world. Italy's first-line machines number several thousands, all of the most modern type. As for the airmen themselves, their prowess has become legendary."

"The whole technique of bombing has been improved and therefore the possibility of hitting targets has been improved."

"With our air force and submarines with Germany, we are now engaged in a bitter war against England. I asked for and obtained permission from the Fuehrer to take part with planes and submarines in this war against England."

So really the people of Genoa, Milan and Turin cannot complain if the British strike back, writes George Murray in the *Daily Mail*.

Alarm in Italy

[By a Special Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*]

ALARM spreading among Italians caused by our bombing raids is clearly revealed by the propaganda campaign undertaken post haste by the Fascist Government. Even Count Grandi has been exhumed from his political grave for the purpose. Official and unofficial mouthpieces have been asserting that it is not true that Italian people are in a state of panic or that any wind of defeatism is flowing in Italy. Government's unsolicited denials are only indicative of a spirit which, under the increasing strain of military events in North Africa and bombing raids on Italian cities, is bound to deteriorate very rapidly.

ITALIAN AND GERMAN RATIONS

Moreover, this strategical catastrophe occurs at a moment when warweariness is being brought to breaking point both by food conditions and by the enslavement of Italian industry to Germany. It hardly makes the Italian more inclined for war to realize that his weekly bread ration is one of 37 ounces in comparison with the German's 80 ounces, that he must subsist on 3½ ounces of meat a week in comparison with the German ration of 12½ ounces, that his 4½ ounces of sugar and 3½ ounces of fat are approximately half of what his "partner" receives, and that he has only 17½ ounces of potatoes in comparison with 157 ounces per head available in Germany.

DEPENDENCE ON GERMANY

Italy's tragic industrial position again may be visualised by glancing at the figures of the country's minimum requirements of essential raw materials not for war production but for the needs of the civilian population. Italy depends on Germany for 70 per cent of her requirements of coal—or 12,000,000 tons a year—and it has long been common knowledge that Germany finds it an impossible task to send her 200 trains of coal daily. As regards petrol, 85 per cent of what is required must now come from Rumania and that, of course, only when Germany can spare it. Italy also depends on Germany entirely for copper and nickel, and in great part for iron and steel. All her heavy machinery and her precision and optical instruments come from the Reich, as also a very large part of the ingredients for making high-explosive bombs.

Moreover, Italy produces only 7,000 tons of wool, whereas her normal requirements are 15,000 tons. Equally she should import 95 per cent of her cotton needs, and again she is getting none. She should import 80 per cent of her leather, and she is getting none of that either. To complete the picture, Italian agriculture will now suffer by the loss of 900,000 tons of phosphates which Italy used to import for fertilisers from North

WITH APOLOGIES TO NERO

(After 18 months of silence, Mussolini made a speech in Rome on December 2.)

Africa. As to the once prosperous textile industry of Northern Italy, that is completely ruined.

HAND TO MOUTH

Generally the economic life of the country has been reduced to a hand-to-mouth basis dependent entirely on the goodwill and needs of Germany, and she in her turn has transport problems enough as the result of Royal Air Force raids and the immense length of her communications with the Eastern Front.

Developments in North Africa can be taken as the last straw. Tension had already approached breaking point on account of the cowardly way in which Germany left in the lurch Italian divisions in the battles of Egypt and Libya. Italian people now see Mussolini being reduced to asking Hitler to come and occupy Italy. The Fascist regime can continue to survive only in so far as German troops and bayonets reinforce the Gestapo already installed within Italy. But Italians are well aware that Germany is not going to defend Italy for Italy's sake. High political and military circles have always realised that Nazi Germany has held for Italy as a military ally nothing but contempt.

A Raid a Day

◆

Allied Attacks on Burma in November

DURING the past month (November) Royal Air Force activity over Japanese-occupied Burma has shown a decided increase. Compared to October, when a total of thirteen daylight raids were made on enemy objectives, last month our aircraft were out on eight days and ten nights and the tonnage of bombs dropped was considerably greater. Night bombing started in the middle of the month when medium bombers made a series of attacks on enemy shipping at Akyab. The operations continued well into the following day and, in addition to the damage caused along the water-front, resulted in sinking one Japanese merchant vessel and damaging another. It was on that day that strong enemy fighter opposition was encountered and our own fighters, which had accompanied the bombers on the last two attacks, found plenty to occupy them in the combats that ensued. Four Japanese fighters were destroyed and several others damaged—our losses were five aircraft. To-day the damaged jetty at Akyab is a desolate sight with two sunken vessels nearby resting on the harbour bottom.

RAID EVERY NIGHT

From November 17th to 25th our bombers were out against enemy aerodromes every night, with the exception of the nineteenth. Bomb loads were dropped on Mingalden, Magwe, Meiktila, Toungoo and their satellites. Photographs taken later have confirmed that bombing was accurate and that many hits were registered, particularly on runaways and dispersal areas. Crews reported that the fires they had started were visible as far as 120 miles away.

Daylight raids by Blenheim bombers were directed against a variety of targets which included enemy aerodromes, railway stations, and many Japanese-occupied buildings.

As well as escorting bombers on several of the daylight raids, our fighters have made many attacks on their own account, often combining their escort duties with the successful shooting up of such targets as aerodromes, oil installations, enemy troops, rivercraft carrying men and supplies. A Japanese river steamer was sunk by their cannon fire.

The normal and arduous routine of shipping-escort and anti-submarine patrols was carried on throughout the month and, as usual, the big flying boats covered thousands of miles of ocean in their unceasing search for the enemy.

WELLINGTON BOMBERS

The operations carried out during November reveal the interesting fact that Wellington bombers, capable of long range attacks, have now added their weight to the raids we are making from India. With its superior range and bomb loading, this famous bomber is a welcome addition to the growing strength of the Air Forces in India.

Concurrently with the Royal Air Force operations, heavy bombers of the United States Air Forces have continued to strike hard at enemy objectives. Of nine raids last month their most spectacular was a damaging attack on the Japanese-controlled oil refinery at Bangkok—the only petroleum refinery in Thailand. Railway yards at Mandalay were also singled out for particular attention and many tons of heavy bombs were dropped on this important transport centre. At Rangoon the Allied Air Forces chose different targets. The Royal Air Force attacks were directed against Mingaladon aerodromes while the American bombers, operating on different occasions, made two midday raids on which large bombs were dropped with good effect on docks, shipping and warehouses.

American fighters carried out constant offensive patrols throughout November and in addition to bringing back valuable information made effective low level attacks on the Japanese forces at Shingbwiyang and Maingkwan and inflicted casualties on enemy personnel at Taihpa-Ga.

"One-Ship Fleet"

◆

Exploit of the U.S. Cruiser "Boise"

THE light cruiser *U.S.S. Boise* has arrived from the Solomons with scars left by enemy shells and the fighting record of a veritable "one-ship fleet," says a Navy announcement in Washington.

During the weeks preceding the action off Cape Experance, the Japanese had been successful at making sneak night landings of troop reinforcements at Guadalcanar from cruisers, destroyers and small transports. Navy and Marine Corps planes from Guadalcanar persistently attacked the landing parties, but air attack alone did not stop them. A task group of which the *Boise* was a member was ordered to do the job. It did.

On October 11 the *Boise* and her sister ships had been patiently waiting outside the range of the enemy's air reconnaissance. The trap was set, and that day the game was discovered approaching. U.S. planes spotted an enemy task force composed of cruisers and destroyers steaming at high speed toward Guadalcanar. The U.S. task group made all speed to intercept it. That evening the *Boise*, in a column of cruisers with a destroyer screen, was chasing along at 25 knots. The sea was smooth, with long swells running. The night was dark. The enemy was somewhere ahead.

The *Boise* made out six enemy ships on her starboard side—three appeared large, and three were smaller. Captain Moran laid his main batteries on the leading heavy ship and his anti-aircraft batteries on a smaller one, then gave the order to fire.

In a matter of seconds the first target was lit up—afire amidships. By the light of the blaze she was tentatively identified as a heavy cruiser of the *Nati* class. The *Boise's* guns hit her again and again for four minutes, and she sank, going down bow first, her screws still turning.

Meanwhile splashes from the *Boise's* lighter guns were observed on either side of a smaller ship in the enemy van. Shortly this ship could no longer be seen, although shell splashes were still visible. Reports from other U.S. ships said she was a Jap destroyer, which broke in two and sank.

A few minutes later the *Boise* had her main batteries trained on another target, believed to be a destroyer. This ship exploded and disappeared after one minute of the *Boise's* murderous fire.

A minute later the shifty *Boise* was concentrating everything her guns could throw on a fourth target. Fires broke out on the bow of this ship, illuminating her mid-section. She was observed to be a two-stacker Japanese cruiser which was returning the fire of the *Boise* in kind. This contact lasted four minutes, in which the *Boise* took a hit from an eight-inch shell and several hits from five-inchers. The Captain's cabin was demolished and the wreckage fired. A direct hit put one of the *Boise's* five-inchers out of action. But soon the enemy ship, which had been burning brightly, exploded violently several times and was not seen again.

For two minutes the *Boise* had no target. During these minutes she turned on an enemy destroyer. After two minutes of attention from the *Boise's* guns she, too, disappeared.

Five minutes later, while the *Boise's* crew was busy extinguishing the fire in the remains of the Captain's cabin, a torpedo wake was reported ahead. The ship was brought about, with a hard right rudder, parallel with the torpedo's track. As this torpedo hissed by, a few feet from the *Boise's* bow, another passed aft along the starboard side and missed the stern by 30 yards.

In the short time which had elapsed since the firing of her first salvo, the *Boise* had engaged five Japanese ships. The sixth was now disclosed abaft her starboard beam. As the *Boise* directed her fire at this target, a heavy enemy cruiser opened up from somewhere forward to the starboard. For three long minutes this ship fired on the *Boise* unopposed, shooting "beautifully," with eight-inch twinmounts repeatedly "straddling" the *Boise* along her forward deck. Then this enemy ship blew up under the fire of the *Boise* and other ships of the U.S. force.

The action over and intensive damage-control measures under way, Captain Moran set his course to rejoin the rest of the force. The *Boise*, given up for lost by her sister ships, slipped like a ghost into her regular station at 20 knots. Her fires were out. She was down by the head, but her keel was even. Her bulkheads were shored up, her holes were plugged with bedding and pumps were sucking out the water which had been taken in through her torn sides. Her wounded had received such efficient medical aid that every one subsequently recovered but the lives of 3 officers and 104 men were victory's price to the *Boise* personnel.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

4th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked Frankfurt in western Germany.

The invention of Noctovisor, weapon to locate enemy planes and ships at night, by J. L. Baird, inventor of television, was announced.

5th Dec.—There was some enemy air activity over the coastal area, north-east of England.

6th Dec.—In a speech at Bradford, Mr. Churchill said that the war was approaching its most tense part: "Our enemies are very powerful. They have many millions of soldiers."

8th Dec.—There was slight enemy air activity over the south coast of England.

The Royal Air Force raided Karlsrube and Iffezheim.

9th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked canal barges and trains between the Dutch coast and Dortmund Ems Canal.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

4th Dec.—Two German submarines were sunk off the east coast of Canada.

9th Dec.—President Quezon of the Philippines said in an interview: "Recent Japanese broadcasts show that Japan has utterly failed to win the Filipino people to her side."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON.

4th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy aerodrome at Magwe in Burma. Railway stations at Kadu and Haungton on the Mandalay-Myitkina were also attacked.

6th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked a concentration of Japanese transport at Pyawbwe, 75 miles south of Mandalay. A Japanese steamer on the Kaladan river was damaged.

7th Dec.—Japanese aircraft made a brief attack on Chittagong area. Only slight damage was caused.

The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy railway station near Katha in Central Burma.

8th Dec.—According to American military experts, Japanese eyes were on Yunnan rather than India. "Invasion of India impossible."

His Excellency Lord Linlithgow's term of office as Viceroy of India was extended by six months until October 1943.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

4th Dec.—A second Axis counter-attack near Tebourba was repelled. New Nazi attacks on French positions at Port du Fahs were repelled. United States planes raided Tripoli. German aircraft raided Cyrenaica.

Mussolini, in a broadcast, appealed to all Italian Mayors "to get to work with the minimum of red tape" on the evacuation of Italian cities.

Liberia granted airbase rights to the United States for the duration of the war.

5th Dec.—An Italian torpedo boat was sunk off Eastern Tunisia. Two merchant vessels were also sunk.

The siege of Tunis began. There was violent fighting in the Mateur sector.

British and American troops crossed the border of the French Colony of Ivory Coast in West Africa.

LIMITLESS SACRIFICE AND SUFFERING

"Devastation, rape, murder and starvation have invaded all Europe, and under the command of Japan, half Asia as well. The quicker the ruin can be made good and the people relieved of their starvation, the sooner shall we be able to set out upon a firm reconstruction of our international life, social, political and economic, which alone can justify the almost limitless sacrifice and suffering of the peoples . . . The power of the air provides an opportunity which has never before existed for the control of world order. An international air force could reach the most remote corners of the world and could strike at any who sought to break peace for his own advantage."

—SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, *in a broadcast to America.*

A troopship carrying Italian and German prisoners of war was torpedoed off the coast of Portuguese East Africa.

The Rome Radio said that Italians were fighting to prove to the world that Italians were not just a nation of pub-keepers, fiddlers, tourist guides, waiters or hotel-keepers.

According to the Morocco Radio, Hitler had asked Mussolini to withdraw the privileges granted to the Vatican under the Lateran Treaties.

6th Dec.—Axis troops re-occupied Djedeida and entered Tebourba.

An Italian battleship and two cruisers were hit during an air raid on Naples by American aircraft.

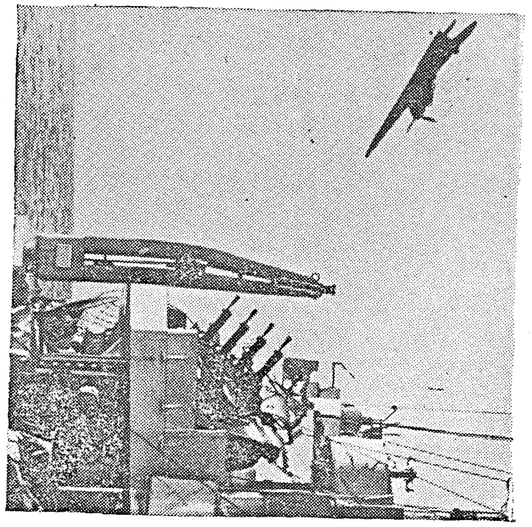
8th Dec.—Axis strength in Tunis-Bizerta exceeded 22,000. There was heavy fighting near Tebourba. Admiral Darlan and General Eisenhomer exchanged messages. British Commandos and paratroops were active behind enemy lines.

Evacuation of civilians from towns throughout Italy began.

9th Dec.—General Eisenhomer announced that Dakar had been handed over for the use of United Nations.

United States Navy Secretary, Col. Knox, announced that one-quarter of the French fleet in Toulon had been captured intact.

There was a great tank battle in the Tebourba area.



British destroyers bear the brunt of the unceasing battle of the Atlantic, their never-ending duties including the hunting and destruction of German U-boats, patrolling and convoying, in addition to fighting major engagements beside the capital ships. Picture shows a British "Fulmar" fighter from an aircraft-carrier making a practice dive-bombing attack on a British destroyer at sea.

According to an American wireless commentator, Mr. John Mcrane, "Darlan is strengthening his grip on French North Africa." According to the Morocco Radio, "Admiral Darlan, High Commissioner for the French Empire, has assumed leadership *de jure* and *de facto* of the French colonial empire."

7th Dec.—According to the Morocco Radio, members of the Italian Senate made representations to the King of Italy on the question of putting out peace feelers.

Marshal Badoglio was arrested by the Italian secret police for being involved in a plot against the Duce.

Violent fighting was in progress in the triangle of Djedeida-Tebourba-Mateur. Eleven Axis ships were sunk off Tunisia.

Rommel was estimated to have 50,000 Axis troops in the El Agheila region. General Montgomery said in an interview: "We shall win the battle of El Agheila."

10th Dec.—Twenty enemy tanks and 7 Axis planes were destroyed. Admiral Darlan held up American radio campaign by refusing to allow use of Rabat station.

Mussolini ordered urgent evacuation of the whole civilian population from southern Italy.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

4th Dec.—The Russians pierced the second Nazi defence line of the encircled enemy north-west of Stalingrad. Soviet troops closed in on Rzhev and Veliki Lukie. Flocks of large German transports brought in reinforcements to the Don-Volga area.

5th Dec.—Desperate German counter-attacks on the Rzhev front failed.

It was revealed that on Hitler's orders all the Germans wounded in Stalingrad were sent to the Balkans instead of Germany. All contact between the German wounded and the population was forbidden.

Field Marshal Mannerheim informed the International Red Cross that 20,000 Russian prisoners had died of starvation in Finland.

6th Dec.—The Red Army launched an offensive in the direction of Novocherkask and Rostov. Nazis rushed reinforcements to Rzhev.

The Russians built an invisible underwater bridge on the Central Front, across which Russian monster tanks were hurled at the Germans.

7th Dec.—More places were retaken by the Red Army in its advance west of Rzhev. The Germans were held at Tuapse.

8th Dec.—There was violent fighting north-east of Tuapse. The Red Army launched a new offensive west of Rzhev.

9th Dec.—The Red Army launched a new offensive near Voronezh. Two German supply ships and two transport ships were sunk.

10th Dec.—The Nazis resisted fiercely in most sectors. Russian positions at Velikie Luki were attacked. Forty-three Nazi transport planes were destroyed.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5th Dec.—Air raid alerts were sounded in Berne, Neuchatel and other places in Switzerland.

8th Dec.—General Franco warned Hitler that he would resist any German attempt at crossing Spanish territory to bring help to the Axis forces in Africa.

SHIPPING

4th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy convoy and sank two destroyers and four other ships.

8th Dec.—The British submarine *Unique* was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

4th Dec.—Vichy Government was transferred to Paris.

General Tsolakoglu, Prime Minister of the Axis-occupied Greece, resigned, handing over the premiership to M. Logothetopoulos.

5th Dec.—The former French Prime Minister, M. Herriot, and Jean Borotra (the famous Davis Cup French tennis star) were arrested by the Vichy authorities.

8th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Philips Wireless Valve and Radio Works at Eindhoven in Holland.

American Flying Fortresses attacked the Lille locomotive and carriage works and bombed an enemy airfield at Abbeville.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

4th Dec.—Japanese attempts to reinforce trapped troops in Buna-Gona were frustrated by Allied aircraft.

5th Dec.—Allied aircraft raided Koepang. Twenty-one enemy planes were set on fire.

Mr. Peter Frazer, Prime Minister of New Zealand, said: "In many respects the Japanese are more dangerous than the Germans. The war with Japan is going to be a hard and bitter struggle."

6th Dec.—Japanese troops made their last stand at Gona and Buna. Enemy forces were split up. A Japanese convoy was bombed off the Solomons.

7th Dec.—Japanese bases were destroyed in Guadalcanar.

8th Dec.—The Japanese were isolated in Buna. Rabaul was bombed.

9th Dec.—Twenty Japanese planes were destroyed over New Guinea in fierce fighting.

Heroes' Hotel

They call it Heroes' Hotel, because of the gallantry of its gatherings.

The town in which it is situated plays a key part in India's defence, and every evening, when their duties permit, Service personnel drop in for a drink.

The decoration ribbons they wear embrace every type of bravery on land, on the sea, and in the air.

There is the wearer of a D.S.O. won in Libya, a Sidi Barrani M.C., a Battle of Britain D.F.C., a Malayan D.C.M., and a Crete M.M.

Navy men don't wear any medal ribbons on their shirts, but among the sailors are a Narvik D.S.O., a Matapan D.S.C., and a submarine D.S.M.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1942 No. 15

Mr. STIMSON

Three Objectives

The main big work has still to be done. Co-operation with the French has been very hearty. We mean to develop a co-operative spirit between the Allies and the French on which so much depends. Most of the attacking forces in Tunisia have been those of our ally, Great Britain. We had some forces there and had a chance to make a show which was very gratifying to our men and most disheartening to the enemy.

When air superiority has been obtained three objectives will lie ahead—to expel or destroy Axis forces in Tunisia; to attack Tripoli and destroy the Germans under Rommel by getting behind him; and to co-operate with the British in making the North African coast and the Mediterranean a safer line reaching to the Egyptian area.

Mr. STIMSON, United States Secretary for War in an interview on December 12

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
El Agheila: Rommel restarts retreat!	4–5
Indian Troop's part in defeat of Rommel	9
"Madras's Own"	12
"Madras" Spitfire Squadron	13
British General who helped to defeat Rommel	14
Psychological Triumph follows military victories	15
Dullest capital in the world	16
Egypt's role in the war: Great help given to Allies	17
Timoshenko's great offensive	18
Japanese aims foiled	19
The Strategy of Initiative	20
London in Wartime	21
1917 and 1942	21
Axis too late to avert biggest blow	22
Position in the Pacific	22
Diary of the War	23

Running Commentary

Stern and Terrible year of 1943: Danger of Over-confidence.

Allied successes in different theatres of war have given rise to a feeling of great confidence in the victory of the Allies. Important successes on the Russian Front, North Africa and South-West Pacific have given the impression that the war is practically over and that the Axis powers are almost finished. There is no harm in having a feeling of robust confidence in ultimate victory, but the danger of over-confidence must, at all costs, be avoided. While we should all rejoice in the successes of the Allies, we should not relax in our task of putting forth our utmost energy and enthusiasm in the war effort. The joy in achievement should be tempered with warnings of a long and stern climb. What is required at this turning point of the war is neither deflation of confidence, nor acceptance of the idea that victory is now assured because defeat has been put behind us. A mental revolution is required at the present time, which will inspire and enthuse the factories, offices and firms of the United Nations all the world over with a sacrificial offensive ardour, which would forearm us against setbacks which will surely occur from time to time during the stern and terrible year of 1943. We must train ourselves to judge all successes in their proper perspective and subject everything to a cool realistic analysis. We should not permit our enthusiasm to run away with our sense of judgment.

Let us first consider Germany's strength in Europe. There are about 180 German divisions on the Russian Front. Many of these have suffered slaughters and privations and have lost in size and number heavily. Some thirty reserve divisions are stationed in the Baltic countries and about an equal number in the region of Kharkov. The Red Army is pinning down and eating into the German reserves by multiple counter-strokes. Not only "General Winter," but also General Stalin is freezing the great German Army in the Eastern Front.

In the occupied countries there are about forty German garrison divisions. The occupation of France, Sardinia and the coastal strip of Tunisia mean another thirty divisions, which might have been drawn from the Eastern Front reserves, or more probably from the general strategic reserves in Central Europe. If Germany invades Spain, which is at present unlikely, more than thirty divisions would be required to crush Spanish resistance and maintain the lines of communication through a hostile country. There are about five German divisions in Italy, which has become an increasing liability to Germany and a further drain on German military manpower. It is estimated that the total number of German divisions is approximately 290.

It will be clear from these figures that if the Allies are able to follow up the Russian blows by a yet further major action of their own, apart from their two offensives in the Mediterranean, they will complete the process of freezing Hitler's defence arrangements. In other words, if a major attack is made at any one point, Hitler must find it extremely difficult to concentrate sufficient force to repel it.

* * * *

German Defence System: Its Strength and Weakness.

It has been pointed out by German Generals such as von Leeb that Germany lost the last war because she kept her armies too long evenly divided between the east and the west and so lost an opportunity of massing an overwhelming force for an attack in the west before it was too late. In the present war, if the Allies can successfully freeze the German defence of the European Fortress and deliver co-ordinated assaults at widely separated points, their strategic position will be stronger than it was in 1918.

This does not, however, mean that the German defence is about to be "stretched to the limit" and a total collapse of the German military machine can be brought about by a few swift blows. For even if the German divisions are frozen from Norway to the Western Mediterranean and from the Eastern Mediterranean to the White Sea simultaneously, the German defensive system will still be formidable.

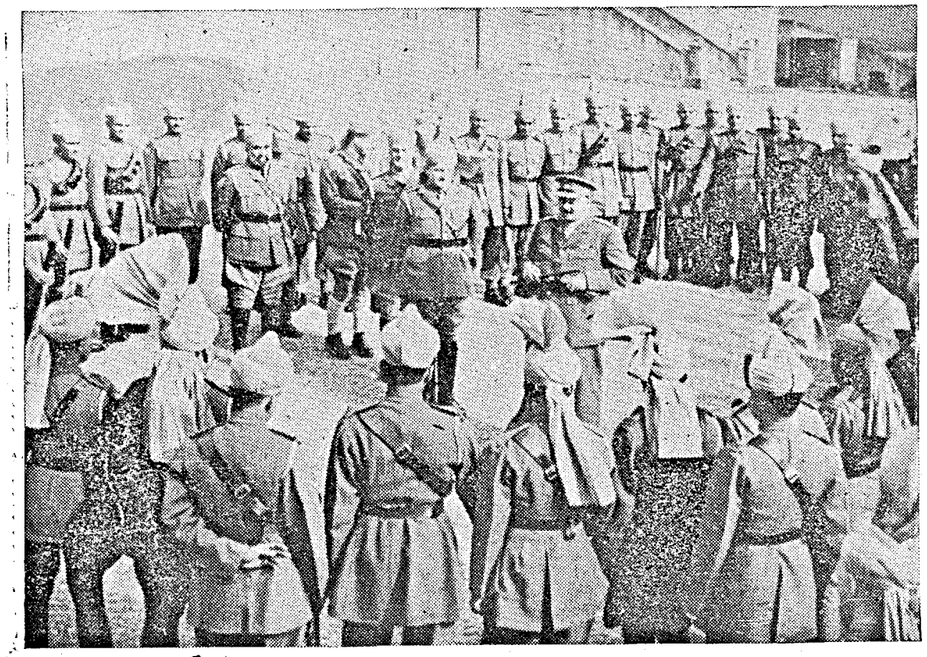
It must be remembered that the estimate of the positions of the German Army that we have given are only approximate and does not take into account the armies of Italy and other satellites. Further the fighting quality of the Axis forces should never be underestimated.

Germany to-day commands more territory and therefore more resources, more

(*Continued on page* 6.)

NOTICE

AS Friday, December 25, is a Christmas holiday, there will be no issue of the MADRAS WAR REVIEW on that day. The next issue will be published on January 1, 1943.



His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, one of the Indian representatives at the War Cabinet and Pacific War Council, recently visited an Indian contingent in the Scottish Command, where he saw Pack Mule Companies of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps. Photo shows His Highness talking to a Reinforcement Unit during his visit.

El Agheila: Rommel Re-starts Retreat!

General Montgomery

General Montgomery has "done it again"! Rommel has been turned out of El Agheila. The news, it is stated, has taken Cairo completely by surprise. As for the outside world, the surprise is even greater. It was expected on all hands that the haste with which Rommel staged his retreat from El Alamein westwards was only to reach the well-fortified positions of El Agheila where he would make a stand. It was thought that one of the biggest battles in North Africa would be fought out at that place. But Rommel has disappointed. He has repeated El Alamein at El Agheila, without a great fight.

Ten days ago, General Montgomery said to pressmen, on the eve of what he called "one of the decisive battles in history":

> "*It (the battle) will be the turning point in the war, and will swing our way. It may be a hard battle, and the Germans will fight, but we shall drive the Boche out of Africa. There is no alternative.*"

Walked out of the Ring

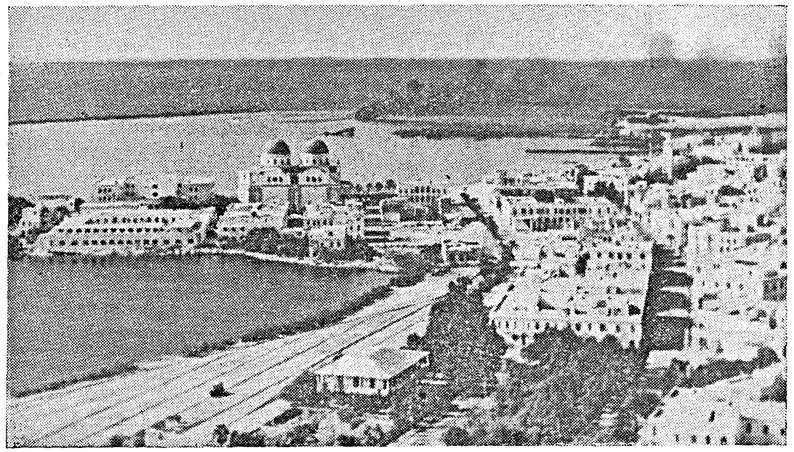
The Germans did not fight; they walked out of the ring, as it were, before the knock-out blow could be administered. They were compelled to do so, because the Allied forces operating to the south had outflanked their defences, and they realized that their position was untenable. The heavily-mauled Africa Korps thus escaped further mauling at the hands of the Eighth Army.

The R.A.F. played an important part at El Agheila. It is reported that the attacks of the R.A.F. on Rommel's withdrawing forces registered a record number of sorties for fighter bombers in any theatre of war anywhere. Rommel has also registered a new record—for retreat!

Rommel told the press in Berlin on October 3:

> "*The gateway to Egypt is within our grasp. We have not gone there to allow ourselves, sooner or later, to be thrown back again.*"

Within a short period of less than two and a half months, Rommel has allowed himself to be thrown back. He has in fact been flung so far back that the gateway to Egypt, far from being within his grasp, is not even in sight, however hard he may strain himself. He has been thrown out, not merely from Egypt, but practically from Libya.



Benghazi, which played an important part in supplying the Eighth Army and enabling it to score a walk-over victory at El Agheila.

Benghazi plays Important Part

Commenting on the Rout of Rommel in Egypt in the middle of last month, we said that the Battle of El Alamein ended in a glorious and decisive victory for the Allies but that the Battle of the Western Desert was not yet over and that Rommel's striking power still remained. Now it seems to be practically over and done with, and Rommel's striking power seems to be useful only in striking westwards! In helping this great westward trek, the harbour of Benghazi, it is reported, has played an important part, for it was through Benghazi that supplies reached the Eighth Army.

The disaster that has befallen the Axis forces in Libya will need a lot of explaining by Goebbels and his disciples. It is obvious that great importance was attached to the operations in Libya, which King Victor Emanuel, after the completion of its conquest in 1912, compared to the bone of the chop—the meat part being Tunisia, on which modern Italy always cast its covetous eyes. Now the bone has gone, and with it the meat also is about to go!

Italian Colonists and Forces leave early

It is of some interest to note that some time after Rommel began his great retreat, Italy decided to remove *en masse* all Italian colonists who settled in Libya four years ago. It may be recalled that, in 1938, General Balbo, Governor of Libya, organized a great colonization scheme under which a large number of Italian families migrated from Italy to Libya. Only large families were chosen to take part in this scheme which was based on the ancient Greek model of not employing outside labour. The colonists had to be strictly families, and not even cousins were permitted to accompany them. Large convoys taking about 20,000 Italians left the port of Genoa under the leadership of Balbo, and now, after four years, the homeward bound trip had to be undertaken under the compelling force of circumstances created by the advance of General Montgomery's troops.

As for the Italian troops themselves, they did not wait to be abandoned by the Germans as in Egypt. They packed up their kit bags first, says *The Daily Mail's* Air Correspondent, and got out of the crumbling Axis lines.

A Great British Victory

The Axis has suffered yet another defeat in Africa. Rommel's retreat may be a strategic retreat, but it is still a great British victory. The cause of the United Nations has been taken yet another step on the glorious road to ultimate triumph.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

manpower and more armament output than the Kaiser did at the height of his military power. All these facts should be borne in mind when we feel justifiable joy and optimism at the magnificent successes of the United Nations.

* * * *

German Propaganda Methods : A New Device. An ingenious device in German propaganda methods has been brought to light by Mr. W. S. Sinclair, B.B.C. propaganda expert, in a broadcast talk given recently. He describes Berlin's clever method of creating a news agency which does not exist anywhere except in the imagination of Goebbels. This news agency is called the International Information Bureau and it is quoted by the German Radio in its news bulletins from time to time. It was invented some time in October last. The German Radio pretends that it is quoting from a neutral news agency. At the beginning of last month, the German Radio said that the special correspondent of the International Information Bureau in North Africa reported that the large-scale British attack which was started by heavy artillery a day earlier on the El Alamein Front had collapsed, and so on. Such reports may give the impression of unreliability, but the listeners will be led to believe that such a news agency does really exist. But the fact is there is no such agency, and no correspondent of the agency exists in North Africa or anywhere else.

The pretence that the "International Information Bureau" is a real agency is kept up by the Germans by an attitude of outward detachment. At the end of October the German Radio quoted the International Information Bureau as reporting that the U-boats in the Atlantic had sunk 100,000 tons of Allied shipping. The same radio reported half an hour later a correction from the Bureau to the effect that the total was really 165,000 tons. Three and a half hours later, on the same day, the German Radio said that the figures given by the International Information Bureau might not be altogether reliable, as the German authorities had not yet issued their official figures. Mr. Sinclair says: "It's rather like a literary man publishing a novel under a pen name, and then writing a review of it under his own name." Continuing he says:

> "You see that the invention of the imaginary news agency is for the Germans a most ingenious and useful device. When the Nazis want to say something which they would like to say, and which they yet feel to be so extreme and absurd that they don't want to risk having it quoted back at them later, they can do this by saying that this so-called neutral news agency has reported it. This enables them to start rumours and drop hints in the hope that some fool somewhere or other will believe them. It enables them also to publish extreme claims and then to escape the consequences afterwards when the full facts become known, by saying that it was not the Germans who made the statement, but only this regrettably unreliable news agency."

Mr. Sinclair points out that the German Radio frequently had resort to this imaginary news agency for reporting the fighting at Stalingrad and observes that reports from such an agency enable Nazi propagandists to give themselves an appearance of moderation, caution and reliability by periodically warning their listeners against believing much of what the news agency announces, unless it was officially confirmed by the German Propaganda Ministry.

* * * *

"International Information Bureau: " Two Reasons for Invention. Why was it that the Nazis had to invent such a news agency? Mr. Sinclair gives two reasons. Firstly, the old Nazi trick of attributing wild statements to neutral newspapers was not working well, as the B.B.C. exposed the trick by getting hold of the neutral newspaper referred to and reading over to listeners the actual passage distorted by the German propaganda experts. The second reason was the change in the military situation or the change in the kind of the situation that the Nazis had to report. This will be clear when it is pointed out that in the early days of the war when the Germans overran Norway, Holland, Belgium and France, when they advanced regularly day after day in Russia, the German High Command communiqués came to have an air of accuracy and reliability. The impression that was generally spreading was that Nazi propaganda was all lies, but that the German High Command communiqués were accurate. What happened was when the Germans were very near a certain town, the German High Command reported it as having been already captured. This in fact would be happening a few days later. In other words, the German High Command communiqués, like the rest of Nazi propaganda, were frequently plain lies, but these lies were detected only by those making a special study of the subject like Mr. Sinclair. The Germans resorted to these lying tactics, because they wanted to give the impression of continuous military successes. This was going on practically quite well until they began to meet with the reverses, when everything did not go according to plan.

When the Battle of Britain was at its height, the German High Command announced that the R.A.F. had been driven out of the skies of England and that the *Luftwaffe* had complete air control. This was not at all true. But the German High Command thought that it would come true in about a week's time or so. But many weeks passed, and it became clear that far from being driven out of the skies of England, the R.A.F. was proceeding to control the air on the other side of the Channel.

When Germany invaded Russia the same thing happened in regard to the communiqués of the German High Command. Then again people began to believe them, because the statements made, though not true at the time, did become true some days later. It was only when the Nazi advance was halted by the Russians in the early winter of last year that it became clear to the general public that the communiqués were simply not true. The same thing happened this winter also, and the Nazi propagandists thought it was time to invent the "International Information Bureau" to cheer up the German people by reports of imaginary successes. A recent instance is the report of this International News Agency that the whole factory district of Stalingrad was in German hands. This again was not at all true. But such reports created a general atmosphere of military achievement without committing the German High Command itself to a definite statement which might turn out to be a plain lie.

Commander-in-Chief's Tribute to Madrassis

◆ ◆ ◆

We did not enlist a great many Madrassis for a long time. We have recently had experience of a Madras battery of artillery in the Western Desert. They did very well indeed. I hope all the Madrassis will live up to that reputation. We have got a number of Madras soldiers in the artillery and anti-aircraft artillery. I was in Bangalore a few months ago and found them to be very fine type of men."

—GENERAL WAVELL, *in an interview on December 14.*

Britain and China

"As a result of the Japanese aggression, the British people took their place with pride and determination beside your gallant countrymen. I share your conviction that this spirit of comradeship will be of lasting benefit to both sides and will find expression in the ultimate construction of a new world wherein free peoples shall live together in peace and amity."

MR. CHURCHILL, *in a message in London, on December* 12.

Mr. Sinclair examines the interesting question whether anything at all exists corresponding to this impressive name of the International Information Bureau. He says :

> "It may simply be a name, and nothing more. It may be like that Mrs. Harris in Dickens' novel, who was always being quoted by Sarah Gamp. You remember how it is only after a long acquaintance with Sarah that one realized that the loquacious Mrs. Harris existed in Sarah's imagination only, and nowhere else . . . Whether it's just a Mrs. Harris or whether it does consist of a small office of some kind, it's simply an invention of the German Propaganda Ministry, and it's invented for the announcements or the things the Propaganda Ministry does not want to risk saying itself."

Reports from this imaginary news agency have been, says Mr. Sinclair, appearing with increasing frequency in the German Radio news bulletins during the last few weeks. It is expected that, in the coming months, when the military events continue to go more and more against Germany, this news agency will be quoted more and more.

* * * *

Japan's Shipping Losses : Partial Retribution. In a leading article *The Daily Telegraph* says that the sentiment common to the messages exchanged between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, on the anniversary of America's entry into the war, is that Japan's aggressive power must be utterly destroyed. The paper points out that "partial retribution" has already been inflicted on Japan and that the rulers have themselves admitted about a fifth of the damage known to have been caused to her fighting forces and mercantile marine. But even this admitted fraction is quite substantial. Colonel Knox, U.S. Navy Secretary, has expressed the view that Japan's shipping losses are reaching a point gravely menacing her essential supply lines. But it must be clearly recognised that the extent of Japan's resources or the fanaticism of her people should not be underestimated. Japan has become a very grave menace to the freedom and prosperity of the peoples of the East. In a recent article, Mr. Empson, an English scholar who has spent many years in Japan and worked in the Tokyo University, points out that the reason why Britain and other nations co-operated with the Japanese in the early years of the century was because they thought that if Japan became a great industrial nation, she must help the liberation of the rest of Asia. Japan got the co-operation and help of the Western powers by a policy of hypocrisy and pretence. She paid lip service to democratic ideals and pretended to abide by the conventions of international ethics. She required tools of war and the patents of designs of the engines of the war, before she could master sufficient insolence to declare war on the world. So she was cautious. She dallied with the Axis Powers and smiled towards Britain and America. She carried on commercial negotiations with America for scrap iron, machine tools, oil, etc. When she felt that the situation in Europe was such that there was a chance of her dreams of aggrandizement being realised, she threw to the winds all her pretentions and embarked on a policy of violent aggression. She was faced with a great obstacle. It was China. After the easy conquest of Manchuria, Japan felt that within a few months, if not weeks, China would completely come under her sway and all would be well. But China stood up as a champion of freedom in Asia against Japan's aggressive might and has been fighting Japan with magnificent courage, in spite of great handicaps. Tojo, the Japanese Premier, has been forced to admit this year that the war in China is "a difficult and costly enterprise." This must have been an unpleasant shock to the Machiavellian gang of the Mitsubishi and the Military, who felt that the war against China would be a walk-over for Japan. China has been frustrating their nefarious schemes with great heroism to such an extent that Japan seems to realise that she can never conquer China easily.

THE KEY

"Air superiority is the key to victory, and we have that key."

—GENERAL SMUTS, *at a lunch in Capetown, on December* 12.

Indian Troops' Part in Defeat of Rommel

By CAPT. M. L. KATJU, M.C.

I have just come back from the Middle East. I spent about a year and a half there with the Indian Troops. I shared in their joys and sorrows; I was with them in their triumphs and reverses. We rushed together to Benghasi and Agedabia; we came back grimly fighting to Gazala. Then came the dark days of June. I was with them in the cauldron, then at El Adem and Bel Hamid, Rommel threw everything at us and we held him for a time. Forced by the weight of the armour to give way, the Indians fell back on Halfaya. Outflanked there, they fought through to Matruh. Surrounded, they cut a lane to El Alamein and there they stayed and all Rommel's men and all his tanks could not shift them.

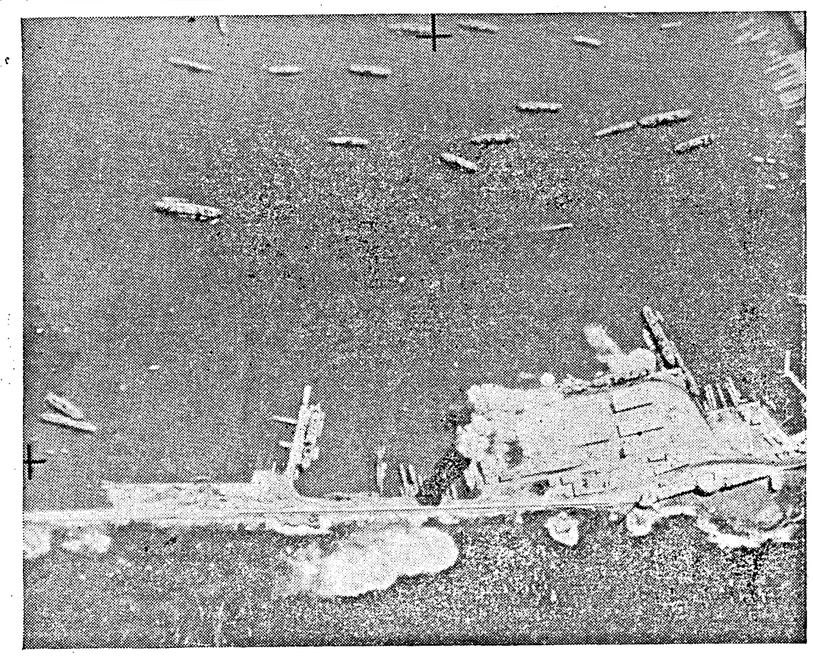
It is of the battle of Alamein that I propose to tell you to-day, a battle that lasted from July to the early days of November when the Panzers, battered and broken, cried "enough!" and ran as they had never run before.

It was a great battle, one that may well come to be known in history as a decisive one not only in the fight for the mastery of the Middle East but in the greater fight to save the world from the Axis.

MEN OF THE HOUR

I remember that day I arrived at Alamein from Matruh. Our men were pouring in from all over the desert. Dusty and dishevelled, clinging to such equipment as they could save, they gathered at their rendezous. Weary and worn but grim-faced they set to work digging and mining before yet the sweat had dried on their aching bodies. They had the knowledge that Destiny had picked them out as the men of the hour and they were keeping faith.

I remember going down the Alamein track to the Qattara Depression. All along it New Zealanders and Indians, just arrived, were hastily improvising defences, I remember



U.S. AIR FORCE BOMBS TRIPOLI.—Bombs find their objective in the Spanish Mol (upper left), as United States Army Air Force bombers successfully raided the harbour at Tripoli. Their objective was the Spanish Mol, and not the ships in the harbour.

thinking aloud "My God, we will never hold Jerry here," but I was thinking in terms of mines and wires, in terms of tanks and guns. I had not taken into account the human element, the indomitable spirit which is stronger than steel and gunpowder and says "the enemy shall not pass."

He did not. He made a little advance or two, but the Indians held on Ruweisat Ridge and we hold the Middle East to-day, threat and a promise to the Axis, a stepping stone to ravaged Europe.

RUWEISAT RIDGE

Ruweisat Ridge runs almost parallel with the coast and about ten miles away from it. Between the ridge near the coast and Ruweisat there stretches a valley with very soft going. Whoever holds Ruweisat controls this valley and, therefore, the main road along the coast. Ruweisat itself is an ill-defined ridge, not very broad and with a series of bumps on its northern side. These bumps were known as Points 64, 63 and so on according to their height. A constant effort was being maintained to control these bumps as they served the purpose of observation posts along the valley and on the southern side of the ridge as well. Any side holding an important point, say 63 for example, could make it impossible with artillery fire for the other side to consolidate ground to a considerable distance. The ridge itself was stony with depressions and hollows filled with soft sand. The bumps were, without exception, extremely rocky and it was tremendously difficult to dig in and consolidate these points. Such, in brief, was Ruweisat Ridge which cost Rommel his reputation.

ROMMEL'S INVITATION TO HITLER

He had invited the Fuehrer to Nile fish and wild duck at Mina House, just outside Cairo. He had promised his men the loot of Alexandria. I saw his men going into Alexandria—to the prisoners of war cage: what sort of a welcome the Fuehrer is preparing for Rommel I cannot say, but I am sure it will not be to the latter's liking.

In August, when we were advancing our front line and strengthening our hold on Ruweisat, we captured an Italian General and two of his principal staff officers. While we were driving them back to Alexandria, the General grew loquacious.

"We had long hoped to do this journey," he said, "in our own trucks or possibly captured British trucks. Look at the Mediterranean, isn't it pretty? I suppose Alexandria is a beautiful city. We never thought we could see it like this."

And his companion chimed in, wringing his hand, "It's hard, very hard. We (meaning the Italians) will never see Alexandria as we hoped to."

ROMMEL'S FINAL EFFORT

In September, Rommel made his final effort to fulfil his promise to Hitler. He came through the southern minefields with all his armour. In two or three days time, he told his men, "you will be in Alexandria." Instead he was back where he started. The German General, Von Thoma, captured recently said that the German strategy was to cut north-east after crossing the minefields. They hoped to get to the coast through Ruweisat Ridge and thus cut off the Eighth Army. General Von Thoma admitted that this attack failed because Ruweisat Ridge, still held by Indians and British troops, was too strongly defended. The Germans had not expected defences in such great depth.

That, as Rommel knew himself, was the last attempt. Our reinforcements were pouring in. Rommel began to dig in and organize his defences in depth. He knew the day was coming when he would have to fight desperately to hold his ground and the day came late in October. On that fateful day, the Australians and the South Africans were along the coast. The Indians guarded Ruweisat Ridge and positions vacated by the New Zealanders who had been taken out to form a support group. Further south were a British division and the famous 7th Armoured Division. Behind the Australians and South Africans was massed a terrifying strength of armour waiting for a gap to be opened through which they could pour out.

The enemy had been led to presume that our attack was coming from the south and he had split his armour. German troops held the northern sector and special paratroops were opposite the Indians. In the south, enemy troops were mainly Italians.

ZERO HOUR

Zero hour came. Our main attack was to be launched in the north, with a subsidiary attack in the south while the forces on Ruweisat Ridge were to demonstrate and keep the enemy anxious.

You must have heard of the opening barrage. Hundreds of guns hurled shells at the enemy's forward defence lines while hundreds of others maintained extremely accurate counter-batter work, thus saving our forces from defensive fire. It would take all my time to give you just an idea of that battle, but I am telling you only of the Indians' part in the show. Gurkhas and Punjabis that day crossed the wires and minefields and raided the enemy's Ruweisat Defences. Dummies, carefully prepared by a young Parsi officer (a well-known cricketer from Bombay), played a part as well and were mown down by tremendous fire from the enemy. The Gurkhas penetrated deep into enemy *sangars*. The Punjabis were held up. But they created the impression that we were attacking along the centre as well, thus causing great confusion amongst the enemy.

As we progressed, slowly but surely, in the north, the role of the Indians was to hold on and prevent the Germans from counter-attacking. Every night our patrols were busy. We were containing a strong enemy force, part of it being his best men.

As our wedge deepened, the Indians began to shift from Ruweisat to the north, moving on along the widening bulge. The Germans were holding on grimly and we expected any moment to be called upon to deliver the *coup de grace*.

THE CALL

The call came on November 4. At a moment's notice one of our brigades, the famous 5th Indian Infantry Brigade, was whistled up for a night attack. They went in behind a creeping barrage of 400 guns. Before first light they had gained their objectives and the bulge had been so widened that armour could pour through without fear of anti-tank guns traps. At dawn, the tanks started passing through the Rajputs and the Essex. There were hundreds of them. Armoured cars flashed past in scores. We were through. The rout had begun.

The Corps Commander sent his congratulations to the Indian Brigade for their excellent performance.

In the fulness of his pride, Rommel, as he was coming back to Gazala, is reported to have said that the Eighth Army was a rabble except perhaps the Indian Division which was not altogether a rabble. What does he think now, I wonder! What would he say now if he were asked about the Eighth Army?

TIRED BUT HAPPY

When I left Alamein, the Indians were bathing along the coast, washing their clothes and looking tired but happy. For five months they had been in the line and now they were getting a rest which they had well deserved. Alongside was the South African Division both of them being engaged in collecting the booty left behind by the Jerries and the Itys.

I was sorry to come back. I would have liked to go on to Benghazi and beyond with our troops, but I knew I was thinking selfishly. I had had a rest and comfort in Cairo and Cyprus while these troops were holding on firmly with rationed water and food and a pest of flies, more annoying than the dive-bombers.

One day we shall all meet again. It will be a great reunion.—*A recent A.I.R. broadcast from Delhi.*

Neutral Enemies!

A STORY going round in Washington says that a couple of Swiss journalists arrested in Tokyo protested that they were neutrals.

"No; you are neutral enemies," replied a Tokyo police officer.

"What do you call the United States and Great Britain?" asked the unhappy Swiss.

"They are belligerent enemies."

"What are the Germans and Italians?"

"They are *friendly* enemies."

A New Phase

"Since my last report the war has entered a new phase. The Axis Powers have temporarily at least lost the initiative. We must do all we can to keep them from regaining it. We must bring the full strength of all the United Nations to bear directly against the enemy. We must bring together our joint productive capacity and our material resources, our finished munitions and fighting man-power and we must do this in accordance with the single world strategy."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a Lease-Lend report to Congress on December 11.

"MADRAS'S OWN"

[Almost as this goes to press the previous story of the Madras R.A.F. Squadrons will be available to the public in the form of an illustrated booklet called MADRAS HAS WINGS. These two articles will bring that notable history of MADRAS'S OWN fully up to date.—*Ed.*]

"MADRAS" DEFIANTS SQUADRON

OVER the breaches of Dunkirk in the spring of last year everlasting fame was achieved by the Squadron of Defiants. In defence of the retiring British Expeditionary Force it accounted for 60 German aircraft most of them brought down in a period of three days. In one day alone—May 29th, 1940—the squadron set up a record by destroying no less than thirty-seven enemy aircraft. Not even in the Battle of Britain was this record broken and it still remains the highest "bag" of any Fighter Command squadron in a single day's fighting.

THE Defiants got their victims in two patrols. Leaving their aerodrome in England just before mid-day they met more German fighters and dive-bombers than they could count. Seventeen of the fighters and one dive bomber were brought down.

IN the afternoon they got in amongst a big formation of Ju. 87 dive-bombers and their gunners were able to blaze away without any interference from enemy fighters. Eighteen of the Junkers went down and then to round off the day's work the squadron shot down a Ju. 88 before turning for home.

INDIVIDUAL EXPLOITS

NOT yet can the full stories of the individual exploits of the men of this squadron be told. Some day when the fog of war has lifted the stories of their deeds of daring which won the many awards which the squadron has to its credit, will add a brilliant page to the history of the Empire's fight for the freedom of the world.

ONE air gunner of the squadron shot down a complete formation of five dive-bombers. Unseen by the Germans, his pilot flew underneath them and swinging his guns upwards the gunner picked hem off one by one as coolly as bringing down sitting birds on a tree.

WHEN the Defiants came upon the Junkers they were dive-bombing ships. Three small vessels were set on fire but the cost to the enemy was a heavy one. The pilots and crews who took part in that famous fight were of an average age of twenty-five.

COMPARATIVELY the squadron did not play such a big part the Battle of Britain but during that epoch-making time in three fights over South West England in August they shot down fifteen of the enemy.

LATER in the year the squadron went into training for a new duty—night fighting—and in October bagged their first night raider. Since then they have been steadily bringing them down and have now at least fourteen night raiders to their credit, with many more claimed as "probables" and "damaged."

ONE night in May two of the squadron's Defiants flew to France, shot down two enemy bombers over their own aerodromes and seriously damaged two others. The first pilot dived down on his victim and the gunner gave it two bursts which sent it plunging down through the clouds. The second Defiant destroyed another bomber with its first short burst sending it crashing on the outside of its aerodrome. They hit another just as it was touching down at a 100 feet.

TEAM SPIRIT

THE team spirit of the Royal Air Force has been effectively demonstrated by one perfect example provided by this squadron. A Flight Sergeant Pilot and a Sergeant gunner fought together as a pair for nearly two years. Both have won the D.F.M. and bar and together they have destroyed thirteen aircraft. The pilot, joined the R.A.F. as a boy in 1926, was trained as a wireless operator and mechanic then as an air observer and finally as a pilot, winning his wings in November 1939. Before the war the gunner worked in an office in Clerkenwell, and trained as a wireless operator and gunner with the Volunteer Reserve.

THE story of their first introduction as told by the pilot is perhaps of interest. His flight commander came to him one day saying "Here's your gunner" adding in an undertone, "If you don't like him, let me know and I'll make a change." He discovered afterwards that the flight commander has said to the gunner, "I'll introduce you to your pilot. If you don't like him let me know and I'll make a change."

IN the autumn of 1941 the pilot was commissioned and a few months later the long partnership was at last broken when he was posted to command a Hurricane squadron.

THE home towns of the members of the squadron who have now destroyed 89 enemy aircraft, are spread out all over the country. From peaceful little Surrey villages, from the roar of the metropolis; from Yarmouth and Portsmouth and from the Midlands they have come together from busy offices, stores and rural occupations to find high adventure in the air as a perfect team against a brutal enemy.

IT is indeed a squadron to be proud of.

"MADRAS" SPITFIRE SQUADRON

STATIONED for many months in 1940 in the English West country, the pilots of this squadron of Spitfires kept a constant watch on the convoys passing along the Cornish, Devon, Dorest and Hampshire coasts. The squadron has earned a high reputation for its patrols in protection of British and Allied shipping.

IN September, 1940, it was ordered to the South East to reinforce the defences of London. During their first flight in their new theatre of war, they shot down thirteen enemy aircraft and in four days had brought their "London Defence total" to thirty.

THE squadron then went back to the West country, where on November 29th, 1940, they carried out one of their outstanding exploits—protecting the damaged destroyer "Javelin" (Commander Lord Louis Mountbatten) from air attack.

FOR several hours the Spitfires fought off a series of attacks by relays of German bombers on the partially disabled destroyer after she had been torpedoed in a naval action in the Channel. When the "Javelin" had been safely escorted into port the fighters had accounted for three German bombers destroyed and one damaged. Their own casualties were nil.

FIRST ENCOUNTER

THE first encounter with the enemy took place off the Lizard shortly after 11 a.m., when one of the Spitfire pilots, forming part of the destroyer's escort, saw three British aircraft in line astern followed by what he described as "a very doubtful fourth." The doubtful fourth was quickly identified as a Do. 17 bomber and the pilot immediately attacked. Chasing the bomber in and out of cloud from 2,500 to 6,500 feet and opening fire at close range, he saw pieces break away from the Dornier which went into a spin and crashed into the sea. One member of the crew of five was seen to bale out and fall into the water.

LATER in the day another pilot of the squadron bagged a Ju.88 which dived out of the clouds and let go four bombs from a height of about 3,000 feet. "I chased after him" said the pilot "and got in several good bursts from my machine-guns before he disappeared into cloud with smoke coming from both engines. I followed him through the cloud, caught him again in the open, and smashed the rear gunner's cockpit with a burst of fire from close range." When last seen the Ju.88 was on fire with bits breaking off in mid-air and plunging into the sea.

ANOTHER pilot caught sight of a Dornier climbing hard in an effort to reach cloud cover. When the enemy saw the Spitfire he turned but the pilot got in a burst which put the Dornier's port engine out of action. He fell a few hundred feet and made for low cloud bank but several more bursts from the Spitfire's guns from close astern sent him crashing in flames.

THE third German bomber, also a Dornier, was shot down by a Flying Officer who, after chasing him in and out of cloud, saw his victim "start falling to pieces and go spinning down through the clouds into the sea."

THE fourth bomber, a Ju.88, which had also unsuccessfully attempted to bomb the "Javelin" was severely damaged by another Spitfire before being lost to view in the clouds.

NEW HEROES

PLYMOUTH and the West country, always proud of their naval traditions, have thus found new heroes in these R.A.F. pilots who fly daily in their defence.

ON September 15, 1940, when the record number of 185 raiders was destroyed this squadron's bag was 4 Me.110's and one Me. 109 shot down in battle off the South coast.

SINCE the Battle of Britain the pilots of this squadron have won many more victories over the Luftwaffe. They have continued to provide effective air cover for convoys in the Channel and have taken part in many offensive operations over Northern and North-western France.

ON one occasion in May 1941, four of the squadron's pilots ran into about 40 Me.109's near Portland and promptly shot down five of them into the sea.

SINCE Fighter Command launched its big offensive in June 1941, the squadron has been carrying out raids over enemy territory and the pilots have also provided escort for bombers attacking land and sea targets and torpedo bomber raids on German warships.

A former commanding officer of the squadron was once shot down into the sea after destroying two Me. 109's. He was nine hours in his dinghy before being picked up but it was not long before he was back in action again.

THE squadron is officially credited with the destruction of 96½ enemy aircraft, but the pilots' total is probably well over the 100 mark.

British General who helped to Defeat Rommel

THIS story I have had to wait nearly three months to tell—the story of a "new" British General who is a wizard of tank tactics, writes William Stapley in the *Sunday Despatch*.

Horrocks is his name—Brian Gwynne Horrocks. Official reference books barely mention him and surprisingly little is known about him outside a small circle.

For a long time he has been one of the army's "hush hush" men. There has been very real and official reason for all this of course. He was one of the key pieces on the Egyptian chess board, a vital leader destined to pit his wits and tank fighting genius against Rommel. He is a man of whom the German General Staff had no knowledge whatever. That simply was why this article could not be read before to-day.

Brian Horrocks has now done his stuff—and done it so well that to-day that screen of secrecy can be lifted. A day or two ago, it was revealed that he is one of General Montgomery's three Corps Commanders.

WENT TO EGYPT

His is the 13th Corps and he went to Egypt at the special request of the Eighth Army's Commander. Horrocks was made Lieut.-Colonel in 1937. He was promoted to the rank of Major-General only last year and to acting Lieutenant-General only last August. He served throughout the last war with the Middlesex Regiment and won the M.C. To-day he is 48.

Last August he went secretly to Egypt knowing that at last his day had come.

This was soon after I had met and talked to him. He was in the middle of a 4-day mock battle in which hundreds of tanks were being used. There is nothing of the immaculately uniformed General about his spare workaday figure. He wore a beret of the Royal Armoured Corps, a high necked jersey, a thick dark wool and oil-stained open tunic and trousers.

He talked of his tanks. Above all we talked of his men. It was here that Horrocks' earnestness and enthusiasm were most apparent. "They are just grand fellows." He told me as he chewed a stalk of grass he had plucked at his feet.

Then his eyes grew suddenly serious as he added, "My only concern is that I shall prove the right man mentally and as a soldier to lead them into battle when the time does come."

Horrocks fights his tank battles, real or mock, right up to the front. When I saw him, he had a small staff car fitted with wireless. It had been everywhere in the battle zone that day and whenever a tank action was joined, Horrocks was up their somewhere with the leading vehicles.

"You see," he explained to me "battles to-day are fought 35 or 40 miles per hour. Leading a Division means you have got to be right up with your men. And it is a good thing."

HIS BED

Under dripping trees, I spied a ground sheet and a rough air mattress. Horrocks followed my gaze, "That is my bed for the night," he said with a grin.

"May be rained out" I hazarded with a glance at the lowering sky.

"Then" said Horrocks, "I'll just sling a bit of tarpaulin over a branch if I can find one."

He is like that. Roughing it with his tank boys gives him real joy—and teaches him innumerable sidelights about them that point the way to greater efficiency and tank fighting skill. Well, that is Brian Horrocks, soldiers' dream General, if ever there was one.

"Give me another month," he told me as we parted, "and we will be ready to take up and look the very best panzer army any German ever thought of."

Out in the Egyptian desert, Horrocks had a chance he had planned and dreamed of. He put into practice all the battle manœuvres and tactical schemes he had tried out. Rommel's defeat shows that he had planned and practised well.

JAPAN AND INDIA

"The threat to India is much less to-day than what it was seven or eight months ago. Now, we have got a different picture. If the Japanese undertake any attempt on India they will get a warm reception. The Japanese have had many reverses since the last spring, so that the threat to India is nothing like it was some months ago."

—GENERAL WAVELL, *in an interview on December 14.*

Psychological Triumph follows Military Victories

By WICKHAM STEED

THE outstanding importance of military and naval successes gained by the United Nations in the past weeks is now beyond dispute. Behind those successes lies something still weightier. This is the revelation of a grand design, carefully framed, well executed, and imposed by surprise upon an unprepared and perplexed enemy.

With the exception of General Wavell's first Libyan campaign that swept the large Italian armies out of Libya two years ago and the subsequent conquest of Abyssinia and Eritrea, the strategic initiative had hitherto been held by the Axis. Now it has passed, perhaps finally, to the United Nations. This is more than a military change in the fortunes of war. It is a psychological change of immense political and moral significance.

Less than six months ago when Rommel stood at the gates of Egypt, it looked as though the southern jaw of Hitler's strategic pincers might soon close on Egypt and the Middle East while the northern jaw should bite through the Russian defences and envelop the Caucasus. Like the British Eighth Army in Egypt the Russian armies were on the defensive. Now Rommel has been driven in a headlong flight from Egypt and Libya. Anglo-American forces are entering Tunis and threatening to expel the Axis from North Africa entirely. The southern jaw of the pincers has been dislocated and broken. The northern jaw is being sent back in the Caucasus and Stalingrad stands firm.

INDIAN SEAMEN AWARDED B.E.M.—At a recent investiture held by H.M. the King, two Indian seamen were awarded the B.E.M. On the left is Quarter-Master Noon Hossein who, when his ship was attacked by enemy planes and set on fire, took up a rope, jumped overboard, swam to the quay and made the rope fast so that his shipmates could get ashore by sliding down the rope. With him is the other recipient—Abdur Rahman, who was a Mess Steward. Abdur Rahman's ship was torpedoed and sank in 18 minutes. She was abandoned in good order and in three boats the men stayed in the vicinity for 36 hours in the hope that help might come in response to their S.O.S. They then made for the nearest land. The boats became separated but all reached safely after 13 days. By his cheerful bearing Rahman kept up the morale of his companions throughout the ordeal.

HITLER ON THE DEFENSIVE

Hitler has been compelled to occupy all France and organize defensively the southern European front. The Mediterranean is no longer under Axis control and the plight of Italy has grown precarious. As though to

crown these changes in Europe and Africa, Japan has suffered a heavy naval defeat off the Solomon islands.

Considerable though these changes are both in themselves and as foreshadowing the possibility of further changes, I think the psychological change is more considerable still. For the first time since the war began, a constructive Allied plan has appeared. In the battle of wits, Allied minds have shown themselves superior to those of the enemy.

From the outset the moral force of the Allied cause has been superior to the immoral predatory force of the Axis. The economic force was also certain to tell in favour of the Allies sooner or later. Yet there seemed room for doubt whether the Allies were or could be mentally superior to the Axis and whether in point of mental co-ordination, they could overcome the advantage possessed by Nazi Germany who could operate on interior lines and enjoyed an effective unity of command.

Now this doubt has been dispelled, thanks to the manner in which victory was organized and won in Egypt as an opening stroke for the liberation of North Africa by the greatest amphibious operation ever recorded in warfare. This psychological triumph must bear fruit in many directions.

A WORLD-WIDE CHANGE

Taken together with the victories of the United States and Australia over Japan in the southern Pacific, it marks the beginning of a world-wide change in the prospects of the war. The Russian confidence in total victory within a calculable future has been redoubled. The satellites and the accomplices of the Axis are wondering how best they may escape the wrath to come. Even in quarters where the ultimate defeat of the Axis was believed to be a moral certainty, it has now assumed the shape of a tangible reality. Italy trembles under the grip of her German master. The desperate efforts of Japan to recapture the Solomon islands foreshadow the disheartening effects of the defeats she has now sustained. In Germany the earlier assurance of victory has been transformed into the cold comfort of Hitler's denial that he will ever capitulate.

Practically the question how soon the progressive Allied achievement will lead to the final triumph resolves itself into the question of Germany's power to continue the struggle indefinitely. Without Germany's support Italy would collapse overnight. Less directly the fate of Japan also depends on the German resistance. In what degree will the German people and the German army continue to stand behind Hitler and the Nazi system when world mastery and unlimited loot are seen to be beyond their reach? Will they face the unshaken prospect of total ruin and unlimited disaster? We do not know. Britain, Greece and Yugoslavia, to name only these, have stood undismayed by adversity. Their cause called forth their moral strength.

Will the Germans derive more strength from reflections on unsuccessful brigandage? Upon an answer to this question the duration of war will, I believe, depend.

Dullest Capital in the World

◆

DAKAR is the capital of French West Africa whose 15 million people are governed from it.

And it is probably the dullest capital in the world. Its dullness is the product of its climate. Constant dull skies and steamy enervating heat sap the strength of those who have to live there and are almost unbearably depressing even to the casual visitor. But because of its position on the edge of Africa, where it bulges out towards Brazil, France spent millions of pounds on its development as port and on measures to defend it against invasion. In peacetime 7,000 ships went in and out of its harbour every year. It was a coaling and oil fuelling station and a naval base.

It was long suspected that Axis submarines operating against our convoys in the South Atlantic used it as base or at least were supplied by ships using it.

Dakar first leapt into war news two years ago when General De Gaulle made his abortive move to occupy it with a Free French force. He abandoned the attempt when the garrison resisted.

The Governor-General of French West Africa, M. Pierre Boisson, seemed a willing tool of Vichy in its anti-Allied policy in Africa.

He threw himself eagerly into the task of strengthening the defences of the capital and the colony and in stamping out any open De Gaullist sympathies.

But he, just as persistently, opposed all German designs to send military missions to Dakar and he stubbornly resisted suggestions that German troops should be sent to help in the protection of the colony. Nevertheless, the Germans sent plenty of agents there and they were all busy preparing for Axis plans of the future. Those plans have been thwarted now.—*The Daily Express.*

Egypt's Role in the War

◆

Great Help Given to Allies

[*By* DR. HASSAN NASHAAT PASHA, Egyptian Ambassador to Britain, in an interview to the *Manchester Daily Despatch.*]

A question that may be asked at this important turning point in the war is what part Egypt has played in the North African campaign and what help Egypt has given to the Allies. Better put the same question as from the beginning of the war up till now.

The first and most important help that Egypt rendered her Allies was a welcome home to all forces. Fighting forces were not only sure of security in their rear but were also sure that the whole nation—Government and people—were ready to help at any critical moment. When, in July, General Auchinleck had to retreat and Rommel's guns could very distinctly be heard in Alexandria and localities nearby, the true spirit of the Egyptian nation became apparent—confidence, calmness and faith in her Allies.

Attacking forces in any battlefield rely on the co-operation of the great number of people operating behind the lines. Defences of all strategical points in the country, such as bridges, railways, ports and stores, were undertaken by the Egyptian army. The anti-aircraft defences of Egypt were all manned by Egyptian soldiers. Many thousands of Egyptian workmen of all kinds were engaged by the Allies in works necessary for the campaign.

Priority on roads and railways was given to the forces and materials concerned with war. The railways had a very difficult task. Deprived of renewal of materials generally imported, they had to do their best to satisfy both ordinary and military traffic. The help of the railways was vital to the Allies, and to give you a small example of their tremendous effort, I shall quote from the *Railway Gazette* of November 6, 1942, which stated that in spite of a shortage of locomotives and rolling-stock, they could by careful control satisfy all military needs.

Everything that the country possessed or produced was placed at the disposal of Egypt's Allies, and help has even been sent to neighbouring countries under the control of the Allies.

If Egypt did not declare war, this step was taken after consultation with her British ally, and for many complicated reasons. But, generally speaking, the help that Egypt would have rendered had she declared war in the circumstances would not have been greater than the help she has actually been giving.

I think I can say that Egypt, with the Suez Canal running through her land, and with the goodwill and alliance of the British people, will be a large factor in the maintenance of the Mediterranean as a free waterway to all countries of the world.

IS THAT AN ARMY BIRD?

MEMBERS of the public finding or capturing a pigeon that is in difficulties are requested by the military authorities to examine the bird in order to ascertain whether it is a part of India's Fighting Services.

Military birds carry a metal identification ring on one leg, stamped with various particulars. For instance, the ring on an Army pigeon shows first the letters C.M., then the last two numbers of the year the bird was hatched, and a further number (the pigeon's individual serial number).

Whatever the mark, the bird should be taken with the least possible delay, and without interference with any message it may be carrying, to the nearest police station.

It is, of course, possible that the bird may be carrying a message, but not any means of identification. In this case also the bird should be taken to the nearest police station.

Timoshenko's Great Offensive

By MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES GWYNN

TIMOSHENKO'S great counter-offensive in Russia is a masterpiece of timing and well-concealed intentions. If its initial tremendous success can be exploited fully, it will lead to the greatest disaster that the Germans have yet experienced.

It has of course been evident for a long time that Timoshenko's relief armies constituted a potential threat to the Germans at Stalingrad if they could muster sufficient striking power to break through the Axis flank defences. But that was a big " if " and little indication was given that Timoshenko could do more than relieve some of the pressure on the city and throw an increased strain on German communications and resources.

How has Timoshenko been able to acquire a striking power which has enabled him to break-through the elaborate German defences? It seems probable that British and American weapons have been accumulated for this major effort—and German reports admit their appearance. If so, it gives fresh reason to believe that weapons have been forged capable of penetrating the defensive systems on which the Germans have placed great confidence.

Has the Axis over-confidence in the value of defensive methods been the primary cause of their disasters in Egypt and now in Russia? In each case they have thrust their offensive armies into a strategically unsound position and clung dangerously long to the offensive advantages they had gained. The result has been that their defences have broken down.

LOOKING BACK AT RUSSIAN DEFENCE

Looking back, it is more than ever clear how immensely important was the successful Russian defence at Voronezh. If the Germans had been able to push eastwards towards the Volga cutting the railways leading from Central Russia to the south and prolonging the defensive flank of their great southern offensive, the isolation of the lower Volga and Caucasus would have been completed.

Without those railways, Timoshenko's relief armies could never have been assembled in a threatening position. The probable course of action of the German force, now in such a dangerous predicament, is a subject of much speculation. It is argued that it might still retreat before the Russian pincers close, despite the fact that both railways forming its main lines of communication have been cut. No doubt the mobile element of the army might get away by road in somewhat the same manner as Rommel saved a part of his force at El-Alamein. The retreat would, however, entail vast sacrifices of material and probably much of the less mobile personnel.

As in the case of Rommel, it is probable that the greater part of the supply depots of the army has been formed in the forward areas between the Don and the Volga in the neighbourhood of railheads. In that case, it is almost certain that a large army, dependent on mechanized transport, would in a long retreat run short of supplies, especially petrol. The intermediate depots would suffice only to meet the needs of a comparatively small force.

OPPORTUNITY FOR RUSSIAN CAVALRY

Weather conditions at this season would militate against mechanized movement and Russian cavalry might have many opportunities for exploiting traditional harassing tactics. I find it difficult to believe that the Germans will retreat except as a desperate measure to save a part of their army. It seems more probable that if they cannot counter-attack to recover the use of railways they will attempt to follow the Staraya Russa precedent and establish a hedgehog position dependent on supplies accumulated in the forward areas supplemented by air transport; in this way they may hope that a rescue army, forward from reserves and withdrawals from the Caucasus front, will eventually re-open communications.

But the delivery of Timoshenko's stroke at a time when some German reserves may be on the move to other theatres might make the formation of a rescue force difficult. Incidentally, it may be noted that the stroke was also timed to bring the maximum assistance to Stalingrad at a critical period when ice movements on the Volga made supply and reinforcements particularly difficult and when frozen ground favoured a renewal of German attacks.

INDIAN TANKMEN CHANGE HATS

In order to bring them more closely into line with the men of the Royal Armoured Corps, personnel of the Indian Armoured Corps are changing their head-dress.

First step has been taken in Iraq and Iran, where every officer and man of an Indian Cavalry Regiment has been issued with a black beret.

Sikh personnel are, of course, excepted. They retain their familiar turbans.

The boys like their new berets, and find them both comfortable and convenient. They say that the similarity of head-dress gives them a greater feeling of comradeship with the British.

Japanese Aims Foiled

◆

"WHAT were Japan's aims in starting the war when she did?" asks the *Sunday Times*. Answering its own question, it says:

Because of the enormous potential strength of America, it was timed to be coincidental with and dependent on German victory in Europe. Therefore, it was planned in the autumn of 1941 when Germany looked like beating Russia.

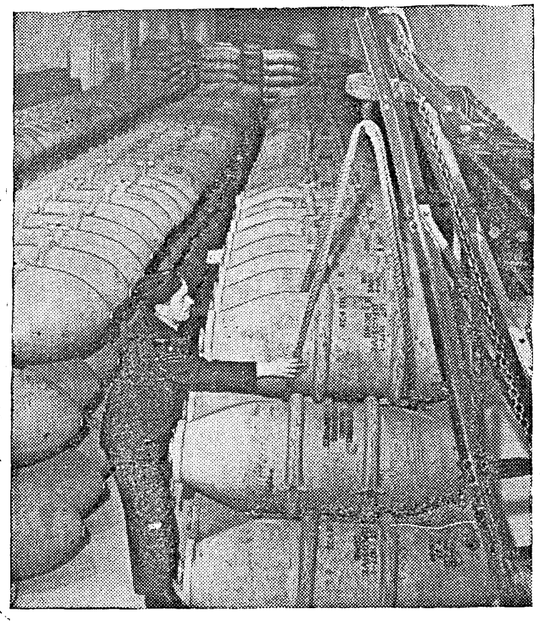
Had Japan been ready with enough first-class modern planes, it might have been started one or two years earlier when things looked black for Great Britain. No doubt, Japan imagined that in the far distant future, America might be crushed completely between the Japanese and the German millstones; but, it seems, her immediate object was quite practicable.

One, it was to occupy quickly the whole of the Indonesian and Australasian territories which might serve as base for America to attack Japan when her strength was awakened. If she could do that, she would force America to attack Japan over along ocean distances with aircraft-carriers against Japanese bases with land-based planes and the result might have been crippling to the American navy. The scheme fell through.

Firstly, Germany did not beat Russia; secondly, the Allies in the Pacific from the battle of the Macassar Straits onwards inflicted heavy losses.

After a very shaky start from December to the end of March, the handling of the American fleet and the deeds of the Fleet Air Arm shine as one of the brightest stars among all the Allied victories. The steady toll taken also played an important part and there has been a slow but quite perceptible decrease in the efficiency of the Japanese air force all through the year while that of the Allies has been increasing with better planes and more experience.

The conclusion is then that if after the cleaning-up of the Solomons and New Guinea, the Allies are strong enough to attack Rabaul which will be within the range of quite a number of Allied air bases, the Japanese will simply be forced to send everything they have to this furthest extremity and the key point of their advance or else give up all hope of achieving that great oceanic, strategical position which alone could give them even the faintest hope of withstanding the rising tide of American power.



The work of the Maintenance Command of the British Royal Air Force, of which little is heard, is of vital importance in the struggle against Germany as it supplies all service requirements, from a split pin to a complete aircraft. Huge reserves of bombs are also stored in long tunnels bored out of the solid rock. Here are rows of large American-made bombs being stacked by a British Air Sergeant with the aid of a crane.

The Strategy of Initiative

By LORD STRABOLGI

THE immediate reaction of the German High Command to the new strategical situation in the Mediterranean was the occupation of the remainder of France and the despatch of all immediately available aircraft and seaborne troops to Tunisia.

These were defensive measures and the movement to Tunis can probably only have a delaying effect.

Unless the Axis powers are prepared to resign themselves to the loss of initiative and all that it means, new offensive campaigns must be embarked upon with little delay. Ever since the outbreak of the present world war, Germany has enjoyed initiative in every direction and has been able to throw her opponents on the defensive for three years in all the main theatres of war. Even the entry of the United States of America as an active combatant did not affect this situation for the United States was thrown on the defensive by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour and the serious blows struck there and elsewhere in the Pacific against American naval power.

The total defeat of the German and Italian armies under Field Marshal Rommel followed by almost simultaneous landings of large British and American expeditionary forces in Algeria and Morocco has obviously been a surprise to the Axis High Command and the initiative now passes to their opponents.

To appreciate how serious is the general situation for the Axis High Command, it must be remembered that it has lost initiative or is rapidly losing it on the eastern front also. The coming of winter has found the Axis armies in Russia held up on the Volga and in the Caucasus, witnessing preparations for counter-attack by numerous Russian armies standing along the central and northern sectors of the immense front. Some counter-stroke must be embarked upon and it must be on a large scale. Merely to pour further reinforcements into Tunisia would not meet the situation especially as the local population and garrisons are aiding the opponents of the Axis.

THREE AXIS DIRECTIONS

There are three other directions in which an attempt could be made to regain initiative. First, and by far the most effective, would be a successful invasion of the British Isles across the English Channel and the North Sea. This can be ruled out, partly because the weather is too uncertain for the next three months for such an immense undertaking and partly because the vast preparations necessary would take too long. In any case, the lack of sufficient naval and air strength at the disposal of the Axis removes such an invasion beyond the bounds of military practicability.

Two, other offensives which could be embarked upon would be a thrust through Turkey or an attempted occupation of the Iberian Peninsula. Either of these strategical moves would, if successful, restore the initiative to the Aixs but both would create very great difficulties and obstacles.

It would be an obvious policy of the German High Command to try to induce the Turkish Government to open the Dardanelles and permit the use of Turkish roads, railways and aerodromes for the passage of the Axis forces, but it would appear to be highly improbable from all the evidence available that the Turkish Government would follow the example of the Bulgarian Government when the Axis were attacking Greece. If Turks fought, a new army of a million men with a good military tradition would have to be overcome. The Axis powers and their minor allies have large concentrations of troops, materials and aircraft in the regions affected and could advance in force through Roumania and Bulgaria to the shores of the Bosporus. The United Nations could send reinforcements to Turkey by way of Syria and Persia.

VALUE OF SPANISH PORTS

If the Iberian Peninsula could be brought under Axis control, fine Spanish and Portguese harbours on the Atlantic and the Mediterranean coasts would be of great strategical value and Gibraltar would be invested. The capture of Gibraltar by assault would be a desperate undertaking, for it is common knowledge that its fortifications have been immensely strengthened in the last three years. But the harbour and the roadstead of Gibraltar could be made useless, for its present valuable purpose for the assembly of convoys, by the heavy guns mounted on the Spanish mainland. The very passage of the straits of Gibraltar could be rendered hazardous to the shipping of the United Nations by long-range artillery and aircraft based on Spanish aerodromes and by submarines operating from Spanish harbours. If the island of Minorca could be brought under Axis control, it would also have great value in the forthcoming Mediterranean operations.

So much for theory. In practice, the rape of Spain and Portugal by German forces would have serious political repercussions particularly in South America, where Axis powers still hope to retain certain friendships and connections.

London in Wartime

By DALE COLLINS, the well-known short-story writer.

AN awful lot of praise is handed out to wives and mothers in wartime; during these three years in Britain they have certainly earned it. In fact, I have joined in the chorus myself on occasion, but what about the poor old husbands?

Speaking as one myself, I think we deserve a pat on the back.

Here's a snapshot that surprises me. In it I find myself. Under one arm I have a huge bundle of washing, done up in a sheet: a month's cargo of the stuff that simply can't be done at home. Two large empty shopping bags are in my left hand. That's very odd, surely. Only for the fact that the camera does not lie, I would not believe it.

THE NATIONAL LOAF

The laundry deposited, I go on my way and run into Edward Rigby, the film actor, who has just made a big hit in "Salute John Citizen" after doing much fine work in British pictures for many years. In other days we might have met in a golf club and talked about stymies and drives of amazing length. Now we stand together in the queue at the baker's and talk about the national loaf, which, we agree, is darned good eating.

This reminds Rigby that he played Friord in the Australian production of Maeterlinck's "Bluebird" before the last war. And that reminds me that as a small boy in the front row of the gallery at the Theatre Royal, I fell madly in love with the child who played Tyltyl. We wonder what has happened to her. Then, tucking the bread into our bags, we part.

"I'm off to the grocer's", says Gossip Rigby. Gossip Collins replies: "I'm going to the butcher's for our weekly two bob and four penn'orth. The wife chose it, beef, this week."

And Gossip Rigby says: "We got a nice little of mutton."

AT THE BUTCHER'S

At the butcher's I run into Fennymore, the Secretary of the Institute of Art and Design at the National Gallery. He's pally to every artist in England from John and Epstein down, but he has a shopping bag too, and Gossip Collins and Gossip Fennymore compare their pieces of beef, each a little afraid that the other may have the better bargain.

There was a time when the only places Taffy or I would have met were the Savage or Arts Clubs, or the Cafe Royal. Imagine our faces then if we had been told to go to the butcher's and pick up the joint. We take a glass of stout together, as two busy house-husbands are entitled to in the middle of Saturday's shopping.

SO IT GOES

At the greengrocer's I find a Paymaster Commander. He is shrewdly weighing the merits of two cauliflowers. He prides himself on his shopping prowess and whispers to me: "They've fine lobsters on at Smith's."

"Have they, b'jove," say I, "thanks a lot for the tip."

And so it goes. And the wives, they have a million things to do. Believe me, a man would have to be stony-hearted and selfish not to lend a hand.—*A recent B.B.C. talk.*

1917 and 1942

By WICKHAM STEED

IS there any likeness between this year 1942 and 1917? History never repeats itself, say "scientific" historians; and philosophical controversy is full of warnings against arguments from analogy. Yet I sometimes wonder whether future historians will not find a striking likeness between 1917 and 1942.

Then, especially toward the close of 1917, Germany appeared to be on the top of the wave. Its crest seemed to be sweeping her irresistibly onward to total victory.

But by November 1918 Germany had fallen into the trough of the wave and was engulfed. Are the United Nations entitled to see in this precedent an omen?

OUTLOOK TO-DAY

To-day the Allies are stronger, not weaker, than they were in 1918. Soviet Russia, united as Tsarist Russia was never united, is strong and indomitable; though her armies, like those of France up to June 1917, have been bearing the brunt of the struggle on land.

On sea, the silent pressure of the British and—since December 1941—of the American blockade is helping to strangle the German beast. Under the hail of British bombs, soon to be increased by more American bombs, the Rhineland and Western Germany are devastated regions. Great British, Canadian and American armies, supported by air forces stronger than those of Germany, await impatiently the hour to strike the final blow.

That hour will come. This war against the German-Fascist beast is one war, indivisible, as victory and the peace must be.

Yet I see to-day a difference between 1917 and 1942. It is that the outlook twenty-five years ago was far blacker than the outlook now is. In other respects I think the analogy between 1917 and 1942 close enough to warrant belief that 1943 will make the Germans look back on 1918 as a comparatively happy year.

Axis too Late to Avert Biggest Blow

By H. C. FERRABY

IT is now clear for everyone to see that the German Supreme Command failed to make preparations in time for the interception of the great expedition that the United Nations sent by sea to North Africa.

The plain fact appears to be that no great concentration of U-boats was available for attack on the expedition at the start of the operations. Even more surprising was the inactivity of the Italian battle squadron. Italian naval bases are within easy striking distance of the Algerian coast.

It was evident from the outset that the naval strength of the United Nations had been perforce divided into separate forces, a tactical situation in which no Admiral likes to find himself.

The Italians had available as far as is known at least four modern 35,000-ton battleships—the new *Impero* and *Roma* with the *Littorio* and *Vittoria Veneto*—and two, possibly three of the older battleships of the *Cavour* class. No public reference has been made to any movement by this powerful battle squadron.

Taken all round, the Axis reaction at sea to this big offensive by their antagonists was deplorably weak. Freedom of the sea was conceded without struggle in the crucial 48 hours of the opening of the campaign.

FORCED TO DANGEROUS TACTICS

Some effort to restore the position was bound to be made subsequently. Almost certainly a rapid assembly of U-boats into the Straits of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean must have commenced.

Obviously they had to set about making an attempt to interfere with the free use of the new sally ports now taken over by the United Nations. Two consequences must follow: a lessening of the pressure on more distant convoy routes such as that round the Cape of Good Hope and the exposure of U-boats to a concentrated attack of hostile patrols confined to the waters.

It will have been noticed that throughout this war German submarines have avoided narrow seas such as the English Channel and the Irish Sea and the approaches to the south of Ireland. Modern anti-submarine devices are particularly deadly in such an area.

Now because they were "too late" in the first week of November the U-boats will have to give battle under conditions that are unfavourable to them from the start. The change that has come over the general picture of the battle of trade-routes by the successful move into the Mediterranean is startling. It is perhaps more important in its effect on the naval campaign than it is on the future of the land campaign. Success at sea is and must remain the key to the ultimate success of the whole war and the Nazis were "too late" to avert the biggest blow to their sea campaign that has yet been struck.

Position in the Pacific

◆

THE position in the Pacific in December 1942 wears a very different aspect for the Japanese than did that which arose immediately after Pearl Harbour. They have gained vast territory as they planned but they have had their naval strength reduced by half.

The American navy has recovered from its fractured limb and moves again in full strength whereas the Japanese resources are not great enough to replace all the lost aircraft-carriers, cruisers and destroyers that have been expended during the year on glittering adventures. And the harbours of Singapore, Sourabaya and Manila are static. They can play no part in a sea struggle round the Solomons.

The Japanese grasped the shadow of land conquest and find themselves threatened with the loss of that sea control which is the sole defence of an island power.

The year's naval operations in the Pacific began with a spectacular success for the air weapon. Pearl Harbour was soon followed by the destruction of two of Britain's capital ships off Malaya. As the American fleet recovered its balance, the two remarkable battles of the Coral Sea and Midway added to the historic achievements of the air weapon though success then went to the other side.

But recent weeks have shown that surface ships are still the ultimate arbiter in a dispute for sea passage. The three battles of the Solomons since the middle of October have been naval fights in which the air weapon played a part not more important than that of the gun or the torpedo.

The story of those engagements must give pause to any who are asked to believe that air power and not sea power is the decisive element in an oceanic war.—The *Manchester Guardian.*

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

11th Dec.—It was revealed that Hitler had begun widespread preparations to defend the west-coast of Europe against a possible invasion.

12th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked enemy shipping off the Belgian coast.

All prisoners of war who had been shackled in Britain and Canada were freed from the shackles.

Long-range guns on both sides of the Channel were engaged in a duel. British guns opened first.

13th Dec.—There was a little enemy activity over the coastal areas of north-east England.

Two enemy ships were sunk in the Channel.

14th Dec.—United States aircraft raided Rouen.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

11th Dec.—Mrs. Roosevelt suggested in a broadcast the creation of a volunteer women's land army to augment America's agricultural man-power.

13th Dec.—The United States Navy took over the Elk Hills oilfields in California.

14th Dec.—It was announced that the first wooden military transport plane was rapidly nearing completion.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

11th Dec.—Speaking at a public meeting at Cuddalore, South Arcot, His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope uttered a warning that an attack may be made on India and that a few Japanese may come by air.

12th Dec.—Japanese aircraft raided Chittagong. Slight damage was caused. The Royal Air Force destroyed three of the raiders.

13th Dec.—United States planes raided Rangoon. A direct hit was scored on the dock.

Mr. William Phillips was appointed American Ambassador to India.

The Royal Air Force raided Mandalay and Naba, north of Mandalay.

A 8,000-ton German freighter carrying valuable cargo, scuttled herself in the Indian Ocean when intercepted by Allied naval forces.

15th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Magwe.

16th Dec.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Japanese occupied villages in the Kaladan and Mayu river in Burma.

A rousing reception was accorded to General Wavell in Colombo.

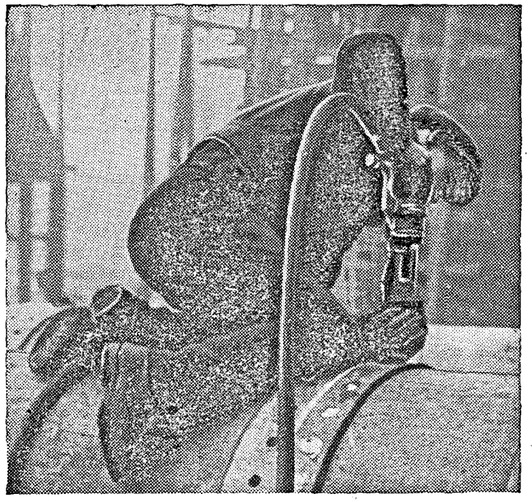
* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

11th Dec.—Turin was again bombed. Many buildings were hit.

Both sides in Tunisia speeded up preparations for new large-scale operations.

There was intense air activity over the El Agheila front.



British shipyards, launching merchant vessels with all possible speed, are now producing more than twice as many ships in three months as in the last quarter before the war. Widespread use of prefabrication has helped this speed-up, and welding instead of riveting is saving time and steel. A 10,000 tonner now gets its last coat of paint only 5½ months after the keel laying. Picture shows: A worker "getting down to it" with a pneumatic riveter.

It was reported that representatives of industrial concerns led by Senator Pirelli and Count Volpi were attempting with the help of the King of Italy to win over the army.

12th Dec.—Axis forces launched an attack in the direction of Medjez El Bah. A number of enemy tanks were destroyed.

13th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked Naples and Turin. French forces occupied Bir Hakeim. Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War, U.S., revealed that Allied operations in that Allied operations in Tunisia were successfully proceeding "about a month ahead of schedule."

An Axis freighter was sunk by the Greek submarine *Papanicolis*.

14th Dec.—An Axis convoy was attacked in the Mediterranean and an armed merchant cruiser was sunk.

According to the German News Agency, "the attack of the British Eighth Army against Rommel's forces began" in El Agheila area.

As the result of Royal Air Force raids, it was disclosed that 5,772 houses were destroyed in Genoa and 161 were destroyed and 3,200 damaged in Turin.

Enemy efforts to infiltrate in the neighbourhood of Medjez were stopped.

15th Dec.—In the battle of El Agheila, Rommel was thrown out and he retreated. Allied aircraft pounded the enemy troops.

The French troops captured an important position west of Sidi Bousid in Central Tunisia.

The administration of Madagascar was handed over to General de Gaulle.

16th Dec.—German troops retreated 40 to 90 miles west of El Agheila. British army moved into El Brega.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

11th Dec.—The Germans brought in reinforcements to the Central Front. German counter-attacks were beaten off in Stalingrad.

12th Dec.—Russian army broke through the enemy lines near Lake Ilmen.

13th Dec.—An important German base was captured on the left bank of the Don, north-west of Stalingrad.

14th Dec.—The Nazis launched strong counter-attacks in south-west of Stalingrad and east of Velikie Luki.

15th Dec.—There was severe fighting in Kotelnikovo area. The Germans were on the defensive in the Central Front.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12th Dec.—Rioting broke out in the streets of Teheran. Troops fired on the demonstrators.

SHIPPING

13th Dec.—The United States' former liner *President Coolidge* was sunk recently in the South Pacific.

The British mine sweeper *Cromer* was lost.

15th Dec.—The British destroyer *Penylan* was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

11th Dec.—Forty-nine tons of gold were taken away by the Germans from the vaults of the Bank of France.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

11th Dec.—Gona was completely cleared of Japanese forces.

12th Dec.—A Japanese counter-attack collapsed under Allied fire in Buna.

Severe fighting was in progress in Western Yunnan on Chinese-Burmese border.

Admiral Lutzow, official spokesman of the German navy, broadcasting from Berlin, claimed that Japan was "satisfied" with her Pacific conquests and contemplated no further conquests.

13th Dec.—South of Somada, repeated Japanese counter-attacks were repulsed. Six enemy aircraft were shot down over northern Solomons.

14th Dec.—A Japanese destroyer was sunk and seven others were damaged off the Solomon islands. Japanese bases at Lae and Salamana were raided by Allied aircraft.

15th Dec.—Japanese positions in Buna were shelled.

16th Dec.—Allied troops captured Buna in New Guinea. The Japanese landed troops north of Gona.

"KING'S FAIRY AIR FORCE."

The Times of India Press, Bombay, have published a book entitled "King's Fairy Air Force" by Mrs. Dart, an exhibitor of the Royal Academy, with a foreword by Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow. The proceeds of sales of the book go to Her Excellency's Silver Trinket Fund and the first edition has been produced free of charge by the publishers. The pictures in themselves are, in Her Excellency's words, "a delight and the fact that every copy sold goes to provide comforts for our troops, Indian and British, as well as ambulances for the sick and wounded should make a special appeal to us all, men and women." The book is priced Rs. 5 and is available with all booksellers.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

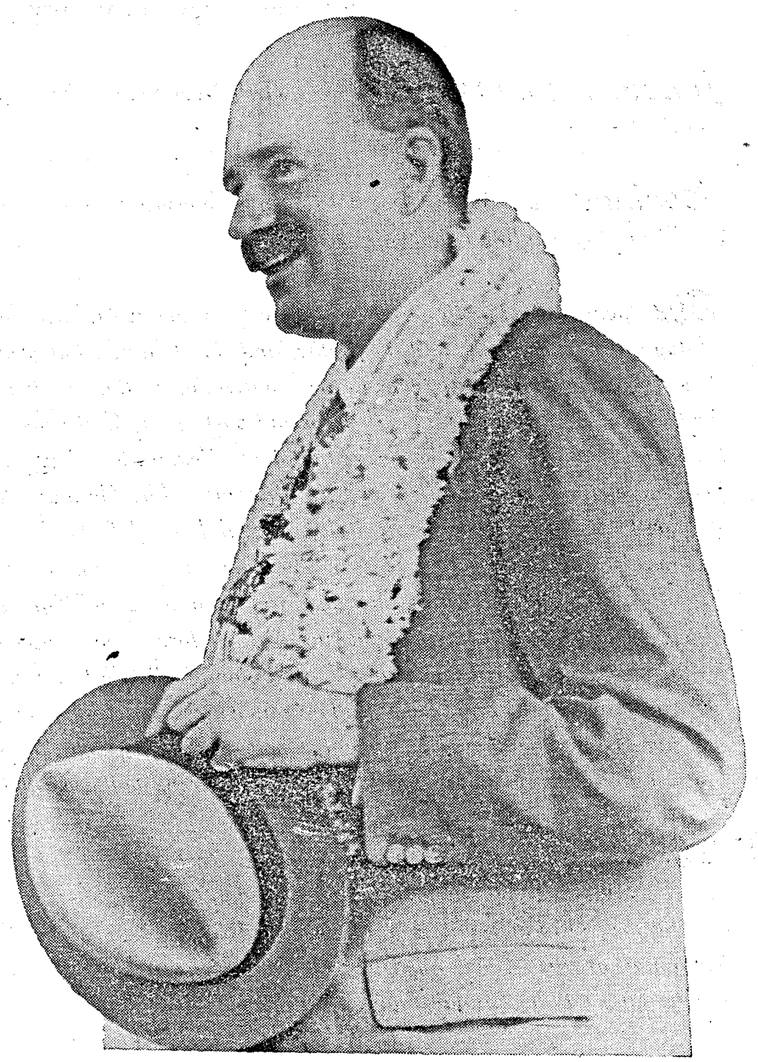
REGISTERED No. M 4345

NEW YEAR SPECIAL NUMBE

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1943 No. 16



H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE, *Governor of Madras*

(A New Year message from His Excellency appears in this issue)

FOURTH New Year of the WAR

H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE'S MESSAGE

His Excellency the Governor of Madras has kindly sent the following special message for the New Year issue of the MADRAS WAR REVIEW :—

January 1st, 1943, will be the fourth New Year's Day of this world-wide war.

Looking back on the year 1942 we have every reason for sober confidence in our ultimate victory.

The year started with serious reverses. In the East, the loss of Malaya, the Philippines, and the Netherlands East Indies, followed by that of Burma, brought the war to the frontiers of India. In Russia, the Germans occupied the Don Valley and part of the Caucasus, and in Africa Rommel drove us back almost to Alexandria. But in the last few months the tale has been very different. The Germans have met with a decisive reverse at Stalingrad, and are left to face the rigours of a second winter in Russia. We have won a great victory in Egypt, smashing Rommel's army and driving him out of Cyrenaica also. At the same time American and British forces, now supported by the resurgent French, have gained possession of all West and North Africa except Tripoli and part of Tunisia, which may soon also be in our hands. In the East, the Japanese have suffered heavily in New Guinea and the Solomons, and their fleets have repeatedly met defeat.

These successes should not induce in us a feeling of complacence. As Mr. Churchill said, they are not the beginning of the end, but the end of the beginning—the end of eternal defensive fighting and the beginning of the Allied offensive. Let them rather spur us on to greater efforts to hasten our final victory.

Here in India much of our thought and energy has lately been diverted to combating the forces of disorder wilfully let loose upon the country by those who thereby do so ill a service to the cause of human liberty which they profess to admire. Had these forces not been promptly quelled, India would soon have fallen victim to Japanese invasion, and not only political liberties, but education, justice and personal freedom would have been ruthlessly crushed beneath the tyrant's heel, as they have been in Burma and Malaya, and as they will remain until our forces with ever gathering might come to liberate these countries once more.

Let it therefore be the duty of every patriotic citizen of this country to do all he can to quell riot and disorder wherever it may rear its ugly head, and to devote his energies to mobilizing the people whole-heartedly behind the war effort, that the cause of liberty may triumph and the curse of Nazi tyranny and Japanese aggression be abolished for ever.

Arthur Hope.

Governor of Madras.

WHITHER INDIA?

By Capt. G. T. B. HARVEY, Director of War Publicity

TO-DAY we look into a New Year, into a Piece of the Future. Crystal-gazers are probably finding the prospect of New Year itself rather opaque—" visibility poor," as our jargonesque communiqués put it. We pray leave here to consider 1943 rather as a Piece of the Future, a piece of India's future, pregnant with splendour undreamed of, or misery untold, according to her preparedness for that future. In doing so, we have the temerity to ignore the War except to assume that comparatively early in the future with which we are concerned the Allies will have won it. What we who live in India should attend to, and attend to now, is the winning of the peace. Our New Year message therefore is an ancient and classical one, " Gnothi seauton " for in India to-day the necessity for " Knowing ourselves " is rather painfully obvious.

THE perils of neglecting to classify and deal with the intellectual, social and economic problems arising from the last war have been terribly exemplified for Britons in the last three years. Will the policy of drift which served Britain so badly, do for post-war India ? We suggest that even as the war proceeds, this country sets out on a great journey. She *must* know where she is going, and war or no war, she must set about determining the direction and speed of the adventure which is upon her.

" Think, Man, Think ! "

HERE are some of the knots to be unravelled, some of the mines to be cleared :—

> Rapid industrialization has provided a long list of evils in many a country before now. How can India avoid those evils ?
>
> How does a Free India intend to orientate herself, internationally ?
>
> A country's economic problems are, generally speaking, either agricultural or industrial. How are the widely conflicting interests of the classes so engaged to be resolved ?
>
> More than a million Indians are now in military employment. This number will largely increase. Most of them will have to become civilians again. What is India going to do for the men who have preserved her safety and honour when she ceases to pay them to fight ?

SUCH are some of India's internal problems. There are plenty of others which, though more abstract, must affect the mentality and outlook of both Government and People in a Free India, e.g. :—

> Is World Federation practicable, and if so, how is it to be achieved ?
>
> We have with us the rump of the League of Nations. Millions of people want the League to be revived. How are we to set about it ?
>
> We hate both the practice and the ideology of our enemy—the Axis Powers—while we are fighting them. What should be our attitude, or the attitude of the United Nations, towards Germany, Japan, Italy, Vichy France and the rest of Hitler's satellites after the war ?
>
> Scientific inventions seem to be the arbiters of our destiny to-day. They have almost become the masters of men. How is mankind to regain control of the production of armaments and other lethal or destructive agencies and all that they aim at and imply ?

WE do not suggest that, until peace has been declared and life takes new shape, definite or final solutions can be devised for these problems, but the trouble is that once fighting ceases, they will descend with such rapidity on India and the world, that those whose minds have not been prepared in advance will inevitably find it beyond their power to contribute to their solution.

SOME may suggest that in our catalogue of problems we have omitted one which is nearest and most obvious, viz., the constitution of this country. We have deliberately done so. In the present atmosphere an impartial study of so highly controversial a subject seems well nigh impossible, so raw are tempers and so chaotic are party demands. That is why we have limited our thesis—being convinced of two fundamentals ; first, that when peace is declared, India will be free and independent ; secondly, that even if the legal details of that free and independent polity cannot at present be advantageously debated, all the other subjects we have mentioned, can.

Research Organization—A Design for the New Year

IN this submission we are inspired and upheld by the prescience and energy of the National War Front, that now great organization which gives daily proof of its devotion to this country's best interests, and its determination that these shall not be overlooked for want of public presentation. There is in course of erection in the capital, a Research Organization composed of Indians eminent in most of the technical aspects of the problems suggested above—in international law, in fiscal matters, in political economy, in sociological problems, in education and so on—which will have as its task the building up of a great Central Library from which to disseminate authoritative advice on the burning questions of the time to hundreds of Groups of thinkers, talkers and writers all over the country. These Groups are to be formed of men and women of intelligent patriotism who will themselves receive, debate and propagate specialised material on every subject on which they seek guidance. The idea is that in every centre in every province, where a group of people can be got together to see India big, to grasp the vision of India's potential mightiness, and to grapple with the puzzling and often distressing problems which must inevitably befall her (and to this end set aside all minor considerations arising from religion or caste or political affiliation), they should be able to call upon this Central Research Organization for the most up-to-date pronouncements, theses, books, blue-books, legal instruments, etc., etc., and even for trained visiting lecturers, without fee and without delay.

WE have not the space for details of this admirable design. All we do in this New Year Editorial is to commend it to the attention and encouragement of every thinking man who intends to continue to be " proud to be a citizen of India."

Resolutions

By The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. WADSWORTH

WE are not concerned now with the sort of resolutions bred by political conferences with their subjects committees, party intrigues, type-written eloquence and hot air. Something nearer the mark is the watch-night service with its midnight meditation on past shortcomings and its stern resolves not to repeat those errors in the coming year. Let us ignore, for the moment, the sneers of the cynic who reminds us that the path to hell is paved with good resolutions; for so is the path to heaven. It is good for a man, at the end of the year, to have a moral stock-taking and settlement of accounts, so that he may start the new year with a clean sheet and an honest resolve that there shall be no blots on the sheet in the next twelve months.

And what is good for the individual is salutary for the nation as a whole. For the moment, let us stop blaming each other for the things that have gone wrong, and let us show our national solidarity by reciting together that "we have done those things that we ought not to have done and have left undone those things that we ought to have done." And having made a common confession of error, let us make a common resolution to do better in 1943.

THE PAST YEAR

Heaven knows, there have been failures enough in 1942. The first nine months of the year seemed to be one continual series of reverses, military and political. Now that the magnitude of the loss caused by Japan's dastardly attack on Pearl Harbour is known, the reason for our military reverses in the East is not far to seek. They are almost entirely due to the loss of command of the Eastern seas; and as the process of regaining this command advances, so will the enemy be driven back on land. But the speed of this recovery will depend on the smooth working of the forces behind it and in this we can all help. Whatever we can do to maintain morale, to check the baneful activities of obstructionists and of their poor relations, the non-co-operators, whatsoever we can do to help recruitment and to keep up the enthusiasm of the men recruited, that we must do unceasingly.

One hears so many stories of young men anxious to join the forces, who are kept back by the dissuasions of over-fond mothers or over-anxious friends. The war for freedom cannot be won without taking risks, and those who are not prepared to do their part in the fight do not deserve to win the prize. Think of the crores of Chinese men and women who have suffered and died during these last five years rather than submit to a brutal and licentious invader. This is not the time to stay at home and save your skin; if you do so you are asking for your home to be bombed with all inside it. Our young men must go forward to meet the enemy and drive him from our borders, or we shall never have real peace or lasting liberty.

FAILURE AND FUTILE TALK

In the sphere of politics too, the year 1942 has been a year of common failure, unredeemed by the closing spell of success which has brightened the military outlook. There has been much futile and unedifying recrimination as to the causes of this failure. Each party is convinced that the other is solely to blame; no party seems able to put the common cause first or to surrender its sectional interests for the good of the nation as a whole.

This is not the place for political discussion; but it is both the time and the place to impress upon the people of India that a spirit of mutual mistrust and suspicion, of sectional selfishness and refusal to compromise, is calculated to imperil that considerable freedom which the people of this land already enjoy and to banish to a distant future those greater liberties to which we all aspire. Is it too much to hope that in 1943, realizing the deadly peril which threatens India along with all freedom-loving people, all parties will join together and resolve to do everything in their power to help the common cause of the freedom of the world? Surely it is unreasonable to say: "I will not help those who are fighting for the freedom of the world, unless and until I am given that precise degree of liberty and power which, in my personal opinion, is fitting for the community to which I belong."

MINORITIES AND LIBERTY

All liberties are the result of compromise. No constitution, except perhaps that of the fascist state, is entirely satisfactory to any one party. Party tyranny, sooner or later, becomes a personal dictatorship, with all the evils which have been so manifest in Germany and Italy. Minorities are entitled to liberty just as much as majorities, and no constitution which does not give them a reasonable degree of protection can afford any real guarantee of national freedom. The task of evolving a satisfactory constitution for India is one of stupendous difficulty, even when approached in a spirit of the utmost goodwill. To evolve a satisfactory constitution in a spirit of hostility and mutual distrust is frankly impossible. It is therefore the duty of all men of goodwill, who love their country and the cause of humanity, to do everything within their power, during the coming year, to put an end to the spirit of rancour and faction which stultifies the efforts to those who seek India's good.

What a blessed day it would be for India if on New Year's day, men of all parties—princes and bureaucrats, Brahmans and outcastes, Congress and Muslim League—would meet together and solemnly vow before God that, from this day forth, they and the parties which they represent would support, with all their might, any proposal which was for the good of India as a whole, notwithstanding that it might adversely affect the party to which they belong.

It is, perhaps, too much to hope that the coming year will be unmarred by military setbacks or political failures. But we can at least resolve that, so far as we personally are concerned, there shall be no effort spared which can help the common cause. It is in the interests of humanity in general, and of India in particular, that Germany, Italy and Japan be utterly and speedily defeated and that the doctrine of hate and oppression by which they are inspired, be finally replaced by a saner political theory. When that final victory will come, we do not know; but that it will come sooner or later, we fervently believe.

WAR OF SURPRISES

This is a war of surprises which has confounded the prophets and wiseacres times without number. We may be nearer peace and victory than any of us realize; remember that in 1918 victory came with dramatic suddenness. On the other hand, we may well have to endure long months or years of toil and strife and blood and tears. But whether the fight be long or short, it has to be fought to a final and victorious conclusion.

In the absence of victory, the world is doomed. It is no good flirting with the notion that India can be free when the rest of the world is enslaved. India could never maintain her freedom in a world in which aggression had triumphed. The freedom of India postulates an ordered and civilized world. It could never exist in the midst of empires ruled by international gangsters. How long would India retain her liberties if Japan were rampant on the Irrawaddy and Germany victorious on the Euphrates?

INDIA'S HOPE

Whatever be your political views, if you love your country and desire for her a free and orderly existence, you must join forces with those who are fighting for the common ideals. You may not agree with all the views of Mr. Churchill, any more than Mr. Churchill agrees with all the views of Mr. Stalin. When thieves attack the flocks, all parties unite to drive them away. There can be no parties in the hour of common peril.

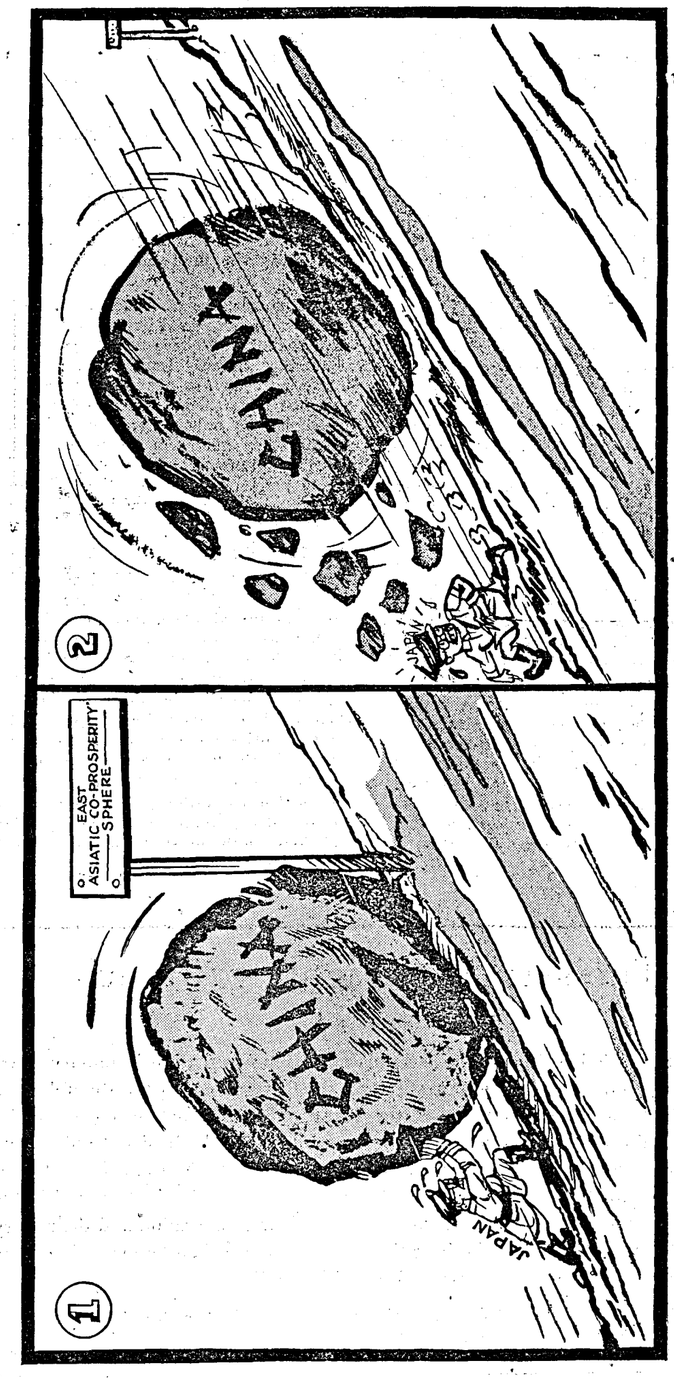
The only hope of India lies in the victory of the United Nations. For that hope every true Indian, whatever be his political or religious faith, must be prepared to fight, even unto death.

Tunisia: The Fighting French

◆ ◆ ◆

"The battle is being fought in Tunisia. A renowned French military chief, General Giraud, of whom I can testify that the Government of the Republic had deplored at the worst moments of the Battle of France that he could not be appointed the Generalissimo because he had fallen into the hands of the enemy, has begun to lead into battle part of the troops of North Africa. These troops have already obtained successes. Their comrades, who on land, at sea and in the air resumed the fight at different dates, acclaim their co-operation and their glory and desire that all those who bear the arms of France shall be merged, as they should be, in one army, one navy and one air force."

—GENERAL DE GAULLE *in a broadcast on December 28, 1942.*



SYSIPHUS OF THE FAR EAST

—Special for *Madras War Review*

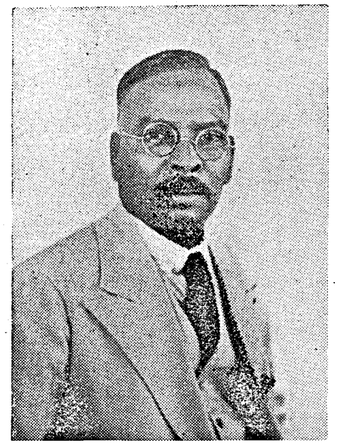
Out of the Dark

By Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJAH, M.L.A., *Regional Leader, National War Front*

ONE great change in the attitude of the people towards the War brought about by the National War Front Movement inaugurated by His Excellency the Viceroy a year ago, is the defeat of defeatism. Nobody now indulges in pessimism about the final outcome of the War. Nobody wallows in the Slough of Despond, not even the propagandists of fear.

A great difference, one must have noticed, in their respective approach to the War problem in India between Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr. Gandhi in their discussions about the position the Congress should adopt in regard to the War, was that all Nehru's thoughts about the War prospects ran towards the Allies winning the War; whereas Mr. Gandhi's thoughts went in the direction of the Japanese coming to India and occupying it. That was the time when the peril from Japan was most grave. The Congress formula which Mr. Gandhi devised, namely, "passive non-co-operation towards the enemy," apparently very peaceful and friendly towards the present Government, was based on the subtle implication that the Japanese would land in India; whereas Jawaharlal, a straightforward thinker that he was, had no doubt or misgiving about the ultimate victory of the Allies, comprising Russia, America, China, Britain and India, though at the time the fate of nations was hanging in the balance. In each case the wish was father to the thought. Mr. Gandhi thought that when the Japanese came to India he would have the opportunity of going forth, like another Pope Gregory, to meet the invaders at the gate, and applying his favourite mantram of conquering by peaceful methods, appeal to them to cease fighting and allow them peacefully to occupy the country, giving to him and the Congress the right to rule over the people under their sanction.

That all these hopes and calculations are being foiled is patent to every one who observes the trend of events and the developments of the War. Victory is no longer merely a matter of faith or hope, but a conviction based on facts, of friend and foe alike. This is partly due to the National War Front Movement which has succeeded in silencing those who were more or less openly gloating over the Axis successes and Allied reverses. No doubt President Roosevelt and Premier Churchill are never weary in telling that the way to victory is yet long and requiring



RAO BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH, M. L. A.

the utmost exertion and sacrifice; but our arrival at the winning post is certain. The darkest hours of the night are passed. Light is glimmering in the eastern sky. The day is dawning. We are getting out of the dark.

Say not the struggle naught 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 conceal'd,
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 daylight comes, comes in the [light;
In front the Sun climbs slow, how [slowly!
But westward, look, the land is bright!

PROSPECT AT HOME

Such is the prospect of the War in the world at large, but what is the prospect at home in India? The advent of the Allied Forces in India and their operations from the Indian base in air and ocean and their readiness to fight on land, if necessary, is like a kind of insurance policy for keeping India safe from outward aggression. I am afraid we are not sufficiently appreciative of what is being done for the people by the military, both Indian and non-Indian—by the Indian soldiers in the Middle East and Northern Africa and by British and the American Forces stationed in India. What is being done by the Indian Soldiers abroad is well known and is becoming one of the brightest chapters in the history of the War. What is being done by the British and American soldiers stationed in India is not so well known at present, and it is good that their activities are not published while they are in progress, but when everything is done and finished, I am sure it will be seen that they have not been here in vain and that they are a great power, making for security and inspiring confidence and encouragement; friends in need and friends indeed.

We are fortunate in having at the head of affairs in this country two men like Lord Linlithgow and General Wavell who are watching developments every moment and directing and ordering operations in every department, civil and military, economic, industrial, political and administrative, which bear upon the efficiency of the organization for winning the war and ushering in a constructive peace. We are fortunate too in having in our Presidency Sir Arthur Hope as Governor, who with his well informed Advisers, is not only maintaining Law and Order, but organizing the popular will for winning the war by enlisting co-operation and support in every form of war work.

What will be the result of all this—of what is being done to win the war and of the sure victory in the end—on the life of the various communities which inhabit the country? I say various communities advisedly, because there is no use in speaking of all these communities as one. Much harm has been done in the past in postulating a unity such as does not exist. That there are several features in common between communities will not itself make them a united whole. The differences have also to be taken into account, and in practical life these differences tell, and form determining factors. This is specially so in the economic sphere. The fact that all men have stomachs does not mean that they have one common stomach, and that if one person eats, the hunger of all others is appeased. What is wanted in the country at present is not unity but harmony—not a superficial unity which could be advanced as an argument for wresting power from those who have wielded it on the whole with benefit for the people, but what is wanted and is wanting is *harmony* between the various communities which will secure their co-operation for common ends by securing for them justice and fair play in the distribution of that power. Once this is secured, harmonious co-operation will follow which after long practice will result in what is called political unity.

FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY

The great question which weighs heavily on the minds of thoughtful persons in India at the present moment regarding the future of of the country is not whether the British are willing to part with power—that, they have said over and over again, they are not only willing but anxious to do, and only those who are badly in need of a political slogan will pretend not to believe it—but whether they will divest themselves of the responsibility which has gone with the possession of power towards the weaker communities, and hand them over to the tender mercies of the stronger, this weakness and the strength being in respect of cultivated intelligence and hereditary social power and prestige. There is a genuine fear in the minds of the Depressed Classes in India as to whether, when victory comes—as come it must and come it will—they will be treated justly and sympathetically as the British Government have hitherto been trying to do in spite of difficulties placed in their way by, and the silent opposition of, Caste Hindus, who will form the majority in any general electorate which may be set up. Past experience shows that without British supervision and overhead authority, these classes will not only be sadly neglected but subjected to various restrictions and difficulties in pursuance of the Caste Hindu policy initiated by Mr. Gandhi of absorbing them and depriving them of that political independence which is essential for their intellectual progress, social efficiency and economic prosperity. The serfdom of the past is being translated into social submission and may yet be converted into intellectual and political repression. It is the British Government who have helped us so far to come forward and hold up our hands against those who oppressed us for ages. Their democratic instincts and their sense of justice and fairplay, however much restrained and obstructed in their expression by economic and political considerations, have prompted them to do the best they could for these classes in the past and would not allow them, I venture to hope, to sacrifice their interests in the future exigencies of so-called "constitutional" warfare. It is easy to say that their care and concern for these classes is prompted by unwillingness to part with power, the assertion of which by political parties is inspired by an eagerness to grasp power without correspondingly sincere sense of justice and fairplay towards weak communities.

THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

What in these circumstances are the prospects of the Depressed Classes who form a large and important section of the population? The prospects are not altogether gloomy nor altogether bright. A great deal depends upon the attitude which the British Government will take towards the demand made by other communities in the name of National Independence. The Government are pledged to the granting of full self-government involving their divesting themselves not only of all power but of all responsibility for the administration of the country. Fortunately they insist that the transfer of power could take place only with the consent of large minority and backward communities.

The question is whether they would stick to this essential condition in face of the pressure of financially organized and skilfully manufactured public opinion in this country and abroad by persons who have for ages practised domination over the voiceless and suppressed communities. Will the Government quiver before the accusation of insincerity and unwillingness to part with power hurled at them from all quarters of the globe —from America and China, not to speak of England and India. Will they betray these victims of age-long oppression out of fear and a desire to stand well in the eye of people who do not know, or knowing wish to grasp power for themselves.

PARTY FOR TOMMIES

TWENTY-FOUR "other ranks" of the American Army Air Corps somewhere in Southern India decided it was time they saw fresh faces in the Mess.

A LITTLE while later British troops walking about in the town were invited to board a couple of lorries. They accepted, a bit hazy as to what it was all about —until they walked into the Americans' Mess to a wow of a surprise party!

HIGH TEA came first and then a football was produced. The efforts of the Tommies to teach the Doughboys Soccer and the Americans' efforts to impart ideas of their kind of football led to a sort of British-American rugby that was at least novel and vigorous.

AFTER this, hospitality reached a new height with the appearance of English bottled beer which, in turn, paved the way to a free-for-all sing-song.

WHEN the Tommies left they had already decided on a return party and another attempt to prove that Soccer is really the best game after all.

MADRAS BOMBER SQUADRON

His Excellency the Governor of Madras has received the following message from the Commanding Officer, Madras Bomber Squadron:—

"All ranks wish me to convey our appreciation of Your Excellency's message of greetings and good wishes which we heartily reciprocate. We are firm in our confidence that the coming year will see that day in sight when we may all join in celebration of freedom from strife."

Two dangers lie ahead of the Depressed Classes. Both arise from ignorance—from two kinds of ignorance. One danger is from the ignorance of well-meaning idealists in the West and the other is from the ignorance and illiteracy of caste-ridden and priest-ridden people in the country who will constitute the Hindu majority in any general electorate. Caste is not an institution which has merely divided the people into numerous sections, each enclosed by walls of custom and superstition, but it has arranged them, tier over tier, in degrees of superiority and inferiority, inculcating an exclusiveness which breeds undue partiality on one hand and unjust prejudice on the other, and which is responsible for keeping down the so-called untouchable classes for centuries past. If those well meaning and ill-informed friends of India in America wish to do good to the people of the country, they would do well to depute a batch of competent detached social thinkers who would investigate the social attitudes and relations, objective and subjective, which prevail among the people of India, and which so powerfully influence their political actions and judgments. If President Roosevelt will send such a deputation who will spend sufficient time to move among the people and study social conditions existing in the country to-day and the disabilities under which the backward communities suffer, he will have taken the first step towards laying the foundation of a social and political structure which will endure for generations.

WHAT Mr. CHURCHILL SAID

Mr. Churchill speaking of the sufferings of the people overrun by Hitler in Europe states as the symbolism and message of the Atlantic meeting between him and President Roosevelt, "The tunnel may be dark and long but in the end there is light." The Depressed Classes of India have all along been dragging on in a long and dark tunnel with openings towards the sky only in certain periods of India's history, e.g., in the days of Buddha and Asoka, of Ramanuja, of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Keshub Chandra Sen and Ranade and Dr. T. M. Nair and in the days immediately following the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. It looked as if the Reforms Act of 1935 giving them separate electorate opened up the sky for them, but the Poona Pact to which they unsuspectingly gave their consent, shut them up in a political prison from which they have not yet emerged. It is their fond hope now that the Victory of the Allies will bring about conditions which will not only emancipate them from the thraldom of ages and thwart the attempts of those who wish to keep them in social and political subjection to them but release forces of freedom which will ensure their independence.

People talk of independence as if it is only for national groups and not as regards their relation to one another. They do not like to think of it as applying to the relation of communities towards one another; an independence which lends itself to cheerful inter-communal co-operation but cuts across the domination of one community over another and the subjection of weaker by stronger communities. There is such a thing as communal exploitation leading to communal slavery and serfdom. It is to be hoped that these things will go so far as the Depressed Classes at least are concerned. It should be remembered that so far as the Madras Presidency is concerned the Depressed Classes have supplied the largest number of soldiers to the Army and that these men have done distinguished service in the war fields of Middle East and Northern Africa. It will be an ill-return for their self-sacrificing patriotism if on coming back from war front they find their position and that of their community which has sent them is not better than when they went forth ready to lay down their lives if need be in the cause of Freedom and Righteousness.

If the politicians are to have their way, these fighting men will be nowhere in the body politic. It is the duty of the British Government before they part with power to see that the saviours of the country from the aggressors, including Depressed Classes, are not subjected to the dictatorship of those who have stayed at home indulging in cynicism and discounting their services to the country. The Four Freedoms of the Atlantic Charter, though they owe their enunciation to a particular juncture in the war, are no doubt intended to be applied to all communities and all peoples. Their application should not be confined to nations but should penetrate into the social life of the people of all countries. The Depressed Classes of India in particular need freedom from poverty, freedom from fear, freedom from domination and freedom from religious degradation.

It is their fervent prayer that these four freedoms should be realised in the social life of the people of India.

CHINA—The New Year

"China is facing the New Year with the brightest future, militarily, politically and economically, but nevertheless with the hope that an Allied counter-offensive will be launched in the Far East soon."

Dr. K. C. WOO, *Political Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs at a Press Conference in Chungking on December 29.*

Indian Youth and the New Year

By Sir MEVEREL STATHAM, C.I.E., I.E.S., *Director of Public Instruction, Madras*

I most sincerely wish the Indian youth of this Province, boys and girls, safety, prosperity and happiness in the coming year. It has been my privilege to spend more than half of my service in daily and intimate contact with the youth of this Province and I think that I can legitimately claim to know something of the outlook, ambitions and the difficulties of Indian young men and women. The war, which has now reached the shores of India, has naturally affected, along with all other members of the community, the Indian youth of this Province. During the year 1942, in particular, those young men and women who were under training for future careers have felt the strain and uncertainty of war time conditions. The war, however brutal and destructive it has been, has, in many ways both temporarily and permanently, considerably altered the problems with which young men and women are normally faced. The war effort has come very near to the youth of this Province and the call for assistance in the shape of man power, monetary help and the upkeep of public morale has been answered by the young men and young women of this Province in the most stirring manner. We can and should be proud in the Madras Presidency of this response to the Nation's call. I think it is probably true to say that this Province has, in recent centuries, experienced much less of the horrors of war, both internal and external, than the more northernly Provinces of India and yet, in many ways, recruitment to all forms of war and Civil Defence work, financial support and many other types of assistance to the war effort have generally been as good as and in some cases better than similar efforts in other Provinces. I need not give details of recruitment, etc., since they have been published officially from time to time. But it is well known that the response has been good and has in many cases, I understand, been only limited by the needs of equipping and training all those who have come forward to offer their services. This response has by no means been confined to what are commonly called the 'martial classes.' Thousands of families who have never experienced service in the fighting forces or subsidiary services have sent their young men, and even their young women, to help to defend their country and to serve in what may be regarded, in many cases as a new and dangerous type of occupation. During my extensive touring of this Province I have learned with the highest admiration of how many young men, who would normally have

SIR MEVEREL STATHAM, C.I.E., I.E.S.

entered the professions, done clerical or teaching work, etc., have in the last three years volunteered for active service. My profession, the teaching profession, which might perhaps be the last to be expected to contribute largely to active service, has contributed extremely well to the services. Amongst the war technicians, for example, of which this Province has been training the largest numbers of any Province or area in India, a very large number of school teachers and of those who would normally have gone for teachers' training are to be found in war technician training centres. Again, the schools of this Province have sent large numbers of students to be trained for the Indian Merchant Service and the Indian Navy. There is also scarcely a college which has not a proud record of the number of its students who have joined the Army and the Air Force. I believe also that there has been no paucity of applications for the Civil Defence and Nursing Services. My own department has usually been considered to be more mighty with the pen than with the sword; but as head of the department I see no reason why I should not publicly announce my pride in the fact that out of approximately 3,800 subordinates (men and women), over 1,100 have as many as 2,300 close relations who

have joined the fighting services or the subsidiary services. These figures include over 1,000 in the Army, 120 in the Navy and 130 in the Air Force. No longer I think can it be said that the teaching profession as such is afraid of playing its part in the defence of its country. Even in the National War Front movement, after only a short campaign in a limited number of districts in this Province, I and my subordinates have enrolled up to date over 130,000 teachers and students. I regard this willingness on the part of teachers and students to take the National War Front pledge and abide by it as extremely significant of the attitude taken by the youth of the country towards the war.

HIGH MORALE OF STUDENTS

We have every right to be proud of the youth of this Province from another point of view. During 1942, Madras City and a number of other places, such as Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Cochin have experienced the difficulties consequent on evacuation and war scare. I am fortunately in the position of being able personally to bear testimony to the high morale of the students during many difficult months after January of this year. Nobody, I think, can escape the significance of the following facts. At Vizagapatam, where for various reasons the war scare was perhaps greatest, the girl students in the VI Form of the Government High School for Girls, a school situated right on the edge of the harbour, all sat for their S.S.L.C. Public Examination and all passed and became eligible for college study. This was the only Government High School in the Presidency to obtain a 100 per cent passes. Even after Vizagapatam and Cocanada had been bombed, all the students who had to sit for the Government Technical Examinations were asked whether they would like to take their examinations at mufassal centres and 75 per cent of the candidates elected to be examined at Vizagapatam and Cocanada themselves. All the S.S.L.C. candidates from Madras City were similarly asked if they would like to be examined at mufassal centres and over 75 per cent elected to be examined at Madras itself. The public knows that there was a natural anxiety with regard to the reopening of the colleges and schools in Madras in June and July this year. But in spite of that necessary and proper anxiety, the three women's colleges in Madras City had a larger enrolment on reopening than ever before and there was very little fall in the number of applications for admission to the men's colleges. At the Engineering College, Guindy, a college which is now working almost throughout the year, the rush for admissions, as far back as May, was unprecedented. It is all to the credit of the youth of Madras that the student population has so far stood up so well to the strain and anxiety in regard to the possibility of invasion and bombardment. Even in regard to the War Fund the student population, which on the whole is very poor, has played its part. The Education department had collected by March 1942 Rs. 2·3 lakhs for the War Fund, most of which money was contributed or collected by the youth of this Province, including a sum of over Rs. 31,000 collected from college students.

ADVANTAGES TO INDIA

While the war has undoubtedly caused strain and suffering in India, there have fortunately been distinct advantages to India coming in the train of the war. These advantages will, I sincerely hope, be still further available in the coming year. It is the youth of the Province which has been making the most use of these advantages. Unemployment amongst young men has been very considerably reduced. Some of the new avenues of employment are obviously temporary, due to war conditions, but even these temporary avenues of employment have enabled young men to have a radically new outlook on employment and the type of work which they are willing to seek for. For example, the needs of war time industry and of war technicians training have obviously already permanently changed the attitude of almost all those who were not hitherto willing to consider artisan employment and manual labour of any type as form of careers for educated youths. On the other hand, the war has brought definitely many new and permanent openings for the young men of this Presidency. The Indian Army, the Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force and all the subsidiary activities of the fighting services will unquestionably continue after the war and provide avenues of employment, careers and adventures which were largely missing, particularly in South India, hitherto. Even the work of the security services, A.R.P., First Aid, etc., has given a big new incentive to what after the war may well be called social and civic services. The war has also given a tremendous impetus to the industrial development of India and I am sure that there are few people in India who do not believe that this industrial development will be of a permanent nature and will give ever-increasing opportunities to the youth of this country. War conditions in India have been responsible for the local production in India of innumerable manufactured articles which had hitherto been only or mainly imported from abroad. There are very few trades in India which have not been permanently affected by this development. To the older generation, who have experienced, particularly in my Department, the acute difficulties of finding suitable openings for young men and young women, the present conditions and future prospects are infinitely better than they have been for many years in the past.

SPIRIT OF SELF-DEFENCE

But the youth of South India has also been affected in an entirely different manner. We do not want the youth of this country to imbibe the Nazi spirit of brutal militarism and army domination but we do want and have always wanted the youth of this country to be imbued with the spirit of self-defence and the defence of their own country. In this sense the expansion of India's power to defend herself and the rapid and huge development of the Indian fighting forces are much to be welcomed and the Indian youth has demonstrated, by sending hundreds of thousands of young men to the fighting services, that this spirit is already a big force in the life and future of this country. No one believes more strongly than the fighting man that war is brutal and horrible; but out of evil there cometh good and no young Indian man or woman can serve in and go through a long and disastrous war without gaining the spirit of courage, endurance and self-sacrifice and these are characteristics which can endure after war into peace. I am not, for a moment, suggesting that these qualities were not with Indian youth even before the war, but obviously these qualities have become more prominent owing to the courage and self-sacrifice which the war has demanded.

It should not, I think, be forgotten that in considering the position of Indian youth in war time and in the future, the part that young women have played and will play in future has been and is of immense importance. The women of India have always possessed to the full the spirit of endurance and self-sacrifice, but the war has necessarily added enormously to the need for endurance and self-sacrifice amongst the women who have sent their husbands, their sons and their brothers out in the defence of India. I am confident however that these sacrifices will not be without avail in the years to come. I may perhaps be forgiven in quoting in this connection from a speech of my own delivered to the Women's Educational Conference held in Madras in October 1941 in which I stated, what I most sincerely believe, that "The modesty, unselfishness and self-sacrifice of the women of India are historic and when to those qualities the quality of an educated outlook is also added I am convinced that many of our problems in India, far outside the educational sphere, will be solved and happily solved."

Perhaps, however, the greatest benefit that youth is enjoying at the present time, and will, I believe, enjoy in future, comes from the spirit of comradeship and unity which can sometimes only be achieved by common perils and common sufferings.

MANY PROBLEMS TO FACE

There will obviously be many problems to face in 1943 and afterwards, even if final victory comes during 1943 itself, as well it may, but I think we can confidently go forward in the hope and the belief that on the whole the prospects of the youth of our Province for the future are bright and the possibilities great. As I have been trying to show, it is an ill-wind which blows nobody any good. Whether in peace time or in war time, I have been striving to get under instruction all the boys and girls of all communities in this Province and I am quite sure that after the war large classes of parents, who hitherto have been difficult to persuade as to the advantages of universal education, will have an entirely new outlook on the value of education. We do not have to go outside India for a proof of the basis for this confidence. After the last war there was an immense and rapid progress in education in the Punjab, particularly in rural areas, and this was directly traceable to the return to the Punjab, with a fresh outlook, of hundreds of thousands of war-scarred warriors to whom education and the openings to be reached through education meant something quite different to what it did in the past.

All those who are interested, and they are many, in the welfare and happiness of the youths of this country will, I am sure, join me in offering to the young men and young women of this Province all good wishes for 1943.

Victory and Democracy

Victory in war is essential to our life as a nation and as free individuals, and every effort from every man and woman in the country is required for its achievement. Nevertheless, our future depends also upon our democratic system which operates through Parliament, and people who believe in the same principles and have the same objects in view must co-operate to achieve their purpose.

—MR. CHURCHILL, *in a message to the Scottish Unionist Association Conference.*

A Critical Year for War Charities

By Mrs. G. G. ARMSTRONG, *Hony. Secretary, Joint War Charities Committee*

SOME people have objected to the term "War Charities," on the ground that what we are able to do for our defenders, whether in the way of supplies to hospitals or amenities for the fighting forces, or of contributions towards supplies for prisoners of war or towards the maintenance of the families of those killed in action, are not "charities" at all, and that it is the right of those who are fighting for us to expect that we as civilians shall do our utmost for them in all these ways. Of course, it is; but still these are all "charity" in the proper sense of the word, which really means love and affection; not a condescending distribution of alms, a bad corruption of the true meaning. We need an omnibus term to cover all the many ways in which we may show affection and gratitude and sympathy for those fighting in the war and those injured by it, as distinct from those other contributions towards planes and armour for winning the war; and it is difficult to think of a better and more comprehensive term than War Charities.

But the very fact that our support for War Charities springs from affection and sympathy for those on whom the burden of the war has fallen more heavily than on ourselves, may mean that 1943 is going to be a critical year for such charities. We are all human, and so much of our sympathy depends on our imagination being roused; and when it is roused, it so very easily goes to sleep again. At the beginning of the war, there was a great desire to help, but no one quite knew what to do about it; nothing very much seemed to happen, but the desire to give what personal service was possible led to the formation of a great many working parties to make hospital supplies and knit warm garments, in preparation for no one quite knew what. Some people grew discouraged by the long time which elapsed before there appeared to be any definite object for this work; many gave it up and said they would not go on working at things which just went into stocks; but those who went steadily on without wanting to see immediate results, have been triumphantly justified. Without the steady work of all those months, which made so little appeal to the imagination, we could never have been ready, when the war did suddenly come to our very doorstep, with large stocks of hospital linen all ready for distribution where they were needed.

REAL TEST OF CHARITY

There was another appeal to the imagination in the Christmas Gifts Scheme at the end of 1941, for gifts to our troops overseas; the appeal was sent out all over the Presidency and the response was excellent. But here again, the real test of charity comes when a single isolated appeal to the imagination has got to settle down to regular everyday work. Ever since April 1942 the troops have been with us; our defenders are here, in the Presidency itself, ready to fight for us either here or overseas, as the need may be, and having a very uncomfortable time of it while they are here. A burst of Christmas charity, just when we feel worked up to it, will not do; it is our business, as His Excellency said in his appeal for the Amenities for Troops Fund, to make things as little uncomfortable for them as may be, and this is a full-time job. They want canteen supplies, not just when our sympathies are touched, but all the time, even when we don't feel much like it; they want games and recreation; they want hospital supplies. Thanks to those steady workers who kept on at the job even when nothing much seemed to be happening, we have got ample supplies of hospital linen to last for a very long time to come, even in case of demands very much greater than anything we have ever had; but hospitals want a good many other things besides linen, and money is needed to pay for these.

There is an immense fund of sympathy and help in this Province, as is shown by the generous response to every individual appeal. The liberal support given to the Madras Ambulance Fund, the Lord Mayor's Air Raid Relief Fund, the Christmas Gifts Fund, shows what generosity there is; but all such appeals go well for a time and then die down. Yet it would be a desperate thing for us if the troops fought for us with enthusiasm for a few months, or for two or three days a week, and then got tired of it and lost interest. And can we say to the prisoners of war, and the air-raid victims all over the world, "Well, I was extremely sorry and anxious to help you for a time, but I really can't keep on remembering about you indefinitely"? Yet it is more than ever necessary that we should keep on remembering in 1943, because in addition to the troops now here in the Madras Presidency, and the Madrassi Units serving overseas and in other parts of India, whose needs are being supplied as far as possible by the Amenities for Troops Fund, we are also responsible for doing all in our power to help that quarter of a million civil and military prisoners of war in Japanese hands in the Far East. For so long there has been nothing we could do for them, but now there is something. Cargoes of bulk medical stores and foodstuffs are being sent by the Indian Red Cross to Lourenco Marques for transmission by the Exchange ships to the Far East for the prisoners there. News was received in November that a number of these prisoners were being transferred from the tropics to the colder North, and at once arrangements were made to ship 20,000 sets of warm clothing for them. Individual parcels to prisoners in the Far East cannot be sent, but we can all help to provide these cargoes of mercy. One gift for this purpose is a great thing; but steady support is much greater, since the prisoners' need is always there.

IMPULSE TO GENEROSITY

The question of publicity for War Charities work is always difficult. It is most natural that people should want to know what is being done with the money and they have every right to know this. It is natural, too, that the impulse to generosity should largely depend on the imagination being stirred by detailed descriptions of the need for help among the sick and wounded, the prisoners of war, the air-raid victims, the soldiers and sailors and airmen leading tedious and uncomfortable lives while they wait here in our defence or go to attack the enemy. Yet to convey such information fully to every one takes a very great deal of paper, and that is very scarce nowadays; space in the newspapers is so limited that it is impossible to publish everything; broadcasts reach only a limited number of people. Also all the writing takes so much time, and the number of regular full-time workers is so small, compared with the work that has to be done. The response to last year's appeal for Christmas presents for the troops was magnificent, very largely owing to the immense amount of work which was done in sending out individual letters of appeal all over the Presidency. This year it was impossible to send out such letters, owing partly to the severe shortage of paper, partly to the fact that most of those who worked so hard at it last year have been fully occupied elsewhere; and the response has consequently been very much less. Publicity is going to get more and more difficult, and the work for the prisoners, the war victims and the troops is going to depend more and more on the steady support of those who remember that such work is being done all the time, and give it their

Mrs. G. G. ARMSTRONG

continual help. One very excellent scheme has been started in this Presidency, an "Anna a Week Fund" for Amenities for Troops. Some of us can afford more than an anna a week; some of us would like to help prisoners, or other war sufferers; but the idea that as the work must needs go on all the time, so the support should go on all the time too, is most admirable. Some people who are anxious to help but are obliged to live at a distance from the centres where the work has to be done, have regretted that there is nothing they can do. There is much, if they would organize regular help on these lines, however small, and would undertake to spread as far as they can the information given to them about what is being done, so as to give it the widest possible publicity, this would go very far indeed towards making 1943 a less critical year for the War Charities work, which has grown so immensely here in 1942, and is going to grow much more.

DOES HITLER KNOW?

"The man who imagines that God has been at particular pains to select him as His Mouthpiece on earth soon discovers that he has been the instrument of Satan."

—JACOB WASSERMANN in *Adam Urbas.*

DOES Mr. GANDHI KNOW?

Outlook for International Law

By The Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. A. BELL, I.C.S.

IT may seem a somewhat hopeless task, the consideration of the future of international law, in these days of widespread and bitter international strife and conscious as we must be of the presence of many lawless elements in our very midst; but, nevertheless, to those who are firm in their belief that better and more honourable days are not far ahead a brief survey may not be without its use when the time comes for " winning the peace."

First of all, is International Law international law at all? It has been variously defined as the law governing the relations and intercourse of states with one another. States, not nations, it will be observed. And then, is it " law "? Lord Coleridge, Lord Chief Justice of England, said : " Strictly speaking, international law is an inexact expression, and it is apt to mislead if its inexactness is not kept in mind. Law implies a lawgiver and a tribunal capable of enforcing it and coercing its transgressors, but there is no common lawgiver to sovereign states and no tribunal has the power to bind them by decrees or coerce them if they transgress. The law of nations is that collection of usages which civilized states have agreed to observe in their dealings with one another." This view is probably due to the influence of the great Austin who in " The Province of Jurisprudence Determined ", (1861) said that the law obtaining between nations is only law set by general opinion, with duties which are only enforced by moral sanction or by fear on the part of nations or on the part of a sovereign of provoking general hostility or even war in case they should violate maxims generally respected.

SANCTITY OF TREATIES

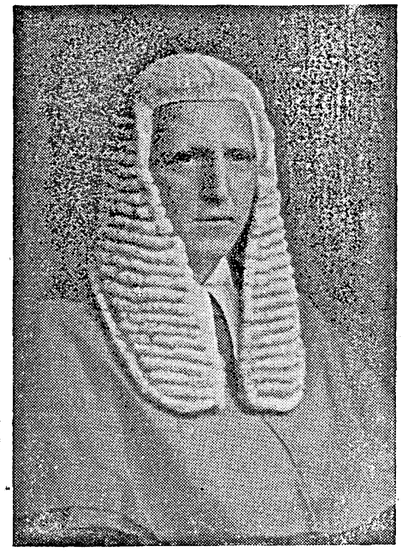
Much had been accomplished in the way of broadening these views by the outbreak of the last Great War in 1914. So far back as 1871, when the negotiations for the Treaty of London were being conducted by the representatives of Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Germany and Turkey and concerning the Black Sea, a resolution was agreed on the sanctity of treaties that " no power can liberate itself from the engagements of a treaty, nor nullify the stipulations thereof, unless with the consent of the contracting powers by means of an amicable arrangement." And when, in 1908, Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia-Herzegovina without obtaining the consent of the high contracting powers who, under the Treaty of Berlin of 1878, had allowed her to occupy temporarily the provinces so annexed, she answered their protests by saying that she had done nothing contrary to the law of nations, or affecting the sanctity of treaties, because the powers had given their tacit consent to the practical transformation of her temporary occupation into a permanent one. There was therefore prior to the Great War of 1914 much of lip-service, at any rate, to the great ideal that states and nations are bound to deal fairly with one another and to keep promises which have been solemnly confirmed.

It is not without interest that the conception that rules of conduct are necessary between states as well as between individuals can be traced to Italy and the ages when the Italian City States fought and traded and intrigued with one another. Then began the passport system, the distinction between armed forces and civilians and the development of rules for shipping in time of peace as well as war. The horrors of the Thirty Years War in Northern Europe reminded men that in Italy more humane practices were in vogue, and that it was quite possible to have an effective war without injuring innocent civilians, killing or ill-treating wounded or allowing the soldiery to ravage wantonly the countryside in which they fought.

GROTIUS AND OTHERS

The great Grotius in his work *De jure belli ac pacis* (1625), put the matter beyond further argument to the contrary. His masterly and exhaustive analysis of the rules which humanity required to govern international relations both in war and peace has remained the chief guide for succeeding ages. It has been said that nobody has since brought to light any new conception of the foundations of international law. Other great names have illumined the subject. Another Dutchman, Bynkershock (1673–1743), a practical lawyer as well as jurist, wrote that a state's dominion sea-wards was limited to the extent to which it was possible to enforce it, i.e., within range of cannon shot, and so prepared the way for the doctrine of territorial waters. Vattel's *Droit des gens* (1758) is still an authority on the principles of international law. Great English judges such as Lord Mansfield and Sir William Scott (who dealt with many shipping cases arising out of the long Napoleonic wars), the American Chief Justice Marshall and others have all played an important part in raising the study and the application of those principles to the high standard which had been reached by 1914.

The Hague Conferences appeared to crown the work. By 1899 rules on the usages of war had been drafted and agreed by all the great powers. The Geneva Convention which regulated such matters as the treatment of wounded, of prisoners of war and the making of war on civilians had been applied to wars at sea. A Court of Arbitration was set up at the Hague to deal with international disputes. In 1907 the nations went still further on the path of good sense and humanity. Rules were made with regard to the opening of hostilities, the conversion of merchant vessels into warships, the rights and duties of neutral states, the laying of mines, the bombardment of undefended places by naval forces and the use of poison gas as a weapon.



THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J. A. BELL, I.C.S.

But that is not to say that there did not exist persons who felt that despite all the formalities of solemn agreements, conferences, protocols and all the modern jargon of diplomacy, there still existed those who would like to avail themselves of—

" . . the good old rule,
. . the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power
And they should keep who can ".

GERMANY'S BEHAVIOUR

They proved to be right. In the years from 1914 to 1918, Germany, who had been a signatory to most if not all of the agreements of the previous years, broke all of them. All that counted with the Germans was victory at any cost and by any means. They invaded Belgium, whose integrity they had guaranteed,

OUR WAR AIMS

" Our first aim is the destruction of the Hitlerite State and of the men who inspire it.

" Our second aim is to destroy the Hitlerite army and wipe out its leaders.

" Our third aim is to destroy this New Order in Europe and punish its builders.

" Comrades, we are waging a great war of liberation, but we are not waging it alone. We are fighting together with our Allies. It is going to bring us Victory over the dastard enemies of mankind, over the German and Facist Imperialists."

—M. STALIN, *in an Order of the Day.*

they bombarded undefended places with their naval forces, they used gas as a weapon, they torpedoed hospital ships and bombed hospitals, they used prisoners-of-war for military purposes and ill-treated them and they sacked and ravaged the countries they occupied.

The clock had been put back. The Great War proved no less barbarous and inhumane than the Thirty Years War whose horrors had so profoundly influenced Grotius and his successors. Peace gave rise to a conflict hardly less important, namely, the struggle between those who desired to make International Law real "Law" in the sense before indicated, to provide it with a tribunal and with powers to coerce and therefore with armed forces under its control or at its call, and those to whom all idea of force had become anathema. The pacifists by which name the latter came to be known, triumphed in the main and from the Treaty of Versailles there was a steady declension in the ranks of those who insisted upon enforcement of the law if it was to be called a law at all. The chief principles, viz.—

(1) Recognition by all states of each other's existence and integrity as states,

(2) Recognition of each other's independence,

(3) Recognition of equality, one with another, of all independent states,

received much adulation but little practical support. The League of Nations did much good work in minor ways but the abstention of the United States in the beginning was a fatal weakness. The subsequent defections of Italy, Germany and Japan enfeebled it to the point of death and, looking back, one cannot wonder that those powers who were left, themselves self-disarmed beyond immediate remedy, found it impossible to prevent such obvious breaches of the law as the invasion of Abyssinia and Albania by Italy, and the wanton interference with the affairs of Spain by Germany, Italy and Russia and, then, the inevitable descent into Avernus which led us to the present war.

What of the future? Can we again trust to the promises of any nation, even of our own? Governments change, political passions will still run high, opinions will vary and there will always be the danger of alliances and *blocs* as a menace to world peace.

ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE WAR

After the war, economic rather than political considerations will probably take first place. The lands now occupied by the enemy must be cleared of them and their starving populations fed, clothed and housed. Only the United Nations have any means at their disposal to attain these ends. They will have to continue their alliance to do so. May it not be hoped that, the relief accomplished, they will go on to seek for a further unity for political ends?

Imagine such a federation pledged and armed to secure world peace on sea and land, its navies keeping the seas free from pirates and its armies enforcing order where warring elements still contend. As time goes on, and economic recovery becomes more plain, then other nations may be admitted to the fold, until in the perhaps distant future there will exist the world federation to which the League of Nations seemed, in the minds of its creators, the first step.

But far more than words will be needed. It will be necessary for us all to surrender something. . and something which to the Anglo-Saxon in particular has always been priceless . . namely our free will. For if the seas and lands are to be kept safe from evil-doers there must be a directing hand. All who belong to the federation must be ready and willing at all times to supply the weapons, the men and the munitions so that we must envisage a portion of the British Navy being always ready to put out to sea with other navies, the control being exercised, not from the Admiralty, but from another centre, say, Geneva . . . it might be from any other place, of course, but, after all, considering that about a couple of million pounds was spent in erecting suitable buildings for the League of Nations there, it seems a pity that they should not be used!

In any event it is the mental attitude which is all-important, and if nations can be made, by reason, to see the necessity for sacrifice of part of their sovereignity, there may be hope that the errors of the past will be remedied and made, not only improbable, but impossible in the future. Like the labourers in the vineyard of the parable we may feel it unfair that we who have "borne the burden of the day and the heats" should be asked to put ourselves upon an equality with those who have "worked but one hour", or even less, but only in that way lies any hope of peace. Not again should the world watch, helpless, when aggression and greed and brutality raise their head, when small nations are devoured, minorities ill-treated, and treaties shamelessly broken before the ink of the signatures has hardly dried.

SANCTIONS

The history of the years since the last to the present war shows that just as sanctions are required for the law as it affects individuals, so they are necessary for international law. Sanctions imply a police force. There must be an international police force or one at any rate which is made up of contributions from the forces of the willing nations. There are no doubt no inconsiderable difficulties in the way and much persuasion will be needed before the majority of peoples will toe the line. But without that conception and the willingness to turn the dream into a reality the future will be as the past, international law will remain as it has been, a law only in name, to be observed when it is convenient, to be broken when it comes in the way of those who, as Mallet in his *Northern Antiquities* says "look upon war as a real act of justice and esteem it an incontestible title over the weak, a visible mark that God intended to subject them to the strong."

Is that the outlook for 1943 and for the years to come? The countless sacrifices which have been and are being made, the depth of misery into which the world has been plunged, this orgy of blood and hate and murder and destruction which alas! is so familiar, are all these things to be forgotten again because of—pride?

There is no reason why it should be so. A measure of humility in our dealings with our fellow men, a desire to seek out their point of view, an ability to apply rules, well-considered and agreed, to facts, and then the will and determination to enforce them will strengthen ourselves . . . no man is so strong or so inflexible as when he is convinced he is doing the right thing . . . give hope to those who have suffered unjustly, and usher in a new era in which international law will be known and respected—and obeyed.

AIR SLANG

AIR-WAR has produced its own set of slang terms of which we sample a few below. An air-raid is a form of *blitz* which results in children *vackies* (evacuees) and *browned* adults. *Mona* is the morning siren or *Wailing Winnie* and *Clara* is the bonny lass signalling the all-clear. Search-lights are *fire-works* and their diffused glare a *bearded lady*. The A.A. gun is *ack-ack*, an enemy plane is *Jerry*, the balloon, *rat-trap*; the A.A. barrage, *flying-elephant* and aerial torpedoes *flying-pigs*. German bombers when they release bombs *lay eggs*, while the R.A.F. returning after a raid *leaves visiting cards*. An *erk* is an aircraft-mechanic; *Op* is operator; *Wom* is the wireless operating man, and *Snoops*—the service Police. *Mets* is the meteorologist who knows all about *cu* (cumulus) and *muck* (dirty weather). We have *Spits* (spitfires), *Hurries* (Hurricanes), *Lizze* (Lysander), *Maggie* (Miles Magister) and *Wimpey* (Wellington); and last and not least "*He, Me* and *You*", the Heinkel, the Messercshmitt and the Junker.

Soldiers' Sons will follow Father

Boys of the three King George's Royal Indian Military Schools are themselves responsible for a standard of discipline which any soldiers would find difficult to beat.

Responsibility, particularly in the junior grades, passes hourly from boy to boy. One advantage of this is that it bars any possibility of victimisation.

The schools, run on the British public school model, were inaugurated by the late King George V and Queen Mary, who dedicated to this purpose a huge sum sent them by India's ruling Princes as a silver wedding gift.

The boys are soldiers' sons. They may study up to Matriculation and need not, necessarily, enter the army upon leaving. They are, however, almost unanimous in eagerness to join.

The National War Front Looks Forward

By Sir ROBERT DENNISTON, *Kt., Regional Leader, National War Front*

FEW things are certain, but the most cautious prophet would probably subscribe to the view that the year 1943 will be a year of great happenings. It may well turn out to be a miraculous year—a year of deliverance for half the population of the globe. I often wonder, when I read the petulant vapourings of fractious politicians whether they have the slightest conception of what we in India have escaped. Let us examine the lot of the people in this country in relation to that of those countries now overrun by an enemy whose malignancy exceeds that of all the most noted tyrants of history, and whose methods lead one to the conclusion that, if they lived at the present day, the torturers of the Spanish Inquisition would be dismissed as incompetent bunglers.

Any country at war must expect to suffer certain inconveniences, but I should like to place those inconveniences in their proper perspective. Food prices are rising, but we are not starving, as are millions of people in France, Belgium, Poland, Norway and Greece. Such work as we are called upon to do is voluntary. Our men and women are not drafted to work for a ruthless foe under conditions of slavery and semi-starvation. We have no concentration camps—those hell-inspired inventions of the Nazi and Fascist parties, nor do we see children tossed in the air and impaled on the point of the bayonet. In this particular pleasantry (it is called the New Order for Asia) the Japanese have reverted to the jungle, and if this is one of their forms of gentle relaxation we may perhaps view with mild scepticism their promises to deliver India. As for their 'deliverance' of other countries which they now occupy temporarily, this is marked by organized sapping of the morale of the inhabitants by the deliberate inculcation of the drug habit.

NOT SENTENCED FOR GRUMBLING

Again, we do not see our crops harvested and despatched to our enemies, as do the inhabitants of Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and (there is a certain poetic justice about this) Italy. We cannot be told by the pot-valiant Goering that Germans must be fed first, and if there is any food left over we can have it. We are not sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for grumbling, as are the people of Berlin—else most of us would be in prison. What would you say if you were sentenced to two years imprisonment for "talking impudently during the packing of parcels"?—this is the latest Berlin antic. We may, if we are so minded, and if we are fond of fiction, listen to the Tokyo radio hissing hatred, or to the hysterical outpourings of the malignant dwarf who is Mr. Schicklgruber's mouthpiece and accomplice. If we were in Berlin or Tokyo and listened to a British or Indian broadcast we would be sent to a concentration camp, or we would die—which would be preferable. Our experience of air raids has hitherto been practically nil—perhaps a couple of dozen bombs in all have been dropped on South Indian soil—a horrid experience for those on the spot I grant you, but we have not had 1,000 air raids in five days (think of it!) as have the people of Malta, and we do not have to spend the greater part of our lives underground, as the Maltese—those brave people—do. Our air raid casualties cannot be numbered by the hundred thousand as in Great Britain, neither are our homes, our places of worship, our historic buildings razed to the ground, as they have been in England.

EGYPT AND INDIA

"It gives me a deep source for happiness to be amongst the brave soldiers from India now serving the cause which is so dear to us all, the cause of liberty. Both you and we are linked by innumerable bonds which have made us brothers. I also remember that both Egypt and India, at the very dawn of history have been the cradle of civilisation and the West owes to both of us the revelation of a higher ideal of life."

—MR. NAHAS PASHA, *the Prime Minister of Egypt, at a party given by Indian soldiers, on December 27.*

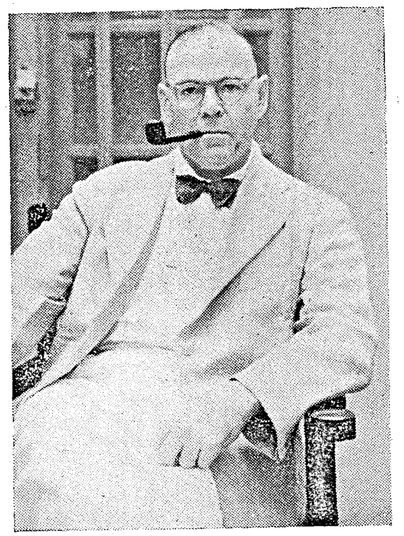
LIVE IN COMPARATIVE COMFORT

And so, while the greater part of the world lives precariously and in varying degrees of misery, we in India live in comparative comfort. Ought not we to do something about it? Great Britain, although herself experiencing the full force of the Axis air arm has done quite a lot for other people, and raucous advocates of a second front (ignoring the fact that there is a second front in Libya, a third in North Africa and a fourth in India) might be interested to learn what Britain and America have done to help Russia. They have despatched during the year which is past one aircraft every 172 minutes, one tank every 128 minutes, one motor vehicle every 17 minutes, one ton of oil or petrol every 4 minutes and one ton of machine tools and metal every 38 seconds. And the Berlin Radio tells us "The Soviets are bitterly disappointed with the failure of Britain and the United States to keep their lavish promises of war material." Really Dr. Goebbels!

And what is the measure of the contribution which we in India are making towards the re-establishment of civilization? It is considerable. The Indian Army has never stood higher in world esteem. The Indian Navy has added cubits to its stature and *H.M.I.S. Bengal* is responsible for one of the epic adventures of the war. Our factories and mills have redoubled their production and our technicians are playing a worthy part. But there is another side to the picture. What, do you think, is the world's opinion of the outbreak of lawlessness, of destruction and murder which we have recently witnessed? How does this organized banditry look against the background of the Allies' help to Russia? Against 3,052 aircraft despatched to Russia, 32 policemen murdered; against 4,084 tanks, 550 post offices attacked; against 30,031 motor vehicles, 70 police stations and 140 other Government buildings burnt; against 118,000 tons of oil, 3,500 instances of wire cutting; against 831,000 tons of metals, damage to Railways and post offices of over a crore of rupees. Here is work after Hitler's own evil heart, and the Tokyo radio pours forth ecstatic congratulations.

WHAT OF 1943?

So much for the past year; what of 1943? Never has there been a year so full of promise; never one in which men of goodwill can play so large a part. Never in the history of war has the role of the civilian been so important. I venture to suggest a few New Year resolutions for members of the National War Front. Let us resolve to remain at our posts in all circumstances, remembering that the chances of our being hit by an enemy bomb are less than those of our being run over in the street. Let us eschew those horrid phrases "wishful thinking" and "scorched earth" with their dangerous implication of defeat. Let us organize resistance to the breakers of the law, and pay the goonda back in his own coin. Let us help to instil "guts" into the faint-hearted, expose the hoarder of food and pillory the scaremonger. By so doing we shall assist in the discomfiture of Mr. Schicklgruber and his slightly shop-soiled accomplices and shall have contributed in some small degree to the victory which is already looming on the horizon.



SIR ROBERT DENNISTON, *Kt.*

A Vital Factor

"From our point of view, restoration of China's lifeline—the Burma Road—is the most immediate vital factor in our fight against Japan."

—COL. CHI WANG, *in an interview to Reuter on December 28.*

Fifth Columnists Again!

Truth About the Coin Shortage

THERE has lately been a considerable amount of Press comment on the shortage of small coin. Despite the Press Communiqué issued by the Government of India on the subject comments continue to appear criticising the Government rather than exposing the root cause of the trouble. It should be recognized that the problem is a social one, the solution of which depends almost entirely on the public itself. Anti-social elements in the country who, for personal gain or other motives, are trying to exploit the situation deserve no sympathy and should be exposed.

What the public can do in present circumstances is :—

(i) Refrain from boarding coin even on a small scale.

(ii) Whatever the need may be, refuse to buy coin for other than its face value.

(iii) Help the authorities to bring the offenders to book. Government desire to prosecute all such offenders, but can only do so with the active assistance and co-operation of the public. Inform the police whenever there is evidence that a person is hoarding coin or selling coin for profit, and if possible encourage and organize others to do the same.

The Government point out that :

All classes in India, especially the poor, are being subjected to inconvenience and loss because there is not enough small coin in circulation for their daily transactions.

Government are doing their share by supplying the public with small coin on a scale never before known in this country; since war began they have manufactured and distributed 180 crores of pieces of new coin and every month 7 crores more are put into circulation.

These huge quantities, as well as all the small coin which was in existence when war broke out, are now in the hands of the people in this country. In spite of this very little is available for the daily needs of the people.

Government have not withdrawn any of this coin. The shortage can therefore only have been caused through private persons hoarding coin in excess of their requirements.

Some hoarders hoard by way of precaution through fear of a still more acute shortage. By so doing they only help to make matters worse and their ill-advised action is unfair to their fellow citizens.

Other hoarders hoard for their own personal profit, either with a view to selling the small coin for notes at a premium or to melt the coin for the sake of the metal of which it is made.

It is an offence against the law to hoard coin in excess of reasonable requirements or to buy or sell coin for other than its face value.

Keeping socks at full stretch

Soldier's socks are expected to last fifty per cent longer as a result of a new process of treating wool now in use by the Indian Army.

When a sock shrinks extra strain is put on heel and toes, with the result that holes soon appear. The new process reduces shrinkage to a minimum.

G.H.Q. Supply Development Committee has found that treatment with a special compound makes woollen garments last half as long again, and three plants have been set up in India to carry out this work.

Christmas Message to R.A.F. Squadrons

The following message was sent by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, to the Madras R.A.F. Squadrons :—

"The Madras Presidency greets its squadrons who have done so magnificently in the past year, and wishes them continued success in the coming year."

1942: A Bird's-eye View

1st Jan.—British Commandos and Free Norwegian troops raided Lofoten Islands.

2nd Jan.—Twenty-six nations, including Britain, United States, Russia, China, India and the Netherlands, signed a joint declaration against Axis powers.

General Wavell was appointed Supreme Commander-in-Chief in the Pacific.

31st Jan.—The British Government concluded an agreement with the Emperor of Ethiopia.

9th Feb.—Marshal Chiang Kai-shek arrived in Delhi.

10th Feb.—The French liner **Normandie** was damaged by fire in New York harbour.

13th Feb.—The Russians re-entered the Soviet Republic of White Russia.

The German warships **Scharnhorst, Gneisenau** and **Prinz Eugen** were bombed in the Straits of Dover.

15th Feb.—Singapore fell.

19th Feb.—Port Darwin was raided for the first time by Japanese aircraft.

The Riom War-guilt trial opened.

24th Feb.—A new Anglo-American Lease-Lend Agreement was announced by President Roosevelt.

3rd Mar.—General Wavell was made Commander-in-Chief of India.

6th Mar.—The Dutch evacuated Batavia.

25th Mar.—The Japanese occupied the Andaman Islands.

28th Mar.—St. Nazaire was raided.

1st Apr.—The first meeting of the Pacific Council was held in Washington.

3rd Apr.—American Flying Fortresses attacked a Japanese invasion fleet in the Bay of Bengal.

5th Apr.—Ceylon had its first air raid.

6th Apr.—Vizagapatam and Cocanada docks were bombed.

7th Apr.—Madras had its first air raid warning.

9th Apr.—Japanese aircraft attacked Trincomalee.

10th Apr.—Fighting in Bataan ceased.

13th Apr.—The Riom trial was suspended.

14th Apr.—Iran broke off relations with Japan.

18th Apr.—Tokyo was bombed by American aircraft.

Surcouf, the world's largest submarine belonging to the Free French, was lost.

M. Laval was made chief of the Vichy Government.

23rd Apr.—M. Laval refused the Japanese sending a military mission to Madagascar.

29th Apr.—Longer working hours for the native population of Java was decreed from to-day (the Japanese Emperor's birthday).

4th May.—Japanese forces entered Mandalay.

6th May.—British troops landed in Madagascar.

7th May.—Corregidor and other Philippine island fortresses were surrendered to the Japanese.

The Burma Road was cut.

9th May.—In the great Coral Sea Battle, the Japanese navy was defeated.

16th May.—Mexico broke off relations with the Axis powers.

17th May.—Prinz Eugen was attacked and damaged.

31st May.—Mexico declared war on the Axis.

7th June.—The Japanese navy was defeated in the Battle of Midway.

11th June.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester arrived in India.

14th June.—The Japanese landed in the Aleutians.

15th June.—President Roosevelt spoke on the Four Freedoms.

21st June.—Tobruk fell into the hands of Rommel.

27th June.—The first of the '1,000-plane raid' by the Royal Air Force was made on Bremen.

2nd July.—Sabastopol fell.

28th July.—Rostov fell into the hands of Nazis.

9th Aug.—Mr. M. K. Gandhi and members of the Congress Working Committee were arrested.

10th Aug.—The Nazis captured Maikop and Korasnador.

18th Aug.—General Alexander succeeded General Auchinleck as Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East.

19th Aug.—Dieppe was raided by British Commandos.

24th Aug.—The Nazis launched a frontal attack on Stalingrad.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent was killed on active service.

20th Sep.—Mr. Wendell Willkie visited Moscow.

8th Oct.—Dieppe raid prisoners were chained. Britain ordered reprisals.

5th Nov.—Hostilities ceased in Madagascar.

10th Nov.—American and British troops landed in Tunisia to open a Second Front.

Vichy France broke off relations with United States.

14th Nov.—The Allies retook Tobruk, Sollum and Bardia. Church bells, stilled since Dunkrik, rang throughout Britain to commemorate the victory in the Battle of Egypt.

24th Nov.—H.I.M.S. "Bengal" engaged and sunk an armed Japanese raider in the Indian Ocean.

The siege of Stalingrad was lifted.

27th Nov.—Hitler ordered the extermination of all Jews in occupied Europe by the end of 1942.

28th Nov.—The French fleet at Toulon scuttled itself.

29th Nov.—British troops occupied Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

12th Dec.—All prisoners of war in Britain and Canada were unshackled.

15th Dec.—The Battle of El Agheila was won by the Allies.

19th Dec.—Mr. Churchill put the Beveridge Report "on the official map."

20th Dec.—Allied troops moved into Burma. Calcutta was raided for the first time.

24th Dec.—Admiral Darlan was assassinated.

27th Dec.—Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab (who visited the Middle East), died of heart disease.

28th Dec.—General Giraud succeeded Darlan as French Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.

Tea shop—New style

High up in the wild Naga Hills of Assam thirsty drivers in the convoys between base and forward positions are fond of stopping for a rest and a "real" cup of tea at a tea shop which is "different" because it is operated by three B.O.R's.

Empty kerosene tins over a wood fire do duty for urns, but however unorthodox their equipment these British soldiers can produce anything up to 400 cups of tea in next to no time. And all who taste it say it's good.

SAID IN 1927

◆

"Peace! All that is necessary for eternal peace in Western Europe is to civilise Germany and to humanise France!"

—GEOFFREY MOSS in *New Wine*.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV | FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1943 | No. 17

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

BORNE RICH FRUIT

ONE year ago, twenty-six nations signed the Washington Declaration by the United Nations. The world situation then was grim indeed. Yet, on that last New Year's day, these nations bound together by the universal ideals of the Atlantic Charter signed an act of faith that military aggression, treaty violation and calculated savagery should be remorselessly overwhelmed by their combined might and that the sacred principles of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness should be restored as cherished ideals of mankind. They thus created the mightiest coalition in history—mighty not only for its overwhelming material force but still more for its eternal spiritual values. Three other nations have since joined that coalition. The unity thus achieved amidst dire danger has borne rich fruit

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a statement on January 1

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
Russia: Prospects of Victory	4–5
The Invisible War	7
Role of Airplane and Telephone	8
A Negotiated Peace is impossible	9
We'll work to win	10
Story of a Secret Expedition	11
Italy's growing confusion	12
The End of a Legend	13
Prospect of Mediterranean Battle	14
Winter comes, but where is Nazi Victory?	16
Stalin's Master Plan	17
Soviet submarines busy	19
British raids on Germany	19
Air transport of tomorrow	20
Russia's "Secret Weapons"	21
Diary of the War	22

Running Commentary

The Calcutta Raid: General Wavell's Remarks Recalled.

"Yours is the first capital city in India to suffer in this war a baptism of fire and her citizens have provided an admirable example of steadiness and fortitude. Well done Calcutta!" This was the message sent by His Excellency the Viceroy to the Governor of Bengal soon after the first enemy air raid on December 20. Since then there have been four more raids on the city. It may be pointed out that the Japanese were in a position to launch these air raids nearly eight months ago. On April 22 last year when Japan was in the plenitude of power, General—now Field Marshal—Wavell said, "The immediate danger is that of air attack . . . Consider the distance the Japanese are from their bases, the enormous area over which their war effort is already dispersed, the vulnerability to sea and air attacks of their line-of-communications towards India." He added, "It is not in the power of the Japanese to bring air attack against the cities of India on anything approaching the scale, intensity or continuity of the German attack on Great Britain or of our attack on Germany." Calcutta's experience bears out the soundness of General Wavell's observations. The raids have been on a small scale and are as nothing as compared with enemy raids on Britain or the R.A.F. raids on Germany. It may be recalled that the *Luftwaffe* dropped, during the blitz on London, as much as 450 tons of bombs in a single raid. The R.A.F., in the course of its 1,000-bomber raid on Cologne in May last year, dropped 3,000 tons of bombs in 90 minutes. It is no doubt true that raids of this type are of an exceptional character. But the fact remains that now-a-days 200-bombers of the R.A.F. drop on an average 450 tons in a raid and that such raids are fairly frequent.

* * *

Japan, a Wounded Tiger—Must Strike Somewhere.

Can Japan launch raids of this character? It can, if it possessed in Burma scores of aerodromes, a very large trained ground personnel, a well-knit system of communications and factories manufacturing munitions of war. Inherently these facilities are largely unobtainable in Burma. Further the R.A.F. and the 10th American Air Force see to it that Japan is not allowed any respite. It is of interest to mention in this connexion that the American Air Force in their raid on Heho on December 26th dropped bombs which were greater in weight than that dropped by the Japanese in their first four air raids on Calcutta. In fact the Allied air forces have been plastering the enemy-occupied military targets in Burma. As General Clayton Bissen remarked at a press conference on December 26th, the enemy aerodromes in Burma were constantly under fire and he was shifting his air force from one to the other. Further the Allied advance into the Arakan Division required some sort of reply from Japan. The Calcutta raid was, however, a very poor reply indeed! The Japanese bombers came by night and the fact that they were flown very high is a tribute to Calcutta's fighter-craft and A.A. guns. The high morale of the citizens of Calcutta at the time of these raids was commended by the Viceroy, the Bengal Governor and the Premier of the Province.

The raids on Calcutta are nothing but an obvious move in the offensive tactics intended to conceal the defensive character of Japanese strategy. Japan is like a wounded tiger; it is far from exhausted and it has to hit somewhere. Calcutta was a near and important target. An attack on it could well be utilized for purposes of propaganda by Japan. In these raids, the Japanese have used anti-personnel bombs, thus belying their own propaganda that their bombs are directed only against military installations.

* * * *

Advance Into Arakan, Not a Regular Invasion of Burma.

We have referred to the Allied advance into the Arakan Division. This has caused a thrill of interest and excitement throughout India. But it is necessary to understand the exact position and not allow speculation to outrun facts. As stated in the Indian Command's communique of December 19th, troops have crossed the Burmese frontier between Chittagong and Akyab and occupied the Maungdaw-Buthidaung area, which is about 60 miles north-west of Akyab. This advance of about half-way from the frontier to Akyab is an improvement in the Allied positions, for Maungdaw is at the mouth of the Naf river, which is navigable for 30 miles of its course, and Buthidaung is due east of Maungdaw and is connected with it by road. The control of Maungdaw gives us a double advantage. Firstly, it can be used for bringing supplies by sea, and secondly, the river Naf can supplement the military road as a means of communication on the land side.

(*Continued on page* 6.)

GREETINGS

The following message was received from the Officer Commanding another Madras Squadron of the R.A.F. by His Excellency the Governor of Madras:—

All personnel send their best wishes to Your Excellency and people of Madras Presidency, and thank Your Excellency for kind Christmas message.

His Excellency has received the following message from yet another Madras Squadron of the R.A.F. For security reasons, the number of the squadron or the place of origin of the message is not mentioned:—

"Officer Commanding and airmen of squadron thank Your Excellency and the people of Madras Presidency for greetings and send to all in Madras best wishes for the New Year."

GENERAL WAVELL, India's great Commander-in-Chief, has been made a Field Marshal. The above photograph was taken on the occasion of a recent inspection of forward positions on the north-east frontier. During this visit he crossed the Burma border. Here he is seen with an influential local Burmese chief. A British civil officer is also in the party.

Russia: Prospects of Victory

IN a review of the war broadcast on New Year's Eve, M. Kalinin, the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, said that the offensive spirit of the Russian people was rising from day to day; it was increasing their productivity; the Red Army was being well supplied with everything it needed by the great efforts of Russian workers and collective farmers. "The prospects of victory can be seen clearer on the threshold of 1943," declared the Soviet President, "Our united effort will give us victory in the near future under the leadership of our great Chief, M. Stalin." He pointed out that the position in Russia was now more advantageous than it was a year ago. For, this year the enemy's offensive was not carried out on the whole front, but only on the south and south-western sectors. The Russian offensive at Stalingrad and on the Central front, as well as in the Middle Don and the North Caucasus, had changed the situation in Russia's favour. Over two-thousand inhabited localities, district centres and towns had been captured by the Red Army.

Three Stages of the Offensive

In an impressive review of six weeks' fighting in Southern Russia, the Soviet Information Bureau has given a detailed account of the progress of these Russian successes. It refers to three stages of the Russian offensive in the Stalingrad area. Firstly, the Red Army began to assume the offensive north-east and south-west of Stalingrad. Powerful blows were inflicted on the enemy in the south-western Don and the Stalingrad fronts. The second stage was the offensive of the Russian troops in the area of the Middle Don. They were entrusted with the task of effecting a break-through on this front, penetrating the defences of the enemy to the rear in the Don bend, and preventing German troops surrounded on the approaches to Stalingrad from escaping or being relieved from outside. This task was skilfully carried out. The third part of the offensive was staged south of Stalingrad. The German Command which led its troops at Stalingrad into a blind alley attempted desperately to relieve its troops surrounded by the Red Army, and launched an offensive in the area north of Kotelnikovo, but Soviet troops operating south of Stalingrad were instructed by the Soviet High Command to rout the new enemy concentration, to roll the Germans south and deprive them of the last chance of breaking-through to the German divisions surrounded at Stalingrad. Thus the encirclement and the defeat of the German and Fascist troops on the approaches to Stalingrad were carried out in three stages.

Two-fold Objectives

The Russian objectives in the great winter offensive may be said to be of a two-fold character. The first is the improvement of their tactical positions wherever possible and the stretching of the German resources to their fullest limit. The second objective is to cause a general retreat of the German troops. We are now concerned only with the first objective. In this the Russians have achieved great successes by following their own distinctive plan. The German plan is to deal a sledge-hammer blow in one place, break through by sheer weight of numbers, and follow through with thousands of vehicles. But the Russian plan is to deal a series of blows of gradually increasing intensity in different parts of the front and produce a simultaneous disintegration throughout the front.

Though complete success has not yet been achieved in the carrying out of this plan, the working of it can clearly be seen. The offensive at Stalingrad and in the Don bend compelled the Germans to bring up their reserves in order to release the troops encircled by the Red Army at Stalingrad. The Russian offensive in the north aimed at the whole lateral system of enemy communications upon which the free movement of German reserves depends, and it has forced the Germans to bring in more reserves to save their communications. The attack in the Middle Don was aimed at a point from which German reserves may have been moved either north or south, and this has had the effect of drawing on German troops intended to rest in winter.

Future Course of Campaign

The future course of the Russian campaign will depend upon a number of factors which are not now clearly known. Have the Germans any unused reserves? If so, can they move them in time to places where they are urgently required? Can the Russians maintain their advance and can they bring forward their supplies quickly enough to enable them to continue it? Will the winter weather which seems to be milder than last year, continue for some time longer? There are three possibilities. The Germans may produce reserves to stop the latest gap, or they may bring reserves from their troops recuperating in the rear and thereby weaken themselves for the spring, or they may be forced into a general retreat in the depth of winter.

Whatever it be, one thing seems clear. Hitler is faced with the problem of switching all reserves without leaving a spot where a break-through might occur—a break-through which, under the Russian system of attack, might develop into a general defeat of the German forces. It seems as though the real issue may be decided only in spring, for which Stalin is preparing. In the West, the British and the Americans are also preparing for a great and mighty effort to deal a smashing blow at Hitler's "Fortress of Europe."

In the Centre of the Ring

The wonder of it all is that the Russians, after suffering losses in men, territory and war resources, that would have taken the heart out of most people and thrown them out of the ring, have stood the ground. They are not even leaning against the ropes: they have moved into the centre of the ring and are dealing out powerful straight lefts to the enemy's body. The recapture of Nalchik, key town on the Caucasus Mountain roads, announced on Tuesday night, is one such powerful blow.

The prospects of a great Russian victory, to which M. Kalinin referred, are now brighter than they have ever been before. The Red Army has definitely seized the initiative on the entire battlefront in Russia, and Stalin's master plan to immobilise and eat into German reserves must tire the enemy and bring him down.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

This move into Arakan may be described as an exercise in aggressive defence. It should not be considered as the beginning of a regular invasion, but as a local operation successful in its execution and convenient in its effects. This is not a move eastwards into Burma proper, but southwards along the coastal tract of Arakan. There lies a range of steep and jungle-covered mountains between Arakan and the rest of Burma, where the rainfall is the heaviest in the world. Control of the whole of this strip would still leave a formidable barrier to be crossed into Burma proper.

* * * *

Situation in North Africa—Estimate of Darlan—New French Leader

Political conditions in North Africa after the assassination of Admiral Darlan continue to be in a state of flux. Darlan by throwing in his lot with the Allies barely a month before his death saved for the Allies, according to Mr. Stimson's calculation, at least a month's time and perhaps 15,000 lives. The career of this most enigmatic figure in the history of war-time France will be a subject of controversy for many years to come. The full story will be known only after the war is over when all the records are opened and published, but it may be stated that he was, according to his lights, a patriotic Frenchman. Love of the French Fleet was his ruling passion. He was completely disillusioned by constant German bad faith, and he seized the first opportunity of joining the Allies when the Nazis broke the Armistice. Darlan's action shows how German methods have outraged even those who, having no hope of Allied victory, were willing to negotiate with their conquerors. Darlan, the ruler of North Africa, has been well summed up by General Eisenhower. The United States General said, " He never, so far as I know, broke his word in attempting to carry out anything he promised."

Frenchmen in North Africa have found a great leader in General Giraud who is the first heroic figure thrown up by France after General de Gaulle. His appointment as leader of the North African French has been widely welcomed. A Fighting French spokesman said in Washington recently that General Giraud was undoubtedly the best man available and that he, more than any other, was in a position to reconcile effectively all patriotic elements in the French colonies and in France itself. General Eisenhower said that he was delighted to have a man of such standing and character to deal with. There are, however, certain difficulties in the way of a general reconciliation. Though a preliminary contact has taken place between the Fighting French leader and General Giraud, there seem to be some differences of opinion regarding the elimination of the present Imperial Council in North Africa. But things are bound to come to some settlement or other in due course.

◆ ◆ ◆

CLOTHING FOR INDIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

Information has been received that the War Office in London have supplied complete outfits of battle-dress, boots and greatcoats for all Indian soldiers taken prisoner of war in the Middle East. The Red Cross have also despatched two shirts, two vests, two underpants, three pairs of socks and one pullover for each prisoner.

A report received from the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva indicates that all Indian prisoners of war in German and Italian hands are now supplied with special clothing for the winter and that sufficient stocks of clothing, etc., for replacements are held at Geneva. Clothing parcels are also being sent by the Indian Comforts Fund Section of the British Red Cross Society, at the rate of 700 per week in order to maintain these stocks.

Arrangements have been made for the supply of suitable headgear for Indian prisoners of war and stores of these are now being despatched to Geneva through the British Red Cross Society.

The Invisible War

By WICKHAM STEED

BEHIND the visible military fronts in this war an invisible struggle of unknown quality and extent is proceeding on what may be called political and moral fronts. Every Allied success increases the intensity of this struggle.

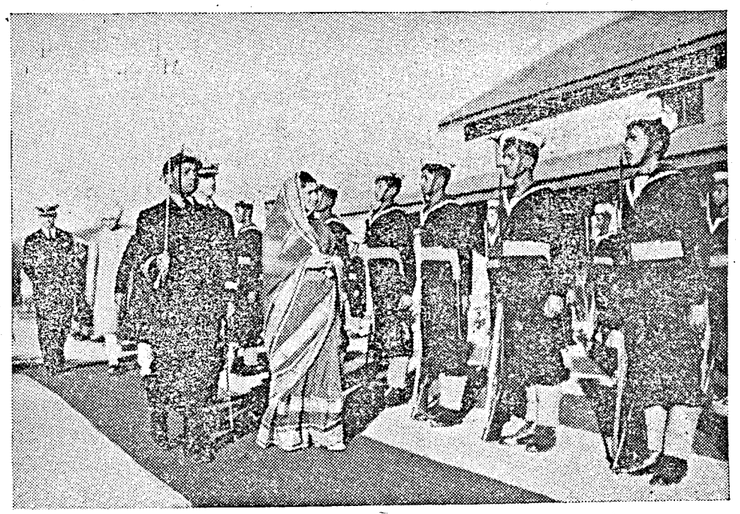
The other day an important member of an Allied Government in London said that secret reports from many parts of Europe were compelling him to believe that, unless tension on the invisible front relaxed, something would crack or explode among the peoples of the Axis or those subject to Axis control. He had striven against this belief because he was anxious not to deceive himself or mislead his Government. Yet evidence was becoming too strong to be rejected as insufficient.

EFFECT OF ALLIED SUCCESSES

Certain it is that the Allied successes in North Africa have caused a ferment throughout the Balkan peninsula and even in Finland. Some time ago a Nazi organ in Rumania protested indignantly against rejoicings among Rumanians over the Anglo-American landings in Morocco and Algeria. In Italy cries for peace become louder with every British and American air raid on Turin or Naples. In Finland symptoms of warweariness are frequent. In France Laval publicly recognizes strong opposition to collaboration with Germany when he announces his determination to stop it. The population of the coastal districts of Holland is being removed into the interior. Even in Germany nervous unrest is spreading, though the German people have not yet been told either of German losses in Russia or of Rommel's withdrawal from El Agheila without giving battle.

OUSTING THE AXIS FROM AFRICA

Militarily the North African fighting may decide the fate of Italy. Morally the expulsion of Axis forces from Tripoli and Tunis would be likely to decide whether Hitler and Mussolini can keep the Italian people in the war. The process of ousting the Axis from Tunis may be hard and slow. More than 400 miles of waterless desert remain to be crossed before the remnants of Rommel's Afrika Korps can be driven to the Tunisian border. Meanwhile much may depend militarily and morally upon the success or failure of Hitler's commanders to save the German divisions surrounded between the Don and the Volga and to stop the loss of those in the Caucasus, Crimea and South-Eastern Russia. Nor is it only a question of avoiding military disaster. The German grip on Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Greece is at stake. The last vestige of faith in German victory would vanish among Hitler's satellites just as fear of



A Torpedo School for the Royal Indian Navy was opened at Jamnagar a few days ago. The opening ceremony was performed by Her Highness the Maharani of Nawanagar. Photo shows Her Highness inspecting the Guard of Honour.

permanent enslavement would vanish among his victims. The invisible moral struggle would then produce visible effects.

JAPANESE DEFEATS

To these possibilities in Europe must be added the imponderable influence of the Japanese defeats in New Guinea and of the full restoration of Madagascar to Fighting French rule by agreement between Britain and General de Gaulle. Throughout India, Burma, China and the Southern Pacific these events will be seen to foreshadow the ultimate overthrow of Japan. In those wide regions also Japan will feel the growing strain of the moral struggle.

NOT A BRAKE ON EFFORT

Far from interpreting these relatively favourable circumstances as pledges of a swift or easy triumph, the British Government and people, like those of the United States, are determined to intensify their exertions against the enemy. The British age-limits for military service may be extended to include boys of 17 and men of 50. Out of a population of 33,000,000 men and women of working age, 22,000,000 are already doing war work. This number will shortly be increased. In Britain there is neither warweariness nor unwillingness for further effort and sacrifice. Victory which for three years was a matter of faith—sometimes a lonely, obstinate faith—is now seen to be within the grasp of the Allied nations if they throw their whole moral as well as material force into the task of seizing and holding it.

On the Allied side too the tension of the moral struggle is growing greater. Yet it is not accompanied by any feeling of strain. It is the tension of body and mind that marks the supreme successful effort of an athlete to reach the winning post and to break all records in gaining the prize.

Role of Airplane and Telephone

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

IT is a spectacular thing that President Roosevelt could write a note to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and have it delivered in facsimile in Chungking within an hour or so.

That sort of communication will certainly facilitate relations between nations. Yet it is not as spectacular or as important as facilities which are already being used to bring the heads of the Allied Governments into closer contact with each other.

One of the best stories going around Washington now relates to a supposed telephone conversation on post-war questions between President Roosevelt in Washington and the Generalissimo in Chungking. A telephone conversation between the White House and No. 10, Downing Street, and with Moscow, is as simple as a telephone conversation around Washington.

POWER OF THE AIRPLANE

The making of personal contacts by airplane is much easier. Prime Minister Churchill has been here twice since Pearl Harbour and has been to Moscow. Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov has been to London and Washington. Admirals and generals of the High Command have gone back and forth between Allied countries frequently. It is not much more of a problem that of getting from Washington to San Francisco.

Of course there are a great many differences between this war and the last one, and I think that likewise there will be many differences in working out the peace. One of the most important differences this time is the facility of contact among the leaders of the United Nations.

The men who are running this war and who will make the peace can talk face to face, and between times can converse by telephone.

THE COMMON STRUGGLE

Our common struggle against evil and cruelty, against that denial of human personality which lies at the base of the Nazi and Fascist creeds has brought together Christian and Jew, Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist, and the free followers of every religion in the world, as well as those who belong to no Church but are nonetheless convinced supporters of essential decencies and spiritual values, which lie at the root of all religions.

—SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, *in a speech in London, on January 1.*

A Negotiated Peace is Impossible

By LORD STRABOLGI

THERE has been a certain amount of discussion recently as to the possibility of the second world war being terminated by a negotiated peace, with neither group of combatants decisively defeated. Promoters of such efforts can always plead the sanction of humanitarianism. That the majority of Italian people in all walks of life would welcome peace on almost any terms at the earliest possible moment is well known and established. Leaders of their German ally would probably welcome a negotiated peace as soon as possible also, and there is little doubt that the majority of their followers would accept it even more gladly. For rather different reasons their Japanese partner will be equally ready.

WHAT THE GERMANS KNOW

In Germany the General Staff as well as leading members of Hitler's entourage knew perfectly well that the Axis in Europe has no hope left of gaining a decisive victory, or indeed any other kind of victory. The best that they can hope for now is a stalemate, and this is tacitly accepted by Hitler himself and by other leaders in their public declarations to the German people that they will now concentrate on defensive strategy.

Japan's position is different in that she has gained the main objectives of her preliminary campaigns. She has the necessary raw materials and foodstuffs for a long struggle and is well placed strategically. It would be a great advantage, nevertheless, for Japan, whose resources have been badly strained, to be granted a period for recuperation and economic digestion of the vast territories that she has conquered.

NOT AN ORDINARY WAR

If this were an ordinary nationalistic or dynastic struggle, powerful elements might be found in the councils of the United Nations ready to give serious consideration to the possibility of a negotiated peace. But it is not an ordinary war, and it is impossible for the Governments of the British Empire, the United States and Russia to lend themselves to any parleys or discussions to that end. In Britain, for example, no Government could last 48 hours if it were suspected of readiness to negotiate an armistice at the present time.

The principal reason for this feeling and determination, shared by all peoples of the United Nations, is that this time an end is to be made of the institution of war. The immense sacrifices already endured and those still to be faced would be grudged but for the belief that, when this second world war has ended, there will never be a repetition. Means must be taken to remove the possibility of future aggressions by the disarmament and control of the Axis Powers. That would be impracticable until they had been decisively defeated and deprived of the means of further resistance.

DESIRE FOR RETRIBUTION

Secondly, there is a genuine and very serious demand for retribution. The methods employed by the Germans in Poland and in a number of other countries as well would have been thought impossible in the 20th century. They have given rise to such horror and alarm that the infliction of punishment on their perpetrators is accepted both as a moral duty and as a safeguard for the future. Any peace or compromise with either the Germans or the Japanese which would leave them in a position to renew war at some future date is unthinkable.

Lastly, and even more important is the ideological conflict which has been exposed in this second world war. It is impossible for the Fascist and democratic systems to exist side by side in the modern world. The one or the other must be destroyed.

France on the Road to Victory

"When the Allies disembarked in North Africa, they put France on the road which leads to Victory. General Giraud has shown his ardent desire that we should participate in the war. We are under his command. I am sure that high officials of the American Military Mission will facilitate our co-operation in the war of liberation. This is only the beginning. The tempo of our activities will accelerate in the near future."

—M. PIERRE BOISSON, *Governor-General of French West Africa, on January 4.*

We'll Work to Win

By PHILIP MURRAY, *President of the Congress of Industrial Organizations*

OUR President is now our Commander-in-Chief in a world war which threatens not only our nation's security and our very lives, but all our freedoms, our way of life, and our living standards, as no previous war has ever done. There can be no question of the response of true American working men and women to the demands of our Commander-in-Chief in such a war. It is the wholehearted and enthusiastic response of true American working men and women to the demands of our Commander-in-Chief in such a war. It is the wholehearted and enthusiastic response of good soldiers of democracy, who know that everything depends upon united and disciplined support of our great leader.

But I can go much further than this. For I speak for the working people, who have more at stake in this war than perhaps any other section of our population. We are fighting nations whose economy is based on slave labour. In Germany, Italy and Japan there are no labour unions. On the contrary, the first aim of any Nazi or Fascist movement is to destroy the labour unions. Labour leaders are stood up against the wall and shot. Workers who seek better conditions in the shop are hounded, beaten, placed in concentration camps or murdered.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY ON LABOUR

Without union, protection and without democracy, the workers are ground down to extremely low wage levels and intolerable working conditions. They are treated as voiceless instruments of their dictators, their war lords and their industrialists. In every country conquered by Hitler and his gang, like conditions, or even worse, have been imposed on the working population.

We know that this is labour's war. We of labour are and must continue to be leaders in the demand for more production and for every step that is necessary to win the war.

We pledge our complete and wholehearted support to our Commander-in-Chief, President Roosevelt, for the achievement of the production goals which he has set. In doing so, we are mindful that upon the shoulders of labour rests the primary responsibility for achieving those goals.

Mr. Donald Nelson, our Production Chief, has announced a concrete programme for increasing and speeding up war production. We welcome this programme most heartily and pledge our enthusiastic co-operation for placing it into execution. In fact, we of the Congress of the Industrial Organizations take pride in the knowledge that we have been pioneers and leaders in the demand for just such a programme for mobilizing American industry for all-out war production. We were the first to put forward concrete proposals for producing more steel, more aluminium, more copper, more airplanes and more of all the other goods and services that are needed for victory. The goals cannot be set too high.

FIRST CONSIDERATION

Labour's position is firm and consistent—that winning the war must be our first consideration, and that nothing must be allowed to interrupt war production. Labour itself was the first, of its own free will, to advance an effective programme for the ending of strikes. No sooner was war declared than both the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labour, assembled in conference with representatives of industry and government, solemnly pledged themselves to set aside the strike weapon for the duration of the war. We also advanced proposals, accepted by the President, for the peaceful solution of all labour disputes, through mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

There has not been a single authorized strike in a war industry since that time, and all the efforts of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and its unions have been directed to ending at once such minor incidents as have occurred.

168-HOUR WORKING WEEK

Production Chief Nelson has called for a 168-hour working week for the machinery of industry. We are wholeheartedly in favour of working our plant and equipment every hour of the week that it can be utilized. Our unions, in many cases, have been the first to call for 24-hour and seven-day week production.

To labour, and particularly to the members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, whom I have the honour to represent, I say: Get on the job at once! Heed the call of our Commander-in-Chief and our country! Let our slogan be: Work, work, work! Produce, produce, produce!

The Russians say:

"Come to me in small numbers and I will defeat you. Come to me in large numbers and you will defeat yourselves."

Story of a Secret Expedition

THE valuable experience gained at Dieppe and in the commando raids greatly helped the Allied forces under General Eisenhower, writes the *Observer* special correspondent.

This is revealed in the new details which have now become available of the part of the British planning and organization played in the operation in North Africa. The details provide a story of completely unselfish Anglo-American co-operation from the start to the finish.

In Great Britain the naval and military forces, both British and American, were trained at the combined training centres whose work to-day is becoming more and more important.

These centres are under the orders of the Chief of Combined Operations, Vice-Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten.

MASS PRODUCTION OF CREWS

On the naval side they are able to mass-produce from raw material to the finished article, landing craft and crews, beach-masters and other essential personnel.

On the military side they instruct trained troops of infantry armoured regiments and artillery in the art of becoming amphibious, that is to be able to live in a parent-ship and become expert in the use of landing craft.

INDIA PROVIDES ITS OWN CARRIERS.—Many rulers of Indian States and communities are giving money for the purchase of Carriers. The armaments of these vehicles vary slightly, but all carry a Bren gun on an Ack-Ack mounting. The armour plating is entirely made by the Indian State Railways. Photo shows carriers on Ack-Ack defence exercises.

As soon as General Eisenhower was assigned command of the Allied expeditionary force, he asked the Combined Operations Headquarters to provide him with several complete inter-service planning syndicates.

These syndicates, which included American officers attached to the Combined Operations Headquarters produced outline plans for assaults on all the beaches. They were based on the experience gathered at Dieppe and elsewhere. In addition the experts of all three services flew to the United States to assist the planning there.

They also instruct units of the Royal Air Force regiment in similar tactics.

Apart from the British troops, four American regimental combat teams, equivalent of British Brigade groups, were trained by the staffs of these C.T.Cs.

The First Army also sent instructors to these centres. On the return of their units, they completed the training of their own men.

The engineering and maintenance of all landing craft requires a high degree of training. Several thousand British and American officers and naval ratings went through these courses.

COMPLEX PROBLEMS

Problems of communications were extraordinarily complex. General Eisenhower decided that the Combined Operations Command was the only organization capable of working out a signals system for assault involving the navies, armies and air forces of the U.S.A. and the British Empire. Other special problems included navigational aids for ships and aircraft and the organization of signal stations on landing beaches.

For special headquarters, ships were fitted with operation rooms equipped to the last detail as combined naval, military and air Headquarters afloat. These ships carried out their task to perfection.

Before the expedition sailed, elaborate exercises in landing and assault were conducted by all the British and American forces based on Great Britain under the supervision of the Combined Training Centre. In all these exercises the closest secrecy was maintained.

LANDING CRAFT

It can now be revealed that in addition to the several hundred landing craft, the Combined Operations Command provided its own ocean-going assault ships.

These ships are larger and faster than the cross-channel raiding vessels which took part in the previous operations. All ships required special outfitting, particularly as regards the hoisting of the gear for landing craft. The Combined Operations Command used its own craft for inter-port ferrying. Complete secrecy was kept and the destination and objective of the expedition was unknown to all except the planners and the Commanding Officers until it passed through the Straits of Gibraltar.

Italy's Growing Confusion

MESSAGES reaching Berne from Italy reveal a growing confusion which is being created by the mass evacuation of people, alarmed by the Royal Air Force raids, from the largest cities, cables the *Daily Telegraph* Berne correspondent.

It is stated that nearly two-thirds of the population is to be moved. About half the population of Turin and Genoa has already been evacuated and others are leaving Florence, Bologna and Trieste. Roads and railways everywhere are packed with "refugees" whose movement has dislocated whole transport services.

Italian newspapers complain about the strain placed on train and road services. Offices and shops, they say, are also having to solve the problem of depleted staffs. The mass evacuation has also complicated the education problem although the closing of many schools is said officially to be due to lack of coal. Between December 28 and the middle of February 300,000 children are to be educated by radio.

The Italian Government in an effort to allay discontent among the public is trying to devise a scheme to save the capital from aerial bombardment, according to Rome messages. All "military objectives", these reports say, are being removed from Rome in the hope of inducing Allied air forces to refrain from attacking the city. It is stated that the Pope is behind the scheme.

Unity of Purpose and Common Effort

"Our people and the people of the United Nations will need to have in future, as they have to-day, unity of purpose and willingness to make appropriate indispensable contributions towards the achievement of military victory and towards the establishment and maintenance of peace that will endure. With unity of purpose and common effort, there can be achieved peace that will open to all mankind greater opportunity than has ever before existed for the welfare and progress in every avenue of human endeavour."

—MR. CORDELL HULL, *in an introduction to U.S. White Paper on foreign policy, published on January 3.*

The End of a Legend

By OSWALD DUTCH

IN 1933, when Hitler seized power, one thing was drummed into the German population which was to form the backbone of the whole Nazi regime: "We are invincible." And it is only logical that, together with the myth of Hitler's godlike personality, the omnipotence of the National Socialist Party and the infallibility of dictatorial decisions, a legend should have been woven around the new German army.

The first years of the war seemed to confirm this myth. The German population had long since lost its faith in Hitler's godlike personality and the omnipotence and infallibility of his organization, but, in spite of setbacks in Russia in the winter of 1941-42 (which had never been fully acknowledged), confidence in the German army had not been shaken until these last few weeks.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN

The German population was never told anything of the one great defeat that was to prove decisive for the course of war—the loss of the Battle of Britain in the autumn of 1940. Even now no German seems to know exactly what happened then. At the outset of the war Goering actually seems to have believed that the "German fortress" was unassailable from the air and at first German generals were also convinced that this war could be fought out at lightning speed and without setbacks.

Goering's assurances were given the lie a year ago, and now the other legend—that of the invincibility of the German army—has also come to an end.

NEW WATCHWORD

Rommel's retreat from El Alamein was still represented to the German public as a great tactical victory. This, however, was the last attempt to deceive the home front regarding the real situation of the German army. Those who returned from Russia knew too much of the situation around Stalingrad, and Rommel's latest retreat at El Agheila cannot possibly be described as a success of the "greatest German General." German propaganda has, therefore, had to make a complete volte face. The watchword now given out is: "No army can be proof against setbacks, not even the German army."

HERCULES AND HYDRA

This has made the fallacy of Goebbels' propaganda manifest to the German population and to the whole world. Lieutenant-General Dietmar, speaking for the German Army Command, was forced to admit in his explanations regarding the situation on the Eastern Front on December 12: "Local reverses could of course not always be avoided when faced with such a powerful opponent . . . Only at one point has the enemy succeeded in hammering a deep indentation into our defensive positions. We may say that the resultant situations were in some respects very grave. The German people must have no illusions regarding the severity of the fighting everywhere—but particularly at Stalingrad. Once again we have seen what masses of men the Soviets can still bring up against us. Our fight against them is like Hercules' fight with the hydra, many-headed dragon of Greek legend, whose severed heads always grew again."

EFFECT OF CONFESSION

What Dietmar said about Russia had already been said three days before—on December 9, 1942, in the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* by Halfeld on the subject of events in North Africa. "Our campaign," he wrote, "will perhaps not be free from setbacks, and reverses must be expected in every war. In Africa the Allies have certainly succeeded in removing Rommel's threat to Egypt."

Although the truth of the situation has long ago dawned on the German public—in so far as it is still able to think—confession of these defeats has first and foremost profoundly shaken the self-confidence of the German army. However illusory or false the faith might have been, it was something to hold on to. This last bulwark has now been destroyed. Soldiers who have once been beaten cannot possibly be as self-confident as troops who have lived surrounded by the glamour of invincibility and in fact for two years were invincible.

Opponents of the German army now also know that this legend of invincibility was but a fairy tale. And this has considerable influence not only on self-confidence but also on strength and success.

—*(Condensed from an article.)*

A New Situation

Hitler is now faced with a new situation, no longer having the monopoly of initiative in Europe and forced to envisage the dreaded war on two fronts . . . . . Russia must be sustained to the utmost in our joint interest. Our own staying power depends on sea communications, and this is a decisive factor in the war.

—LORD HANKEY, in an article in *The Sunday Times*, on January 3.

Prospect of Mediterranean Battle

By CAPT. V. CHEKUROV

THE successful landing of Anglo-American troops on the African coast and the occupation of a number of support points there together with the British offensive in Libya have completely changed the situation in the Mediterranean.

It is now clear that Axis attempts to entrench in Africa have suffered a defeat.

The Mediterranean is a closed theatre of military operations; both ocean exits—Gibraltar and the Suez Canal—are in the hands of the British. Our Allies are able to control the correlation of surface craft. At the same time the Allies are extending their bases along the North African coast.

As for the Italian navy, it still bears traces of heavy blows inflicted on it by the British. Its losses in the course of the war have greatly decreased its fighting activity. Some of its ships have had to be docked for extensive repairs and others prefer to keep to the Adriatic ports.

GROWING ALLIED STRENGTH

Since the outbreak of war, the strength of the Allied navies is growing steadily step by step with the development of operations in the Mediterranean. If need be, Britain and the United States of America can assemble a numerical strength that will give them considerable superiority over the united navies of the Axis powers. Even before landing on the northern coast of Africa, the Allied navies were firmly established in the Mediterranean. Gibraltar and Alexandria close both the ocean exits. The forces based there threaten the flanks of the territory captured by the Axis powers.

The coast of French North Africa affords our Allies many naval bases. Casablanca, situated on the Atlantic coast, can accommodate a large number of modern warships. From this base the Allies can secure their communications in the southern waters of the Atlantic. Casablanca and Rabat, bases farthest removed from the enemy territory, can also serve as intermediary ports for materials in transit to the Allied armies in Africa.

CAN INFLICT A HAMMER BLOW

With strong air support, powerful Allied naval groups are in a position to operate extensively throughout the Mediterranean. This will compel the Italian navy either to split its forces along several directions from the very start and so weaken itself or test its manœuvrability by throwing the bulk of the craft in the most menaced directions from its bases in Southern Italy. This will not save the enemy from destruction, however, for the Allies can concentrate in every one of these areas groups numerically superior to the whole Italian navy.

The possession of the North African coast will give the Allies naval and air bases which will enable them to strengthen their forces in the Mediterranean still further and get the upper hand over the enemy. In this theatre, the Allies can inflict a hammer blow which the Axis will not be in a position to avert—*Soviet War News.*

A Speech from "Mrs. Miniver"

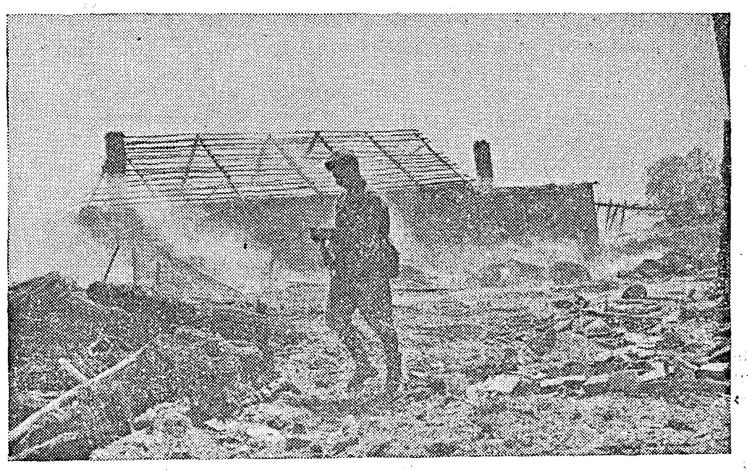
(*An outstanding War film.*)

"We, in this quiet corner of England, have suffered the loss of friends very dear to us. Some—close to this church. George West—choirboy. James Ballard, stationmaster and bell ringer, and the proud winner, only an hour before his death, of the Beldon Cup for his beautiful Miniver Rose. And our hearts go out in sympathy to the two families who share the cruel loss of a young girl who was married at this altar only two weeks ago. The homes of many of us have been destroyed, and the lives of young and old have been taken. There is scarcely a household that hasn't been struck to the heart. And why? Surely you must have asked yourself this question. Why, in all conscience, should these be the ones to suffer? Children, old people, a young girl at the height of her loveliness. Why these? Are these our soldiers? Are these our fighters? Why should they be sacrificed? I shall tell you why. Because this is not only a war of soldiers in uniform, it is a war of the people—of all the people—and it must be fought not only on the battlefield, but in the cities and in the villages, in the factories and on the farms, in the home and in the heart of every man, woman, and child who loves freedom! Well, we have buried our dead, but we shall not forget them. Instead, they will inspire us with an unbreakable determination to free ourselves and those who come after us from the tyranny and terror that threaten to strike us down! This is the people's war! It is our war! We are the fighters!

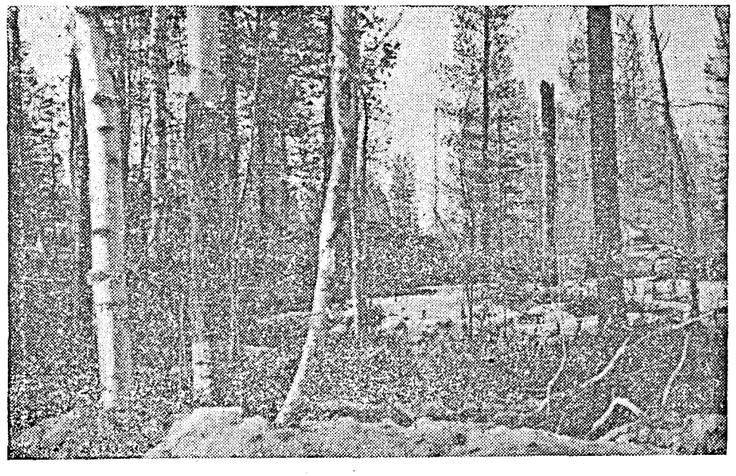
"Fight it, then! Fight it with all that is in us! And may God defend the right."

FROM THE RUSSIAN FRONT

Red Army Scouts reconnoitering.



The theatre of war: A signal corps man restoring the telephone communication between his unit and the command post during an engagement in the village Z.



The Karelian front: Tanks in an ambush.

Winter Comes, but Where is Nazi Victory?

By DAVID TUTAEFF

FOR the last two years Hitler has peddled the mirage of final victory to the only audience which could not help but listen to him—the German people.

But to-day the formula of final victory has undergone a profound change. The Royal Air Force statistically "annihilated" in the late summer of 1940, sends a thousand bombers over Cologne, Essen and Bremen. The Russian armies "conclusively" wiped out by Hitler's speech in October 1941, defy the Wehrmacht and wear its power down.

There is only one conclusive and undeniable fact which Hitler has to offer his people and his army. Another winter on the vast plains of the Don and the Kuban. Nor is the "white hell"—as German radio commentators aptly described the bitter cold and eternity of snow—any more gentle before Leningrad or the forests of Briansk.

GERMANY'S DILEMMA

Despite Hitler's heart-searchings last April, he could not help but admit to his tame Reichstag that he was compelled to take personal command because "nerves were at breaking point, obedience wavered . . ." In his "mea culpa" he went so far as to say that he had not made adequate preparations for the dreadful winter—a winter of 50 degrees below zero, far more terrible than the one which smote his predecessor, Napoleon.

Had the Fuehrer of the German Reich been more literary-minded, rather than literally-minded, he might have learnt from Tolstoy, and other Russian writers, that during a Russian winter only a mad man would march his men around in leather boots.

The dilemma facing Germany is this. Which is it to be—more arms for next year or more men fighting this year? Speer has chosen. Hitler has chosen. It is more men, more cannon-fodder to attempt the capture of Russian towns regardless of cost and the wiping out of the Russian armies.

DECLINE IN OUTPUT

With the army monopolising the most skilful and healthy of the German population, Hitler cannot hope for a period of inactivity during which to withdraw his man-power from the front to the factories. The winters of 1939–40 and 1940–41 will not repeat themselves. But the winter of 1941 with the Russian armies engaging the German hordes in countless local attacks—will repeat itself. Nor will the guerillas give them rest.

Whilst the army's fighting strength has been kept up by constant combing out of skilled factory personnel, a terrific strain has manifested itself behind the lines. Not only has the durability of machinery had to suffer, human stamina has been stretched. Germany's war effort reached its "ceiling" in the latter part of 1941. Since then there has been a marked decline both in the output of armaments and the productivity of labour.

This state of affairs may be contrasted with that of British and American economy. The fruits of planning, so long sneered at by German propagandists, are now giving the weapons to fling at Germany's heart.

CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS

The severe tension which is manifested in German industry, has been brought about by three factors: the Russian campaign, the British economic blockade, and heavy British bombardment of industrial and communication centres. The Royal Air Force this winter will not fail to make those "sore spots" still more sore. The indirect effects of bombing—dislocation and delay in industry and transport—are spreading in ever-widening circles.

The Nazi Labour Chief Sauckel pays an unwilling tribute to the efficacy of this "hitting-where-it-hurts-most" policy of the Royal Air Force. He has laid down that A.R.P. work must be given priority over war production of all kinds. If necessary workers must stop their shift even on the most important jobs in order to do emergency A.R.P. in other factories where bombs are falling. Sauckel says that "saving the nation's factories" from the Royal Air Force is an even more important job than producing munitions for the Russian front.

And meanwhile—like a melodramatic sequel in the cinema, the leaves of the calendar fall before German eyes. Even Himmler cannot control the passing of the seasons. October cannot be shot for sabotage, nor the winter confined in a concentration camp. And Hitler's "final victory" remains the mirage it always was and always will be.

Stalin's Master Plan

THE Red armies in the Middle Don are rapidly extending the gains in their clear-cut victory which is the worst blow that the Reichswehr has suffered this winter, writes Morley Richards in the *Daily Express*. The German High Command agree that they are withdrawing to the west "with their defence position broken in some places." In fact they are to a large extent retreating in disorder. Enemy armies in this strategically vital area have been broken. This is the third group which in six weeks has been deprived of its offensive power and a high proportion of its total strength.

This is no Soviet flash-in-the-pan. It becomes increasingly plain that Stalin with Marshal Shaposhnikov and his small group of military advisers had been working to a long-prepared plan which took months to organize. For one thing, Generals Golikov and Vatutin are using a quarter of a million men or more in this drive, with masses of material. Such a force took many weeks to assemble. In the German summer campaign the Russians allowed the enemy to reach the suburbs of Stalingrad. Its defenders were stretched to breaking point; yet Stalin held back divisions that were in existence and not far away. But he would not allow the enemy to stay in Voronezh. At cruel cost he was expelled from the city and chased to the west bank of the Don. Hitler was stretched further and further. Now he is overstretched. Of that there can be no doubt. Otherwise a big army on a 70-odd-mile front would not be retreating up to 100 miles and showing little sign of stopping its flight. Do not forget that at this time of year the Russians have their maximum mobility and the enemy their maximum immobility. Long-term possibilities arising from the three Soviet offensives are these: (1) the trapping of three German groups—in Caucasia, before Stalingrad, and the triangle between Millerovo, Rostov and Kotelnikov; (2) recovery of the Ukraine and the riches of the Donetz basin; and (3) a blow to the German army from which it could never recover.

The Russians have a long way to go before these things can happen. But the gains already secured—and the assurance from Stalin himself that this is by no means the

The death of Sir Sikhander Hyat Khan, who symbolised the great war effort of the Punjab, is mourned all over India. The above photograph shows Sir Sikhander chatting with a member of the Poona Horse during his visit to the Western Desert.

completion of the winter plan—leave little doubt that the whole of Hitler's tactical successes last summer are going to be nullified.

TO FOLLOW UP SUCCESS

The Russians are determined to follow up their Stalingrad success to its logical conclusion, which is the destruction of those German armies which have battered the city for three months, cables *The Times* Moscow correspondent.

In a 40 to 80-mile wide Russian belt, stretching from the western side of the Don bend south towards Kotelnikovo and beyond to the Russian held Volga country are caught 14 to 16 German divisions between 130,000 and 150,000 men. Soviet pressure, west, north and south is supplemented by further pressure from positions in Stalingrad itself.

There the Russians are pushing the Germans back towards the western outskirts, daily destroying dozens of firing points and dug-outs and recapturing many blocks of houses. In Stalingrad the Russians now have unquestionable superiority in guns. These have been replenished since a juncture was made with the Russian forces north of the city.

The German armies are enclosed in an area which is slowly becoming smaller daily. The diameter of the ring in which they are caught between Stalingrad in the east and point about 10 miles east of Kalach averages 25 to 30 miles. It is open country with few natural defences. Nearly all the troops encircled are Germans—those Germans who in August were writing letters home announcing the imminent fall of Stalingrad and an early end of the war.

GERMAN TRANSPORT PLANES IN ACTION

Transport planes are feeding and supplying them as best as they can. Such planes ultimately saved from destruction the German Sixteenth Army at Staraya Russa last spring. But the Russian corridor then was very slender and the break through was comparatively easy. To-day the Germans are faced with a wide Russian belt with considerable Russian forces which continue to be reinforced from both ends.

German transport planes have suffered heavy losses. During the two days when weather was relatively clear more than 100, including all sorts of passenger and postal planes not ordinarily used in war, were shot down.

In two respects the Germans have been lucky. The low clouds and blizzards have often made it impossible for Russian fighters to operate. This has enabled transport planes to operate with impunity. Then, the winter has so far been fairly mild and the Germans, who are not adequately clothed have not felt its full rigour yet in the steppes.

Nevertheless, the Germans in the encircled area appear to be suffering great hardships. They are already living on iron rations, less than four to seven ounces of bread daily and not much else besides.

GERMAN PROSPECTS

How do the Germans estimate their own prospects? It is hard to say, but it is perhaps significant of their gloomy view of the situation that large numbers of their staff officers should have left the encircled area for the rear. But it is certain that the Germans will try to break out before they are frozen to death.

If they fail—and they have failed so far—they will expect the German forces from outside to come to their rescue. There are indications that an attempt to break through the Russian line is in preparation by the German troops brought by rail from the Caucasus.

The Stalingrad battle is not over yet but the Russian prospects at the moment are good. The casualties of the Germans and their Rumanian allies have been extremely heavy—incomparably heavier than those of the Russians.

ONE WORD

A story of a verbal victory scored by an Indian soldier over a German officer is told by prisoners of war, captured in the Western Desert, and released following the Eighth Army's victorious drive.

Two Sikhs were being interrogated by a Nazi officer, who, after asking why they were fighting against the Axis, attempted to convince them that the Germans' only wish was to "free the down-trodden peoples of the world".

With a chuckle a Sikh havildar recounted how he replied with the single word "Poland".

After that the German officer gave it up.

Soviet Submarines Busy

NOT so long ago the *Deutsche Zeitung in Norwegen* published an article by Lieutenant-Colonel Kerman, adjutant to the Commander-in-chief of the German forces in North Europe, Dietl, entitled "Why The German Troops Have Not Yet Occupied Murmansk."

The author says: "Many ask why the Germans have not yet occupied Murmansk. I shall try to explain. In Lapland German troops are fighting who have been there since the beginning of the campaign. Since then we have received no reinforcements. Fighting has been very severe and the difficulties baffle description. The devil himself invented the tundra for the benefit of the Bolsheviks. In our rear, we have to fight partisans and regular troops who filter their way through."

THE REASON

Why does not General Dietl receive reinforcements? Firstly, because Germany's reserves are not unlimited. Secondly, because the few reserves which Hitler does dispatch to the north do not reach their destination.

Dietl's army is supplied by sea, by way of the Norwegian coast. And along this sea lane German transports are faced by a serious obstacle—the Soviet submarine fleet.

Especial credit in harassing Germany's sea communications is due to the guards submarines D3, M171 and M174 and to submarines M172, Sh402 and Sh421, which have been decorated with the Order of the Red Banner. Each of these submarines has destroyed not less than 50,000 tons of enemy shipping.

CONTEMPTUOUS OF DANGER

The submarines of the Soviet Northern Sea Fleet not only sink German transports on the open seas; time and again, overcoming all obstacles and contemptuous of danger, they have penetrated into enemy harbours and sunk German vessels lying at their moorings.

In forcing their way into enemy harbours, besides mines and wire-netting, the Soviet submarines have to encounter even more serious dangers. Some of the fjords are so narrow that submarines cannot turn in them while under water. After the attack they have to grope their way blindly out of the harbour. To raise the periscope above the surface, even for a single second, would lead to the instant betrayal of the submarine. Submarine barriers, surface vessels with their depth charges, aircraft and shore batteries—all lie in wait for the submarine that is daring enough to penetrate into an enemy harbour.

Nevertheless, Soviet submarines continue to pay visits to German sea bases.

NAVIGATION CONDITIONS

Navigation conditions in the Barents Sea are very stern. Cold winds give rise to dense mists; storms often reach hurricane violence. However, Soviet submarines have learned to cruise in any weather. It is interesting to note that many German transports were sunk during the Arctic nights, when it would seem they enjoyed maximum concealment and security from attack.

In spite of all the Germans' efforts to improve their defences against submarines, their communications are kept under constant menace, and reports are received almost daily of German transports sunk by Soviet submarines.

And the Soviet Northern Fleet, supported by the British Navy, helps the submarines in their arduous tasks.

British Raids on Germany

THERE are abundant signs that the blitz attacks on Germany's key industrial centres have begun to shake the morale of the working population in the Ruhr and the Rhineland, writes Mallory Browne in the *Observer*.

There are indications that saturation point is being approached in the efforts of the Nazi authorities to absorb evacuees and re-clothe and re-house those who have lost their homes and possessions by bombing.

One important point is often overlooked in assessing the effectiveness of the bomber 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 the 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 abundance of labour for clearing and demolition purposes. There were plenty of factories of 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 to take care of the evacuees and the homeless. In Germany to-day the opposite is the case.

Admittedly, it must be kept in the perspective. No one suggests that our offensive against the Axis is to be restricted to bombing. It is not even proposed that all our air resources are to 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 has only been able to use 10 per cent of Britain's first line aircraft strength for his raids on Germany.

Air Transport of Tomorrow

By GLENN L. MARTIN

WHAT's ahead for aircraft in peace and war?

I am not a military expert. But I have spent a lifetime in the design and production of military aircraft. In 1913 it was my privilege to help conduct the United States Army's first bombardment experiments. So fascinated was I with the airplane's demolition possibilities that I made this statement, culled from newspapers of August 7, 1914, which were headlining the beginning of the first World War.

"The aeroplane will practically decide the war in Europe. Veritable flying death will smash armies, wreck mammoth battleships, and bring the whole world to a vivid realization of the awful possibilities of a few men and a few swift aerial demons. For the old-time war tactics are no more. The generals who realize this quickest and fight first with the flying death, will win."

I was one war too early in making that prediction. But to-day we find air forces the most powerful influence in victories; lack of them, the outstanding cause of defeats. No armed force can be successful in any major project without air supremacy in its theatre of war.

VERSATILE CRAFT

Few people stop to consider the versatility of aircraft in this war. In addition to its more spectacular functions of bombardment and defence, the airplane is maid-of-all-work for the armed services. It performs long-range reconnaissance, patrol and scouting work for both Army and Navy. It transports troops and heavy loads of supplies at high speed. It is a moving and elusive machine-gun nest. In some situations it is a basic supply source for land forces.

Too few understand the power of the airplane—rather, the fleet of airplanes—as long-range artillery. For purpose of contrast, suppose word arrives at a battleship station that a hostile force has been sighted 1,000 miles away. The battleship is stocked with supplies and ready for battle. In 38 hours, if the enemy target has not moved too far, the battleship can overtake it and fire a salvo of nine tons of explosives.

Now suppose a fleet of 150 bombers, costing about the same as a battleship, gets word of the force 1,000 miles away. Six and a half hours later these planes discharge 750 tons of explosives on the target; in 38 hours, after three trips, 2,250 tons of bombs will have fallen on the objective. Even a continuous cannonade from the battleship could not approach the destructive power unleashed by the air fleet.

Again, the extreme mobility of great naval air forces would answer in large part America's need for a two-ocean navy. A powerful air force can serve in either the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans in full strength on short notice.

BUILT LARGEST FLYING BOAT

The subject of the very large airplane is dear to me because my company made the first transoceanic clippers. We have tested recently the world's largest flying boat, the 70-ton "Mars"—a plane three times the size of the China Clipper. Such ships have a definite place in naval and military plans; they carry extremely heavy bomb loads, they carry large numbers of men or large cargoes, and their ocean-landing and take-off areas are unassailable. Bombs can't make a hole in water.

Commercially, the extremely large air vessels have a great future. Organized airline travel not only has been the safest means of transport since the war began, but it was safer for several years before the war. In the future, it will be safer yet, largely because of developments during the war.

The world is destined to have winged vessels larger than we have yet dreamed of. Transoceanic operations are at present based on aircraft having a gross weight of slightly more than 40 tons. These flying boats can carry a payload of about 4,000 pounds for 3,000 or 4,000 miles, depending on head winds and fuel reserve needed, a technical achievement considered impossible a few years ago.

Out of the perils of war is coming, paradoxically, safety for post-war air travel. The very instruments by which we locate hostile aircraft and assail them will assure both air and surface craft safe passage in any weather.

HIS MISTAKE

A workman was called in to do some repairs to an A.R.P. warden's post, and before he started his labours he looked round for something to stand on. Spotting a rough wooden structure, he picked it up.

"Hi, what are you doing with that?" exclaimed the warden on duty.

"I'm only borrowing this soap-box to stand on. I wont hurt it."

"Soap-box be hanged! That's our chief warden's roll-top desk."

Russia's "Secret Weapons"

By EMIL LENGYEL

FROM the Arctic to the sun-parched Kirghiz steppes, from the Baltic to the Pacific Ocean, the Soviet Union is training tens of millions of its people to be "secret weapons." Young boys of 16 and men of 60, girls of 18 and women of 50 are drilling in the tent settlements of the slant-eyed Mongols, in the Buriat villages of the Lake Baikal region, on the plains of perennially frozen Lapland.

These millions of secret weapons are preparing to defend every inch of Russian soil. While they are on the alert, the Soviet Union is not beaten. Theirs is the world's largest civilian-defence army.

Because of the work of this organization, the Soviet's pool of manpower is never exhausted. The army and guerilla forces can call on it for huge numbers of men who are already partly trained for warfare. "The miracle of the winter of 1941" might never have come to pass without this great civilian force.

"A NATION IN ARMS"

The tongue-twisting, telescoped name of this organization is "Osoaviakhim," which means Society for Assistance in Defence and in Aviation-Chemical Construction. All Soviet citizens, unless physically incapacitated, must join it to learn how to deal with incendiary bombs and poison gases. They must lend a hand in improvising air raid shelters, building up the terrain for home defence and other such tasks. That is the compulsory part of the programme.

It also has a voluntary branch with about 20,000,000 members. Such members take training in parachute jumping and many other special military activities.

"A nation in arms" would be a correct description of the real nature of the Osoaviakhim. In its essence it is a nationwide preparatory school of both sexes and all arms-bearing ages to stem the enemy tide.

MANIFOLD DUTIES

That rifle fire one hears in the depth of the woods of the Siberian forest belt comes from a target range of the Society. There, high-cheek-boned natives compete with one another to qualify for the title of "Voroshilov Sharpshooter."

Vicious-looking anti-aircraft guns are manned by young girls and their mothers, by bearded peasants and their grandsons—all members of the Society.

Their gnarled peasant fingers are also taught to handle sensitive machine-guns, to transmit signals, to use the field telephone. They are taught to see the terrain with a soldier's eyes. They are instructed in taking advantage of the terrain, and in helping the military by scouting and patrolling.

IMPORTANT ROLE

The more skilful among them are taught to handle the deadliest of modern warfare weapons, such as the flame-throwers. They, who learned to read only yesterday, now learn to read the mysteries of military maps.

Members of the Society are being taught to race on skis. Last winter many of them sailed into the midst of enemy troops and demoralized them. Members of the Society are also taught to take military advantage of their knowledge of the horse.

While the Society is not, strictly speaking, a military organization and is not an official part of any of the armed forces, large numbers of its members have joined the army or the guerilla bands, and some of them have achieved great fame.

When the history of the Soviets' resistance to the invaders is written, an important chapter will be devoted to the work of the Osoaviakhim—the people of Russia in arms.

—(Condensed from *New York Herald—Tribune*).

OH!

A Soldier whose main trouble was extreme talkativeness, was on escort duty with a corporal, taking an important prisoner to headquarters.

Before starting, he had been told that on no account was he to speak; a bet of a packet of cigarettes had been made that he couldn't remain silent until reaching headquarters.

They went in single file, the soldier quite mute.

On arriving at headquarters, the corporal without looking round, said, "Well, Tommy, you've won the bet."

"Yes," replied Tommy, "but you nearly had me when the prisoner escaped."

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

17th Dec.—The Royal Air Force raided targets in France and Belgium.

18th Dec.—German daylight raiders crossed the coast south and south-east of England in a number of places. About 20 towns and villages were attacked. Two Nazi aircraft were destroyed.

19th Dec.—Although two prominent Cabinet Ministers were unsympathetic, if not hostile, Mr. Churchill himself put the Beveridge Report on the official map.

The Royal Air Force raided western and north-western Germany. Eighteen bombers failed to return.

21st Dec.—Mr. Amery launched the *Narbada*, a new flagship of the R.I.N.

22nd Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked Duisberg.

23rd Dec.—The Royal Air Force bombed Munich.

24th Dec.—The Royal Air Force swept over France and Holland.

25th Dec.—The Royal Air Force raided France and Belgium.

31st Dec.—The Royal Air Force made sweeps over Northern France. An invasion warning was broadcast to the French people.

1st Jan. 1943.—A naval engagement took place between German and British units in the North Sea. An enemy destroyer was sunk. "Germany will not collapse," boasted Hitler in a New Year Order of the Day.

2nd Jan.—The Royal Air Force swept over Northern France.

United States bombers attacked St. Nazaire docks.

6th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Ruhr.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

24th Dec.—According to a New York message, the Germans brought heavy pressure on Spain for permission to occupy Balearic Islands in western Mediterranean.

25th Dec.—Mr. H. L. Stimson, the United States Secretary for War, said at a Press Conference: "Christmas this year holds better prospects for the United Nations than the Christmas a year ago."

30th Dec.—Mr. Henry A. Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, spoke on "America's part in world reconstruction."

31st Dec.—President Roosevelt confirmed that General de Gaulle was coming to the United States.

1st Jan. 1943.—Stalin was named "The Man of the Year" for 1942 by the *Time* Magazine, New York.

5th Jan.—Mr. Joseph Grew, United States Ambassador to Japan, in a broadcast, characterised the Japanese as a "relentless and brutal foe."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

17th Dec.—Chittagong area was again raided. Three enemy planes were destroyed.

United States planes raided Myohaung in Burma.

18th Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked a Japanese-occupied village in the Maungdaw-Pathidaung area in Burma.

Japanese aircraft again raided Chittagong and Feni.

20th Dec.—Allied troops moved into Burma and pushed into Arakan. The Royal Air Force bombed Akyab and Rathedaung.

Calcutta was bombed for the first time.

21st Dec.—The Royal Air Force attacked Toungoo aerodrome.

23rd Dec.—There were two more raids on Calcutta. Casualties and damage were slight.

The Royal Air Force raided Akyab area.

24th Dec.—The U.S. planes raided Rangoon.

25th Dec.—Allied troops occupied a district in Burma. United States planes raided Lashio.

26th Dec.—Calcutta was again bombed.

"Les Miserables"

A German film star visited Hollywood. She met a famous director. "Do you know," she said, "that we have just produced a film in Germany with a cast of 30,000?"

"That's nothing," declared the American. "We often make films with 50,000 people in the cast." The film star was silent, but on her return to the Reich she told Hitler about it—and annoyed the Fuehrer very much.

"Why didn't you answer the fellow?" he cried. "You should have told him that in Germany we are making *Les Miserables* with a cast of 80,000,000."

The Royal Air Force raided the Magwe aerodrome in Burma.

General Wavell, in a message to the fighting forces, said: "The War has now entered a new phase!"

27th Dec.—Sir Sikander Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, died of heart disease.

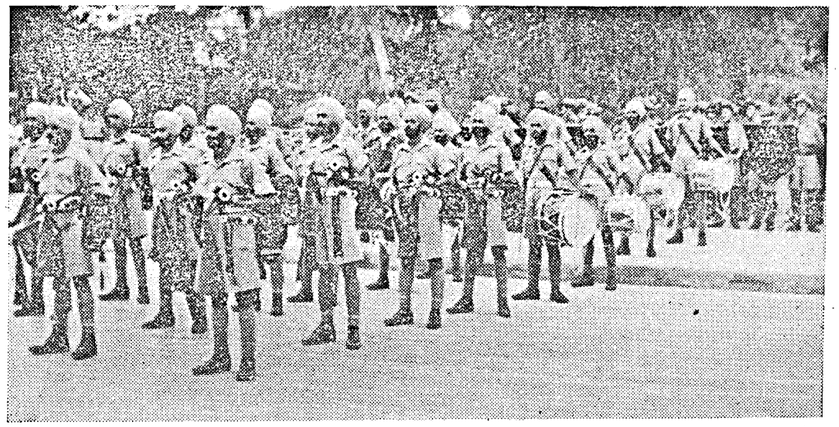
29th Dec.—Calcutta was again raided. A Japanese bomber was shot down.

United States planes raided Bangkok.

31st Dec.—The United States aircraft raided Rangoon.

1st Jan. 1943.—General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, was made Field Marshal.

4th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Magwe aerodrome in Burma.



CYPRUS VOLUNTARY FORCE.—The Indian Drum and Pipe Band playing in Nicosia, Cyprus.

7th Jan.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Mandalay railway junction.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17th Dec.—Rommel was in full retreat in Tripolitania.

18th Dec.—Battle was joined with Rommel's retreating forces 50 miles west of El Agheila. German panzer division was encircled. Allied aircraft hammered Axis troops.

In an exclusive press interview, Admiral Darlan stated that the French Fleet units at Dakar, Alexandria and North African ports would join the British and United States fleet and fight the Axis.

19th Dec.—Rommel's trapped forces were able to break out after suffering heavy losses.

Britain reached a working agreement with Darlan.

20th Dec.—Axis forces evacuated Nofilia. Bizerta was heavily bombed.

21st Dec.—Allied troops advanced in Tripolitania. Targets at Buerat were bombed.

22nd Dec.—Rommel's retreat continued. The Allied troops reached Sultan.

23rd Dec.—Rommel's retreating forces reached Misurata.

24th Dec.—Allied troops were near Buerat. Two enemy vessels were sunk in the Mediterranean.

Admiral Darlan was assassinated by a Frenchman.

25th Dec.—Rommel's forces were pushed beyond Misurata. French forces beat back Germans in Tunisia. Allied bombers raided Lampedusa.

British advanced units reached Buerat.

26th Dec.—Darlan's assassin was executed by the orders of a French court martial.

British troops occupied Sirte. Allied troops were within 12 miles of Tunis.

28th Dec.—General Giraud succeeded Darlan as French Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.

29th Dec.—Rommel's forces were contacted beyond Sirte.

30th Dec.—French Somaliland joined the Allies.

31st Dec.—Allied aircraft bombed Tunis and Sousse.

1st Jan. 1943.—Twelve persons were arrested in Algiers on a charge of attempting to assassinate high officials, including General Giraud.

Mr. Harold MacMillan was appointed Minister Resident at Allied Headquarters in North-west Africa.

2nd Jan.—The Royal Air Force raided Gabes and Sousse.

3rd Jan.—Casablanca was bombed.

4th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked Crete and Palermo in Sicily.

5th Jan.—The Germans attacked the French troops at Pichon. Nineteen Axis planes were shot down over La Goulette.

7th Jan.—General Montgomery prepared for the final attack. Buerat fell into Allied hands.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

17th Dec.—The Red Army captured a key point in the Caucasus.

18th Dec.—Nazi attempts to cut through the Soviet ring at Verkhue Kumsky failed.

19th Dec.—German thrust south-west of Stalingrad was shattered.

21st Dec.—German defences were pierced on the Don front. There was fierce fighting in Voronezh area.

22nd Dec.—The Red Army entered Velikie Lukie. The German position was "grave on the Don front.

23rd Dec.—The Germans fell back on Voroshilovgrad. Soviet troops advanced on Millerovo.

24th Dec.—The Red Army captured Kamensk.

26th Dec.—The Russians assumed offensive in the Caucasus. Nazis were pressed back at Nalchik.

28th Dec.—The Russians retook Katsynskaya.

29th Dec.—The Russians by-passed Millerovo and pushed to Rostov.

30th Dec.—Kotelinikovo was captured by the Russians.

1st Jan. 1943.—The Red Army crossed the Terek river and advanced on a 130-mile front.

2nd Jan.—The Russians advanced on Rostov. Velikie Lukie was captured and the German garrison wiped out.

3rd Jan.—Russians drove deeper into Hitler's crumbling winter defence, exploiting their victories at Velikie Lukie and Elister.

4th Jan.—The Russians captured Mozdok. They were 20 miles from Nalchik.

5th Jan.—The Red Army captured Chernishkovskaya and Mozdok.

6th Jan.—The Russians took Nalchik.

7th Jan.—The Germans withdrew to Rostov and Crimea.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

21st Dec.—An Iberian bloc was formed by Spain and Portugal.

30th Dec.—Many Turkish families living in Bulgaria near the Turkish border moved inland.

* * * *

SHIPPING

18th Dec.—The British submarine *Unbeaten* was lost.

2nd Jan. 1943.—The British destroyer *Blean* was lost.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

17th Dec.—The Japanese landed reinforcements on Mambare and Kumusi between Lae and Buna.

18th Dec.—Buna was "busted" by American troops.

19th Dec.—General MacArthur's forces closed in on the last Japanese positions near Buna and North Guinea.

United States bombers devastated the Gialam aerodrome.

20th Dec.—Seven Japanese ships were sunk in the Pacific by submarines.

21st Dec.—Cape Endaiadere was captured.

22nd Dec.—Allied forces launched a general attack in the Buna Mission area.

24th Dec.—Japanese installations in Timor were raided.

25th Dec.—Japanese fortifications were breached in several places in Buna.

28th Dec.—General Tojo, Japanese Prime Minister, said: "Real War has only started now."

29th Dec.—The Japanese bombarded Buna.

1st Jan. 1943.—Two Japanese ships were sunk at Rabaul.

2nd Jan.—United States aircraft raided Wake Island and Kiska.

The Japanese base at Lae was bombed and 21 planes were destroyed.

3rd Jan.—Japanese invasion units were thrown back on China coast.

4th Jan.—Lae and Salamua were raided. Allied troops captured Buna Government Station.

Seven Japanese ships were sunk by U.S. submarines.

5th Jan.—Japanese position in Buna area was described as "hopeless." A Japanese destroyer was damaged off Guadalcanar.

Admiral Halsey (United States) predicted that Admiral Yamamoto would be present in White House for an American dictated peace.

7th Jan.—Nine Japanese ships were destroyed in Rabaul harbour.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

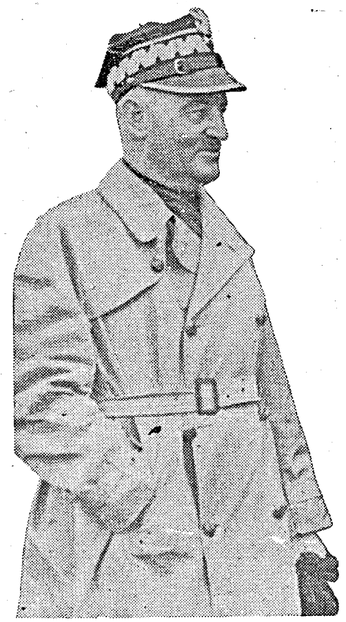
REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1943 No. 18.

WE SHALL REPAY THE GERMANS



GENERAL SIKORSKI

THE time is drawing near when we shall repay the Germans by blitzkrieg methods which they will no longer be able to counter

IN his clash with Russian armies which, under the leadership of M. Stalin, are showing such magnificent determination, Hitler can no longer treacherously attack and separately destroy one carefully chosen opponent after another. The character of the war is now changing completely, both in Africa and Europe

MASSED hatred of the oppressed peoples, which will be released at the right moment through an invasion of Europe, will give to the final blow dealt by the United Nations an impetus so great that it will bring about the inevitable defeat of Hitler

GENERAL SIKORSKI, *the Polish Prime Minister, in a speech in New York on January 9*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
General Sikorski's Warning	4–5
Burma: End of Defensive Warfare	8
Australia's All-in War Effort	9
Four Far-reaching Decisions	10
Malta: Convoys get through unmolested	11
Fifth Column Activity in Tangier	12
Turning steel into jewels	12
Hitler's Himalayan Blunder	14
Mighty onrush of Russian armies	15
Russia: Allied aid through Persian Gulf	16
Indian Military Police	16
"The Red Army is Coming"	17
Grit and Courage	18
John Citizen goes to War	20
Too-old-to-fight pilots who defy the enemy.	20
Europe's fighters in exile	21
India's First Line of Defence	21
Polish boy refugee in India	22
Return of empties requested	22
Diary of the War	23

Running Commentary

Axis Leaders' Speeches: Then and Now

In a broadcast from Rome on Saturday (January 9), the Italian Radio Commentator, Mario Appellius, said, "At some points here and there, on various sectors of the front, Russians have broken through the Axis lines. They have succeeded in occupying some advanced positions—we might even add, some important positions. The Russian soldier has fought well and his leaders are good." He further said that the Axis Powers had a very hard year in front of them and that they had steeled themselves for the worst. It is interesting to compare this summing-up of the Axis position with the utterances of the Axis leaders some time ago. Last year, in his New Year message to the troops, Hitler said "The year 1942 shall, so we pray the Lord, bring a victorious decision for our people and for the nations allied with us." Referring to Russia, he said, "The enemy's attempt during the winter of 1941 to turn their fate to attack must, and will, fail." In January last year, speaking at the Berlin Sportspalast, Hitler paid a tribute to the "superhuman feats" of the German infantry and said, "It is not the Russians who imposed the defensive upon us but temperatures of 35 and 45 degrees centigrade below zero." He told the German people, "The hardest lies behind us. The winter was the greatest hope for this opponent in the East, but it is a hope that will fail him. . . There will come a year when the ground is hard and firm, and then the German musketeer will attack, and then we shall beat the foe again. The soldier at the front has the feeling of immense superiority to the Russians." Boasting of his great strength and superiority, Hitler said: "How this year will end, I do not know. But one thing I do know. Wherever the enemy appears we will beat him again this year. It will again be a year of great victories. To-day we have the strongest army in the world and the strongest air force. There remains to us no other way but the way of battle, and the way of success."

But what has he to say this year? The old boasting and bluster are not much in evidence. In his message to the troops, he recalls only his moments of past agony. He says, "In anxious nights, I lay awake and my thoughts were with you." He is no longer in a position to offer them easy victory. He tells his "brave musketeers" this: "How heavy this struggle is, and may be in the future, and however often the balance of success may tip in favour of the enemy—at the end there will be a German victory." But there is the haunting spectre of the second land front in Europe. He says, "From Norway to the Spanish frontier German divisions are awaiting the attack of our enemy." Hitler said last year that the *Luftwaffe* was the best in the world, but he now describes it modestly as "achieving the utmost possible." His "best army" has been reduced "to the armed S.S. who are immediately and personally placed under me and are now as before the backbone of the formidable struggle."

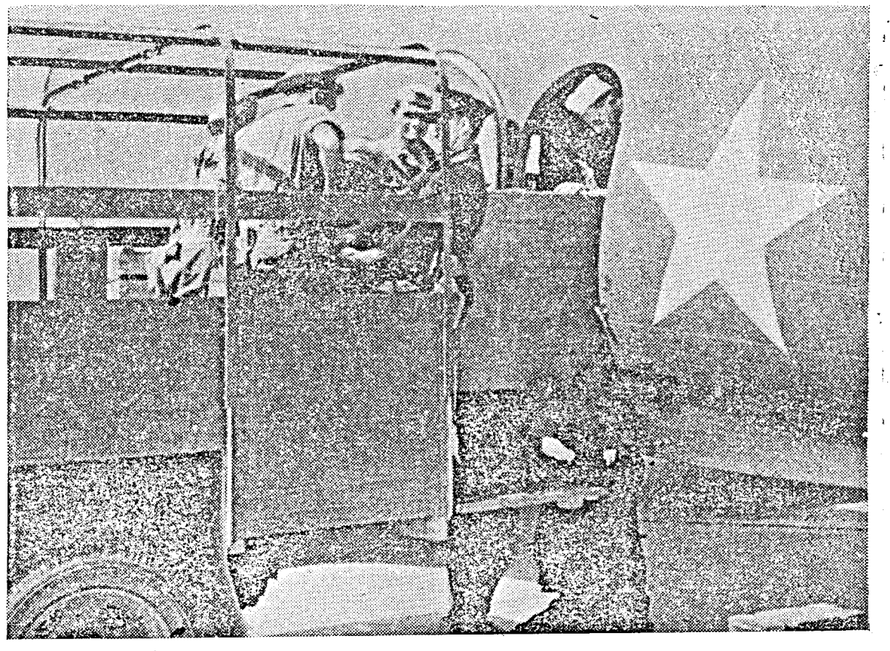
The concluding portion of Hitler's speech ends in a peroration which shows an unaccustomed fear and modesty. He said: "The year 1943 may perhaps be difficult, but certainly not more difficult than the past years. If God gave us the strength to overcome the winter 1941–42, then we shall certainly get over this winter and the coming year."

* * * *

Boastful Goering Pleads for Toughness and Endurance!

Hitler's lieutenant, Goering, also indulged in boasts of Germany's strength last year. In October 1942, he said, "This winter will be in no comparison with the winter of last year. This time we are prepared, this time we know what the Russian winter is like and we will bear it more easily. The enemy have suffered losses during the last winter by continuous attacks to an extent which we cannot imagine. Where, I ask you, did the Russians win even once a success of modest tactical significance?" He wound up his speech with a deliberate falsehood. He said, "The decisive factor is that the Russian is beaten at the centre of gravity and this is fixed by us and not by the Russians. This has always been the case."

And what has the same Goering said in his New Year message a few days ago? "In the spirit of our dead heroes," he says, "we pledge ourselves to fight for Germany to the last breath." He thanked his comrades for all that they did during the difficult days of the past year. The usual prophecies and predictions as to the future are conspicuous by their absence. "In this hour", says Goering, "we do know what the future holds in store." He wants unquestioning loyalty to the Fuehrer, for "without toughness, endurance and discipline no battle was ever won."



BURMA ROAD OF THE AIR.—This picture was taken at a United States Air Base in India, which is one of the many supply depots for war material sent to China. The material is flown to its destination over the new 'Burma Road of the Air.' Photo shows supplies being loaded into a giant transport plane prior to flight.

Russian Campaign and German Propaganda Perplexities

What about Dr. Goebbels, the Propaganda Minister of Hitler? In December 1941 in *Das Reich* and in his closely supervised radio commentaries, he referred to "the increasing difficulties of civil life" and said, "The field post is overtaxed and consignments to the front are only possible to a limited extent." But on January 18, 1942, Goebbels was in his usual element.

(*Continued on page* 6.)

General Sikorski's Warning

IN a speech in New York on Saturday, General Sikorski, the Polish Prime Minister, declared that the time was drawing near when the Germans would be repaid by blitzgrieg methods which they would no longer be able to counter. He said that the massed hatred of the oppressed peoples would be released at the right moment through an invasion of Europe and this would give to the final blow dealt by the United Nations an impetus so great that it would bring about the inevitable defeat of Hitler. General Sikorski is in a peculiar position to speak with first-hand knowledge of the Nazi oppression in Europe and the hatred of people of the occupied countries against Hitlerian tyranny, for it was his country, Poland, which suffered most under the Nazi heel.

IT may be recalled that ever since the Germans over-powered Poland in October 1939, they were subjecting the Polish people, particularly the Jews, to all possible indignities and atrocities. The Polish population was first deprived of its leaders, big landowners, doctors, lawyers, teachers, priests and businessmen. During the first few months of the occupation, thousands of them were executed and tens of thousands were deported to the *General-Gouvernement*, one of the bisected parts of Poland which was supposed to constitute, according to the decree of October 12, 1939, "the future settlements of the Polish nation." Later the deportation was extended to the working classes. Whole villages were cleared of the Polish population, and Jews everywhere were treated with the greatest cruelty. The extent of the cruelty can be imagined when it is stated that Himmler and the Gestapo were in charge of the evacuation. They did all that was humanly possible to crush Polish self-respect and dignity and bring about misery and suffering.

THE University of Cracow, established in 1364, one of the oldest universities in the world, was the object of the special wrath of the Nazis. All the professors were arrested and deported to the concentration camps in Germany. The Universities of Warsaw, Lublin and Poznan also came under the destructive hands of the Nazis. Some of the University buildings were destroyed; scientific installations and instruments were dismantled and transported to the Reich, and a number of professors were imprisoned and allowed to die. The Germans aimed at a complete annihilation of Polish intellectual life and scientific institutions. A good deal was done to paralyse the economic life of the people. Workers were removed in large numbers to Germany to work in factories and farms. Thousands of Polish skilled metal workers, engineers, agricultural labourers and domestic servants were taken away to Germany.

Wholesale Executions

RECENT reports received by the Polish Government in London from a reliable source in Poland show that the orgy of destruction and exploitation continues unabated. During the last few months, it seems the German Government have deliberately adopted a policy of wiping out the Jewish race in Poland and, as far as possible, in other occupied countries. Wholesale executions of Jews began in the eastern Polish provinces soon after the Germans pushed back the Russians. In the city of Wilno, 60,000 Jews were murdered; at Rowne 14,000 Jews were killed and at Kowel the number was 10,000. Half of the Jewish population of Lwow was wiped out. Similar massacres have taken place in other towns in East Galicia. In March and April last year, mass murders began in Lublin, Central Poland. In Lublin town itself, only 2,500 Jews were left out of 30,000.

IN July the German terror moved to Warsaw, soon after the visit of Himmler. According to official statements in the Berlin press, there were 480,000 Jews crowded into the Warsaw ghetto. It may be remembered that, according to a German decree issued on October 17th, 1940, Warsaw was divided into three residential areas, one for the Germans, one for the Poles, and one for the Jews. The best parts of the city, that is, the whole of the south-east quarter, with its parks and avenues, its promenade along the Vistula, its large modern houses and the many palaces of the Polish nobles built at the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth centuries, were all occupied by the Germans.

THE worst part was given to the Jews; this was in the north-west between the main railway station, the Sazon Garden and the Danzig station. This ghetto has an enclosing wall with only a few gates. On July 20, the work of "liquidating" the ghetto was begun by placing a dense cordon of armed Germans around the ghetto boundary walls. Next morning the Germans entered the houses in the ghetto, singled out members of the Jewish intellectual class and shot them. The day after, all members of the Jewish Council who were not arrested, were compelled to put their signatures to a proclamation which began as follows:—"By order of the German authorities, all Jews living in Warsaw, without regard of age or sex, are to be deported to the east."

THE next day, July 23, the President of the Jewish Council, after a further interview with the German authorities, committed suicide. It seems the Germans ordered him to supply 10,000 persons, instead of 6,000 previously fixed, for evacuation the very next day.

SUBSEQUENTLY, deportation of the Jews was going on every day without a break. By September 1, about 250,000 Jews were sent out of Warsaw. For the month of September 120,000 ration cards were printed, for October only 40,000! From this we have some idea of the rate of expulsion of the Jews for that month.

Expulsion: *Modus Operandi*

THE "procedure" of expulsion is something like this. A cordon of armed Germans is formed around blocks of houses in the ghetto. Then the Germans enter the courtyards. They fire a few shots as a warning to the inhabitants to come out. Those who do not or those why try to hide are immediately shot. Cripples and old people who are not able to move are also disposed of in the same way. The rest are sent to the station for entrainment, and they are again sorted. The elderly and the useless are taken to the cemetery and shot. Those remaining are put into goods trucks, 120 persons in a truck large enough to hold only 40. The floors of the trucks are spread with quicklime! The train starts after the trucks are closed and sealed. The Jews are taken to one or other of the three execution camps at Treblinka, Sobibor or Belzec. The train is unloaded there and the condemned are stripped naked and then killed. To bury the bodies a great "bulldozer" is installed at Triblinka. It is stated that the machine works without stopping and that the stench of decomposed bodies is so unbearable to all peasants for three miles around that they have fled away from their plaees. The horrors inflicted on the Jews are so great that in Warsaw, victims implore the Germans to shoot them there itself. A regular fee for this merciful act is said to be 100 zlotys!

NOT only from Poland, but all over enslaved Europe, from France, Holland, Norway and the Balkan countries, train-loads of Jewish deportees are being sent east. The conditions of "appalling horror and brutality" under which the Jews of all occupied countries are being transported has been referred to in a joint declaration of the United Nations which was read out in the House of Commons on December 17 by Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The declaration concluded with a reaffirmation of the solemn resolution of the signatories "to ensure that those responsible for these crimes shall not escape retribution and to press on with necessary practical measures to this end."

GENERAL Sikorski has said that the time for repayment is drawing near. Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's Minister of Aircraft Production, has, in a speech on Saturday, given an indication of the nature of this repayment. Germany and Italy will henceforwards be subjected to still heavier bombing. They will get, not a taste of their own medicine, but the whole lot of it, and more. And they will have to drink it to the dregs!

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

He said, "Never have our chances been so favourable as now and never therefore has it been so worth while as now to throw in the stakes." The next month, he said, "On the field of battle we Germans are always very great." On January 1, 1943, however, the supreme confidence in strength and victory is not so much in evidence. The Propaganda Minister prescribes "a hard determination" for "a victorious end." Considerable perplexity was shown by the German Propaganda Ministry over the Russian campaign. In a German commentary in English Dr. Goebbels and his men said, "The only real breakthrough by the enemy was in the middle Don." They had to agree that the "Soviet armies have not lost their striking power." They were compelled to admit that "when Rommel halted, the British and also the Americans sent every spare ship around the Cape to establish a tremendous preponderance in armour in the desert with a view to dealing Rommel a smashing blow."

A year ago Hitler and Goebbels went into ecstasies over the German transport system, which they said was a marvel. But now Goebbels says, "The German Command abstains from offensive fighting on a large scale because of the wear and tear of men and material involved. But the Russians attack not because they are strong but because they are weak. They attack because they know they are getting weaker day by day and the combined forces arrayed against them are getting stronger." Goebbels observes, "We can lose the war only through our own mistake. Our national strength is being sapped by the length of the war . . . Everything is at stake." And what is the hope he holds out for the New Year? "It may be a hard and bitter struggle," he says, "Fighting and Work are the slogans of the New Year."

* * * *

Tojo's Shattered Hopes and Fulfilled Fears

Let us look at the hopes held out by Hitler's counterpart in the Far East in 1942 and 1943. Addressing the 79th session of the Japanese Diet, a year ago, Tojo gave expression to his hopes and fears. Most of his hopes have been shattered, while a considerable percentage of his fears were fulfilled. Tojo gloried in his success but advised his followers to consolidate them quickly, for he said, "The U.S. and Great Britain boast of wealth, the greatest in the world. They will stiffen their resistance." Paying a tribute to his Fascist partners, he said, "We are profoundly gratified that our Allies, especially Germany and Italy, are steadily winning victories along with Japan for the establishment of a new world order." In the New Year message this year, Tojo cites China, Manchuria and Siam as his Allies whose "manpower and resources" he hopes will deal a final blow to the "enemies." It is surprising that Tojo should regard China as his ally. The Japanese have been driven out of Chekiang and Kiangsi and are facing resolute opposition in Hupeh. Siam seems to be the only ally, because Tojo is not sure of the Philippines, is uncertain of the Indies and the Japanese have actually been driven out of Papua. As regards Siam herself, she has been mourning her hard lot through the Bangkok radio right through last year. An apt commentary on Tojo's New Year message is the Bangkok Radio broadcast of December 26 which said, "My dear Thai troops, it is better for us to die than let the nation die."

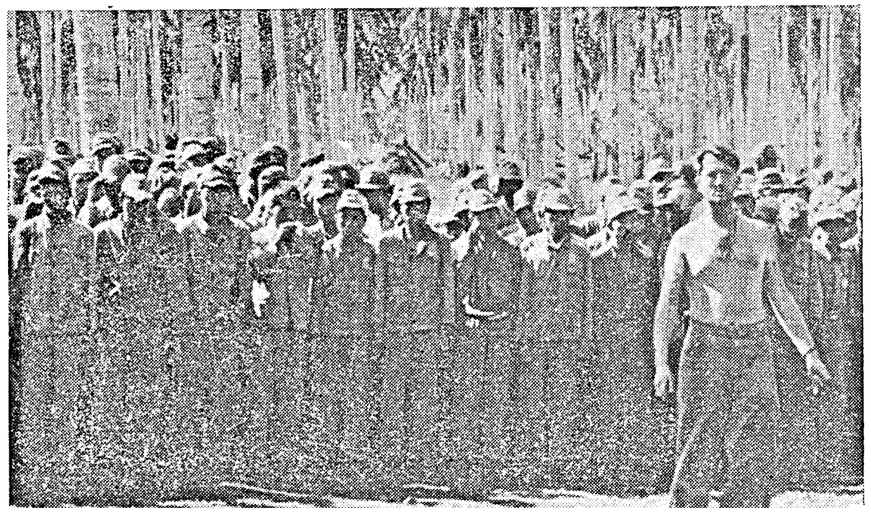
Premier Tojo is always afraid of a protracted war. But his worst fears have come true. The "Axis victories" on which Tojo banked to capitalize his iniquitous gains have failed to materialise. In his latest Diet speech, Tojo said, "A real war is starting from now. The Allies will soon bomb Tokyo. A.R.P. efforts must continue without relaxation."

But it must be definitely understood that there are no signs as yet of a cracking of either German or Japanese morale which had been built up after years of propaganda and preparation. It will crack only when prolonged and bitter fighting smashes their powerful war machines. The recent speeches of the Axis leaders are not yet cries of despair. But their tone reveals the fact that the aggressor powers have passed from the offensive to the defensive—a tough defensive from Gudalcanar to Tunis. The Axis view 1943 with anxiety and concern, while the Allies regard it with optimism and hope.

FROM THE SOLOMONS

Marines leap ashore in the Solomons. Most had never been under fire before, but thorough training and innate toughness gave them all the dash and solidity of veterans.

This is a Japanese camp, wrecked by the U.S. Marine assault. Jap tents in the background are deserted. Food was still on the table when the Marines came through. The Japs lacked time even to destroy military stores.



Burma : End of Defensive Warfare

THE *National Herald* (Chungking) says: "The commencement of the Allied offensive in Burma furnishes proof of the fact that as far as the United Nations are concerned, the period of defensive warfare is over and the initiative is being wrested from the enemy practically on every war front."

The paper adds that the British troops in Burma have recovered a large area of territory and that the Chinese troops have intercepted a Japanese column. The initial successes merely mark the beginning of a large scale campaign which will result in complete victory over the enemy.

"In staging a counter-attack on the Asiatic mainland the first blows should certainly have struck against the Japanese in Burma. As both the Chinese and western military observers pointed out there are many advantages in attacking the Japanese in Burma.

"First, it will remove the Japanese threat to the security of India; secondly, it will eventually result in the re-opening of the Burma Road which will in turn make possible the launching of a general counter-offensive on the Chinese front after the Chinese forces have received adequate war supplies from abroad, and thirdly, the recovery of Burma will pave the way for dislodging the enemy from French Indo-China and Thailand."

JAPAN LOST THE INITIATIVE

"It is for these reasons that both the British and the American leaders have again and again openly stressed the necessity for recovering Burma. The fact that the Allied forces have at last started an offensive shows that adequate preparations must have been made. The most convincing proof of Japan's lack of striking power is her failure to invade either Australia or India following her initial successes in the Pacific. Now that the Allies have begun an offensive in Burma, the Japanese will find it extremely difficult to regain initiative."

The *Hin Hua Jih Pao* points out that the Japanese strategy at the present stage of the war is to preserve their strength and to await a suitable opportunity for action. It was not unlikely that the Japanese may mass a part of their forces for an attack on Yunnan. The present Japanese offensive against western Yunnan was only exploratory in nature. If the Japanese discover possibilities of this exploratory offensive, it is probable that they would concentrate considerable forces for a large-scale attack on western Yunnan.

SIGNIFICANT OFFENSIVE

"We must attack so as to crush the intrigues of the enemy and act in concert with our Allies in western Burma. Field Marshal Wavell's offensive at this time is highly significant inasmuch as it has assisted the Chinese forces in waging a defensive warfare in Yunnan by diverting the enemy forces from the Yunnan front. It is a tentative attempt for the re-occupation of Burma and it is yet too soon to say that the recovery of Burma will be brought about by the present offensive. More careful military arrangements will have to be made."

The *Shih Shih Pao* says: "British forces are now advancing in western Burma. We hope that instead of being satisfied with the occupation of important ports and aerodromes, they will intensify the offensive against the Japanese in Burma."

PRIVILEGES FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

An Ordinance just promulgated confers important additional privileges on Indian soldiers in the matter of civil and revenue litigation.

Till now it was only when the Indian soldier was himself a party and unable to attend because of active service that the courts could postpone proceedings. The Ordinance provides that even if the soldier is materially concerned in the outcome of the proceedings, although not a party, and his interests are likely to be prejudiced by his inability to attend, the court may suspend proceedings.

Under the existing Act only the soldier had the right to apply to a court within a specified time to set aside a decree or order passed against him while he was on active service. If he happened to die in action the position of his legal heirs in respect of this right was none too satisfactory. The Ordinance now makes it possible for the soldier's legal representatives to exercise the same right automatically.

Another important provision of the Ordinance modifies and extends the period of limitation in suits, appeals and applications to which the Indian soldier or his legal representative is a party. Besides the period during which the soldier has been on active service, which was always excluded, the Ordinance provides for the exclusion of the period from the date of soldier's death, while so serving, to the date on which official intimation is sent to his next of kin by the authorities in India.

Australia's All-in War Effort

By WARWICK FAIRFAX

A year ago in Australia we were achieving just a good war effort. Now it is not far short of an all-in war effort.

It might deflate the Japanese morale a little for them to know that at one time nothing stood between them and the conquest of Australia but a number of imperfectly trained Militia Divisions equipped with Lewis and Vickers guns and 18-pounders of the last war pattern.

There was not a tank and scarcely a decent bombing plane in Australia. Four divisions of air, everything that was any use, had gone overseas. Now there is a well trained fully equipped army, including armoured units, whose numbers in proportion to the population are probably unsurpassed in any country except Germany.

The use of conscripted militia for service outside Australian territories is now virtually assured. The delay in bringing this about is due largely to a peculiar twist in the Australian character whereby it has happened that a nation which has produced some of the finest troops in two world wars has never maintained a standing army of professional soldiers in peace time.

During this last year, the life of the ordinary citizen who is not engaged on war work has fallen more closely into line with that of his counterpart in England. Many of his necessities such as clothes, tea and sugar are similarly rationed, while luxuries such as bottled beer, spirits, tobacco and cigarettes are hard to get.

The public held its breath during the recent Solomons campaign knowing well enough that Australia was still not out of danger and is duly grateful for what America has done. But the Australians, none the less, are determined that a good share of the work be done, as we go northward, and shall be done for our own satisfaction by Australians.

BRITANSKY TANKOGRAD

"British-built tanks have been successfully used by the Russians on the central front. This statement was made to press representatives in 'Britansky Tankograd'."

Somewhere in the Russian forests,
Somewhere in the Zone of battle,
Stands an Anglo-Soviet Stronghold,
Bristling bastions of metal.
Lanes of giant Panzer-breakers,
Massed divisions, armour-clad,
Forged and built by British makers,
That's Britansky Tankograd.

Whippets, Valentines, Matildas, through the eastern pinewoods roll,
Tanks from Cradiffstrovsk, Leedsk, Glascow, Bristopol.

Forward to the Central Sector
Pours the mighty flood from Tanko-
Grad to rumple into action
With the tanks of Timoshenko.
Over versts of plain and ocean
Moving up without a hitch,
Thanks to Commissar Churchillov,
Thanks to Beaverbrookovitch.

Tanks from Rotherhamsk and Jarrovsk, England's pride and Soviet's Joy,
Tanks from Liverpolsk and Derbyev, Brumgorod and Coventroi.

—SAGITTARIUS *in Soviet Union News.*

Four Far-reaching Decisions

DR. Wang Shih-chieh, Minister of Information, declared at a press conference in Chungking recently, that four far-reaching and significant decisions were reached at the recent Tenth Plenary Session of the Kuomintang Fifth Central Executive Committee, namely, the fixing of commodity prices, the building of solid foundations for a democratic state, and further heightening of national solidarity and the immediate formulation of broader lines of post-war policies. Dr. Wang's statement reads:

"The Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang has just concluded its meeting after a continuous session of more than two weeks. To-day I wish to state some of the most important problems raised and decided upon in the session so as to give you an idea of the dominant thoughts in the minds of the leading members of the Party.

FIXING COMMODITY PRICES

"Firstly, the question of fixing of commodity prices according to costs of production occupied a larger portion of time than any other problem. The adoption of such a measure will naturally encounter many difficulties, especially in view of the fact that our local governmental machinery is inadequate and that our people have been for ages accustomed to laissez-faire traditions in their economic life. All kinds of popular scepticism against the advisability of strict price control were brought up for discussion in the session. But the unanimous opinion of the Party is that we shall overcome them if the central and local governments act with one policy and with one and same degree of determination. Besides, the Party regards the measure both as an end in itself, namely, to stabilize national economic life during the war, and as a means for the intensification of political training, since the application of this measure would naturally elevate the organizing power as well as administrative efficiency of the government.

NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION

"Secondly, the Party was confronted with the much-mooted question: Should the task of national reconstruction be undertaken parallel with the prosecution of the war, or rather be deferred till after the war? The consensus of opinion is that the building of solid foundations for a democratic stage must be given an equal importance as the prosecution of the war. And in order to build such foundations, the Party puts primary emphasis on the early completion of local self-government. Strict and concrete measures were adopted to meet the enlarged budgetary requirements of the district government and to amplify its personnel during the coming year.

"Thirdly, the Party considers that for China satisfactorily to fulfil her external and internal responsibilities both during and after the war demands further heightening of national solidarity. Disunion of any kind or degree saps the nation of its vigour. The Party, by adopting a very liberal attitude towards any individuals or groups outside the Kuomintang who, whatever their past record, would henceforth loyally observe Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Three People's Principles, creates an unprecedented opportunity for them to rally under one and the same banner with the Kuomintang.

EXTERNAL POLICY

"Lastly, China's external policy received a very careful and thorough examination in the session. The question was raised as to whether we should discuss and formulate post-war policies in the midst of the war. The session came to the practically unanimous conclusion that not only must we discuss and formulate the broader lines of post-war policies right now, but the Government must exert its utmost to seek the immediate setting up of a world organization among the United Nations."

200 CABBAGES A MINUTE

One thousand machines which plant young cabbages at the astonishing rate of 200 a minute are now helping the farmers of Britain to speed up food production.

Hitched to a tractor, the robot planter has a travelling chain of iron fingers to which the plants are fed. A broad furrow is opened up in the soil into which the plants are suspended by these grippers, and, at the same time as the plant is released, two wheels firmly press down the soil around it. A water tank holding 40 gallons can also be fitted to the machine, and an adjustable quantity of water automatically poured into the furrow at the roots of the plants.

From one to four operators can feed the machine with plants at an average of 3,000 each person per hour, thus making an immense saving in time and labour. The spacing in the row of plants is mechanically accurate and can be controlled and adjusted to the distance required; the depth at which the seedlings are planted is also adjustable.

The robot can also plant potatoes by a simple arrangement of special cups attached to the grippers. It can be used too for lettuce, onions, leeks, swedes, sugarbeet, strawberries and tomatoes. Its iron fingers have a rubber covering which enables them to handle the most delicate plants quite gently while placing them firmly and evenly in the furrows.

The machine, which is a British invention, is now being produced at the rate of more than a thousand a year. It is electrically welded and made with great precision. The Ministry of Agriculture have bought a large number for Britain's War Agricultural Committees set up in the different counties.

Malta: Convoys Get Through Unmolested

Admiral Sir Henry Harwood, Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, has revealed that during the past few weeks sufficient supplies have been carried to Malta to last the island for several months to come.

"Some of them", he stated, "got through entirely unmolested in strange contrast to the days when a Malta convoy was one of the most hazardous naval operations involving several days of almost continuous air attack. The army in winning back the Libyan bases, the Royal Air Force in providing fighter protection for our warships in the Central Mediterranean, and the Royal Navy in escorting supply ships have contributed equally towards relieving the island."

Discussing the changes in the naval situation resulting from the capture of Cyrenaica, Admiral Harwood said:

"The Eighth Army's advance has given the Navy freedom to go into the Central Mediterranean and we have taken advantage of it to get convoys to Malta. After our victory early in November, the Royal Air Force established fighter bases as far forward as they could, and we got the first convoy through with full air protection. Since then it has become progressively easier to supply the island as the enemy was forced further west, and we have pushed quite a 'considerable number of convoys into Malta.' By the time this is published, I hope another convoy will have got through."

ROMMEL'S SHIPS SUNK

The next problem, he added, was to stop Rommel's supply line to Tripoli. A single enemy convoy which has so far attempted to come east of Malta had turned back on seeing our forces, but Rommel is using a lot of shallow draught landing-craft which he is moving close to the Tunisian coast. Our aircraft were bombing them and the ports from which they came and went; surface craft were also trying to intercept them. Though there were difficulties, we are getting a good sprinkling of these lighters.

Paying a tribute to "the very grand work done by submarines," Admiral Harwood said that they had accounted for a large number of Rommel's ships, and there was no doubt that the Eighth Army was very greatly assisted by the damaging and sinking of Rommel's supply ships both by air and by British submarines.

EIGHTH ARMY'S SUPPLIES

Another important point in the Navy's programme was the question of the Eighth Army's supplies. The problem was to get everything ready in order to get the recaptured ports working as soon as possible. The moment we looked like capturing a port, the Navy sent an advance party forward to enter with land troops. Their job was to survey the port, assess damage and locate mines, etc. Then minesweepers cleared the approach channel. This was a combined operation by the three Services, since minesweepers could not operate until anti-air guns and fighter protection was established.

Minesweepers have done a grand job clearing Sollum, Mersa Matruh, Bardia, Tobruk and Benghazi. Admiral Harwood added: "The first cargoes were unloaded at Tobruk four or five days after it was occupied. The breach in the wall at Benghazi Harbour has been filled and work was going ahead at great speed. We are unloading cargoes faster than we had anticipated."

BRINGING BACK THE SHEEP AND COWS

Britain has begun the Empire's first large-scale experiments in artificial insemination, the revolutionary breeding process which after the war will do everything to bring the world's flocks and herds back to normal.

Britain's experiments in artificial insemination, already successfully practised in Soviet Russia, are being conducted by the Cambridge School of Agriculture and the National Institute for Research in Dairying. They show that in one year a single bull or ram can fertilize fifteen hundred cows or ewes, bringing the best blood in the world to the humblest keeper of livestock from thousands of miles away. It is the small farmer, unable to purchase a good bull, who will benefit most.

There has been some doubt about the reaction to the new departure of pedigree breeders with a vested interest in the sale of bulls but serious opposition from them is not expected although artificial insemination will certainly lower the prices of second-grade bulls.

Apart from Russia, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy had all taken up artificial insemination before the war. The dairy breed societies in England have now recognized it and framed regulations for registering the animals so bred. Breed societies in the United States have actually sponsored the artificial insemination societies; and, with the present experiments in England, the outlook for building up the world's livestock population is definitely hopeful.

Fifth Column Activity in Tangier

THERE is a man in North Africa to-day who needs most careful watching. But, because his position is safeguarded by an international agreement which we—if not others—still respect, he may stay there and cause us the greatest inconvenience. He is Dr. Kurt Rieth, German Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul-General in the technically neutral international zone of Tangier, writes the *Daily Herald's* foreign editor. Before the present campaigns in North Africa are finished, we shall probably hear much more both of the hostile personality of Rieth and the neutral territory of Tangier.

Rieth is an expert in the organization of fifth column activities and espionage. He made his reputation among the Nazis when, as German Minister in Vienna, he instigated the murder of Chancellor Dollfuss. Austrian police quickly established quite definitely his connection with that outrage—apart from his personal intervention that the murderers should have safe passage to Germany. Then suddenly Hitler disowned the Austrian Nazi rebels and recalled Rieth, and the plotter diplomat disappeared into temporary obscurity.

A "COMMERCIAL AGENT"

He reappeared last year as a "commercial agent" in the United States. He went there from Mexico, and, from the moment he crossed the frontier, he was watched by G-men of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Within two months he was arrested and deported. He had been organising a pro-German group whose aim was to hinder the operation of the Lease-Lend Act.

Six months ago Hitler sent him to Tangier where he was received with due honours by the Spanish authorities then in control there.

That Spanish control is another product of this war, for, by the international agreement of 1923–28 Tangier was established as a neutral zone carved out of Spanish Morocco with an international committee of control. Spain, however, was given the policing of the zone. General Franco took advantage of that when France collapsed in June, 1940, to pour in Spanish troops well over the number required. Within a few months the Spanish garrison mounted from 1,000 to nearly 20,000. Franco then proclaimed that Spain had taken over full control of the zone. The International Control Committee was dissolved, and Tangier is now administered by the Spanish High Commissioner for Morocco. Britain protested against this action, and an interim agreement was negotiated under which it was promised that British rights in Tangier would be respected. An assurance was given that there would be no fortification of the Tangier zone, but there is reason to believe that the assurance has not been respected.

British subjects have had to suffer insults in Tangier, and Axis-inspired rioters have damaged British commercial properties. Axis envoys, the most dangerous of whom is Rieth, enjoy all privileges and are pampered by the Spanish authorities. Rieth and his colleagues have turned Tangier into a nest of espionage and intrigue and the inhabitants of Spanish Morocco provide them with a fertile field on which to work. Tangier gives them also a wonderful observation post from which to watch and report on Allied military activities in North Africa.

Turning Steel into Jewels

MILD steel which has been treated to perform the function of rare and expensive jewels, circular saws manufactured from old motor-car clutch-plates—these are only two of the daily wonders created by the Arsenal Brains Trust.

This is the name given to a little group of engineers and scientists who put their heads together at an Indian Army Arsenal. Their job is to devise substitutes for materials and machines now unobtainable.

Compass pivot bearings, ordinarily consisting of jewels, presented a serious problem, but this was overcome by the production of a metal bearing, manufactured by treating ordinary mild steel.

This achievement was the result of a great deal of research and experiment, but the result has cut the cost of the bearings down to a fraction of the expenditure on jewels.

Watchmakers' lathes, which demand the highest accuracy in manufacture, were required urgently. These high precision instruments were available only in Switzerland before the war. Now they are being produced in our own arsenals, with an accuracy limit of less than one-five thousandths of an inch.

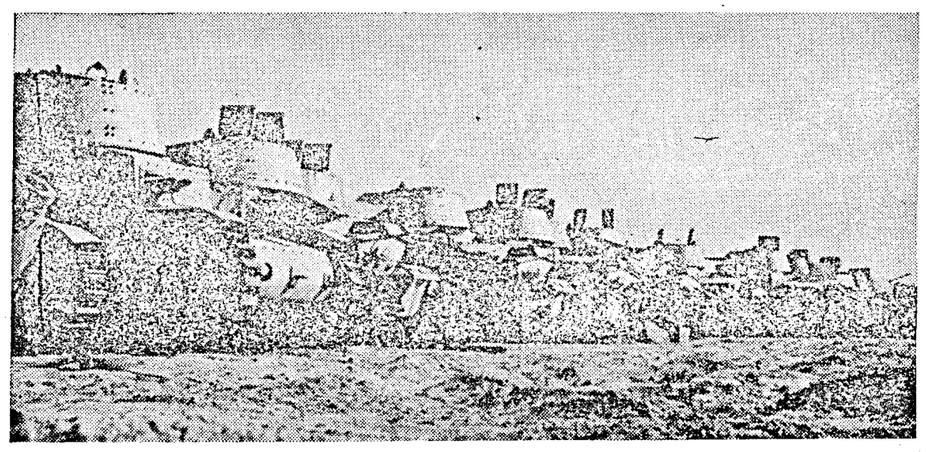
More accurate, too, than the original German-made articles are the circular dividing machines now being turned out by Indian Army Workshops.

Perhaps the knottiest problem of all arose when fine-splitting saws, required for urgent precision work, became unobtainable.

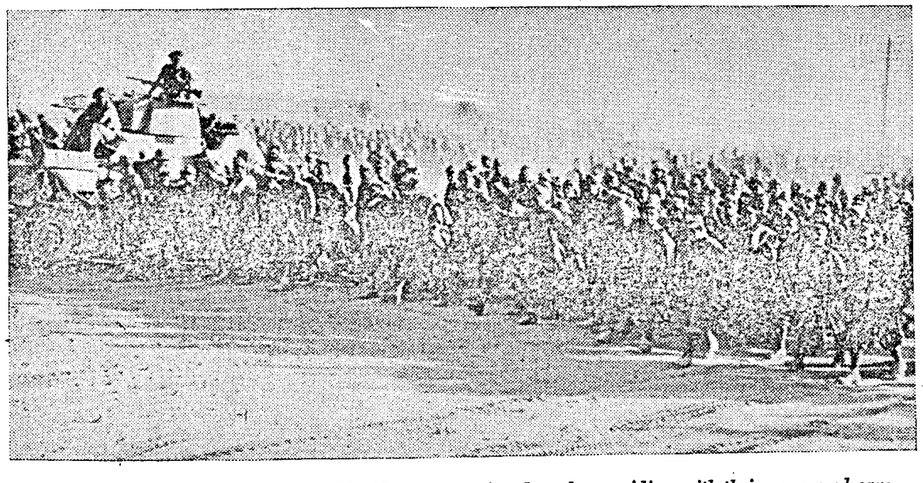
Then the "Brains Trust" had its brainiest notion. Somebody thought of adapting worn-out clutch-plates from condemned motor vehicles. To-day these have been transformed into saws sufficiently slim to split a hair.

FROM THE WESTERN DESERT

GENERAL ALEXANDER, Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, visited Benghazi, and is seen here driving his own Jeep



ABANDONED ENEMY EQUIPMENT.—More and more evidence comes to light of the completeness of the Axis defeat in the Western Desert. No army retreating in an orderly fashion leaves guns, tanks and other war material in good working order. Rommel was forced to do so. Photo shows Italian tanks left intact by the enemy in his hurried flight westwards.



JUST A FEW PRISONERS.—The New Zealanders have been raiding with their armoured cars. These are just a few of the prisoners they have rounded up.

Hitler's Himalayan Blunder

HITLER'S New Year messages to the German Army and people reveal a much chastened Fuehrer. Gone are the dazzling prospects; gone, too, is his overweening arrogance.

Clearly, the old year has been sobering. That Hitler should have come to a mood of "to be or not to be" is eloquent of the change of fortunes. Such points deserve to be noted, but ought not to overshadow the serious content of his messages.

When Hitler impresses on his armed forces that more and better weapons are being forged for the spring, he confirms the miscalculations which the Germans made. It is not the first time that he has talked about new weapons. In one of his rare speeches in 1942 he boasted that German inventive spirit had not been idle and that his enemies had better look out.

References to new weapons probably mean no more than that existing types are being improved and are being turned out on an abundant scale. Yet it may be reasonably doubted whether performance will or can come up to Hitler's promise.

HEAVY STRAIN

For a year all Germany has been under a strain such as she had not known before. How limiting—and, indeed crippling—such a diversion can be is seen in the immense improvisation to which the Russian winter of 1941–42 drove the German war machine. The heavy tax upon fighting spirit and the high human cost which persistent Russian assaults inexorably required of the fighting front were aggravated by a totally unforeseen burden which was felt in every home and every factory of the distant Reich. Transport, supply, hospital and many other services were suddenly called upon to succour, salve and secure an army chilled, wasting, marooned in bleak, frozen country. It is cold comfort for the German people and armed forces to be assured by Hitler that this winter will at any rate not be worse than the last.

This vast diversion of effort backed by relentless Russian pressure had certain clear military consequences. One was that the German offensive of 1942 did not open until July. Another was that, when it did open, it embraced—surprisingly—no more than a section of the front south of Voronezh. Hitler's own excuse—that the aim of his summer offensive was no higher than the interruption of traffic up the Volga—is a palpable and revealing falsehood.

THE RUSSIAN WAR

The Russian war was in truth Hitler's Himalayan blunder. Instead of the clean, quick triumph with unlimited prestige and loot which it was meant to bring, it has yielded—and is yielding—losses almost past reckoning and certainly past recovery. It presented Germany with a new and fundamental problem. Provisioning and maintenance of the fighting front alone called for a major effort. One estimate is that in the winter of 1941–42 Russian snows killed or incapacitated as many Germans as did Russian bullets, bombs, bayonets and shells. Earlier practice had been for the army to release skilled men in winter for work in war factories. Instead of men being released from the front for factories, men from factories have had to make good the gaps at the front. Yet the need for munitions remains—and more pressingly than ever.

Therefore Europe has been scoured for materials, its workers dragooned by press gangs, and its factories brought into the service of the German war machine. The measure of success must not be underrated. The army of foreign labour now in the Reich is nearer 6,000,000 than 5,000,000. In the Reich itself the whole industrial system has been geared to greater production.

NOTHING ACHIEVED

What has the enemy achieved by all his exertions, shifts and stratagems? His all-important transport system is working, but only just; the destruction wrought by the Royal Air Force on his railways and locomotives is already much, and will be more; the strain of the eastern campaign and the opening of the Mediterranean front is growing apace. Food supply is assured, thanks to the not too bad harvest, enriched by the filching of others' produce. The grim and grievous application of Goering's assurance that no matter who goes short, the Germans will not, is shown by independent evidence of starvation and semi-starvation in such countries as Greece and Belgium.

There is every reason to believe that concentrated industry and ingenuity are going into the swelling construction of U-boats—a fact which can be neglected only to the dire peril of the whole Allied plan.

For the United Nations the picture is formidable but neither discouraging nor surprising. Vast resources of the German Command inside and outside the Reich are waning at a time when Allied resources are waxing. Little wonder that Hitler and his henchmen harp more than ever nowadays on 1918. The memory of the soundly beaten German army of 1918 is not one to sustain the spirit of the Germans fighting in Russia and elsewhere, but the Allies may draw from these efforts the assurance that what was done in that momentous year by skilled, pertinacious and valient battling can and will be done again in this.—*The Times.*

Mighty Onrush of Russian Armies

THE enemy seems still unable to stem the mighty onrush of the Red Army into the Donetz basin, writes *The Times*. War exacts a terrible penalty for failure and a too ambitious plan. When the German Commander divided his force, sending one army to the east to the assault of Stalingrad and the other south to attempt a passage of the Caucasus, the attainment of tolerable winter quarters for either depended on complete success in carrying its objectives.

The foiling of both plans reduced the enemy to a dangerous pass that the Soviet forces are now exploiting. The army arrested half in and half out of the ruins of Stalingrad and now effectively isolated, becomes every day less of a striking force and more a target; its perilous predicament imposes upon the main body of the German army the necessity for exhausting attempts at its relief at a time when there is no strength to spare from the task of meeting all other multiplying threats.

The full value of the successful denial of oil fields will be felt in the long term rather than short. There are, however already signs suggesting that lack of fuel is hampering German operations on the South Russian front itself. This is one thesis of the curious immobility of Hoth's beleaguered army and its apparent sluggishness in seconding the efforts to relieve it from outside notwithstanding the great stores of munitions known to be within the ring.

A REMARKABLE EXPLOIT

Another is the very remarkable exploit announced by the Russians in the capture of 300 German aircraft on the airfield at Tatsinskaya. It would be rash to underestimate the tactical resources that the enemy still commands for defence. But strategically the failure of the summer campaign leaves the German army with a bleak outlook. The great number of prisoners taken by our Allies in proportion to the number of other casualties they claim to have inflicted tells its own tale.

In some places leading formations of great offensive have now advanced more than 100 miles from their starting points. Most of the Don bend is again in Russian hands and there has been considerable penetration in the Ukraine. It has surely been a spur to the ardour of the assault that it coincides in time with the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic.

There is every prospect of the speedy arrival of the Red Army on the Donetz river itself. Some of the ground regained in the past few days is of exceptional strategic value. Perhaps the most important is the storming of Tatsinskaya. To hold this situation is to cut the line of supply leading towards Stalingrad from a network of railways in the industrial area of the Donetz basin.

ANOTHER COUNTER-OFFENSIVE REPULSED

South-west of Stalingrad yet another German counter-offensive for the relief of Hoth has been repulsed. The enemy has little choice but to persist with these attacks, yet when they fail, he risks the creation of fresh weak points and the call for yet other rescue expeditions. Meanwhile, the uneasiness resulting from defeats elsewhere has communicated itself to the German army in the Caucasus. The situation in that region must now be one of rapidly increasing anxiety. The corridor through which run the enemy's landward supplies have been greatly narrowed by the Russian advance in the Don bend and the whole of the system of communications for the Caucasus army hinges on the possession of Rostov which can no longer be reckoned to be immune from attack. The thrust from the Don has now reached within 80 miles of the town—a lesser distance than that already traversed. There is as yet no indication where it can be halted.

More Fifth Columnists!

("A LIE HAS ONLY TO BE BIG ENOUGH TO BE BELIEVED"—HITLER)

It was notified in the press a few days ago that a number of fair price grain shops had been opened at different localities in the city, where rice would be sold at $2\frac{3}{4}$ measures per rupee. The employees of some workshops are afraid to patronize these shops, because they have heard a rumour that the public have been warned by Police tom-toming that it is unsafe to purchase rice at these shops as it contains Cholera germs. The rumour is ridiculous and completely incorrect. It has obviously been started by Fifth Columnists or profiteers.

Russia : Allied Aid Through Persian Gulf

WAR supplies are pouring into Russia by road and rail from the Persian Gulf ports to back up the Red Army's triumphant forward sweep, cables the *Daily Telegraph* Baghdad correspondent.

Tanks, aircraft, heavy engineering stores, ammunition, jute and many other essentials, brought from Britain, America and India are flowing across deserts and mountains to the frozen tracts where the battles are raging. The speeding of the Allied aid to Russia is now the chief concern of the Persian–Irak force, under the command of General Sir Maitland Wilson, which is composed of British and Indian troops of our Tenth Army plus a large Polish Army and a number of Americans. It was originally formed to relieve General Alexander of any anxieties in this direction and to safeguard the oilfields and to protect and strengthen vital supply lines.

Now the Allied victories in Russia and North Africa allow it to concentrate its efforts on the material support of the Red Army. Meanwhile the British and the Indian sappers have performed prodigies in widening rough roads, surfacing them with shingle and bitumen and easing the gradients and curves.

This is sappers war and when its history is written one of their outstanding feats will appear as this long labour on Persia's highways. Now trucks are landed at the gulf ports and are driven thousands of miles to the points where they are handed over to the Russians.

The fighting role of the Persian–Irak Force is not forgotten while this most important supply work goes on.

A realistic four-day exercise has just concluded among the hills of northern Persia already covered by winter snows.

The defending force occupied a valley between hills 4,000 feet high, the position being thoroughly wired and mined. The attacking army had to clear a way through wire and minefields, forming bridgeheads supported by live artillery and mortar fire.

All the lessons learned in Russia and in the Western Desert are being applied and the troops are being trained in ski-warfare. The force is still being strongly reinforced but its future employment depends on the Russian events in the first months of 1943.

SAID IN 1830

"National animosity is a peculiar thing. In the lowest degrees of civilisation it is always strongest and most violent."

—GOETHE.

Indian Military Police

INDIA'S Army will soon have its own "Red caps", as military police are called. A school for the training of Indian Military Police, the first of its kind, has been opened in the Persia and Iraq Command.

Main aim of the training is not merely that the men should police but that they should help the Indian soldier. In fact, this is such an important part of the training that extra pay will be given to all Indian Military Policemen who prove by example that they are there to assist the soldier and not condemn him.

The standard of physical and mental fitness required of a good Military Policeman is naturally high, and only the best man can hope to enter the school and emerge proudly wearing the black and red armlet!

The period of training is short but strenuous. For six weeks the candidates work under expert instructors who are all Indian (with the exception of the Chief Instructor). Among the subjects taught are unarmed combat, traffic control, military law, general duties and discipline, motor-cycle riding and maintenance, security, map-reading, accident reporting, road reconnaissance and first aid.

At the passing out examination the questions range from dress regulations and behaviour of troops to fifth column activity and sabotage.

It is little realized what an important part Military Police play in the field of battle. There his duties include the marshalling of convoys, regulating and dispersing traffic, guarding prisoners, rounding up stragglers and generally acting as an "Information Bureau."

"The Red Army is Coming"

TWO broadcasters, Ilya Ehrenburg (Russian) and Hans Fritsche (German) spoke of the War on December 29. Here is what they said :

Ilya Ehrenburg : In September 1942, Germany believed that victory was at her doorstep. At her doorstep was chasm. On September 30, Hitler believed he had Stalingrad in his pocket. Stalingrad became his grave. No longer do gretchens expect their swains at the front to send them gifts of caviare from the Volga. Those swains are now whining somewhere between the Volga and the Don.

"British bombs have had a salutary effect on Italian psychology. The jackal no longer brags about the great Roman Empire but is busy advising townspeople to pack up their chattels and live in the fields. Of Rommel they used to say in Germany that he kept advancing even when he slept. Rommel is now retreating even in his sleep—at the rate of 60 miles per day. He has proved a better adept at this game than the Italians. The judgment is nigh. The Red Army is coming—sword in hand. We remember everything. We remember our slaughtered women, the massacres at Kerch, the ruins of Kiev, the gallows at Volokolamsk. The verdict is being written with the bayonets of our men."

Hans Fritsche : "The Red Army is like a hydra which grows a new head the moment another has been cut off. When we look back, we realize once again all the difficulties which confronted both our soldiers at the front and our people at home. We recall the sufferings of our soldiers during the last winter when they dug into frozen ground and had to withstand onslaught after onslaught from the enemy. We remember our surprise at the ample war material, and the seemingly inexhaustible reserves of manpower which the enemy was able to throw in, in his spring offensive. We also remember the bitterness of the fighting in Africa, Rommel's brilliant action first in holding and then in driving back the enemy, vastly superior in numbers—the enemy who has now succeeded in winning back what Rommel had taken in his lightning advance. Of course, we realize that the fortunes of war are bound to change from time to time. But we are fortunate that the ups and downs are taking place far from our frontiers so that the result of one day's or one month's fighting can in no way decide whether we are to be or not to be."

Ballad of the German Bride

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the old, old town of Prague ?
From Prague he sent me the ribboned shoes,
For my dancing toes, the ribboned shoes,
From the old, old town of Prague.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From Oslo over the sea ?
From Oslo he sent me a fur-lined hood,
So soft and so good, my fur-lined hood,
From Oslo over the sea.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the riches of Amsterdam ?
From Amsterdam he sent me a bonnet,
With gold thread upon it, a fine starched bonnet,
From the riches of Amsterdam.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From Brussels in Flanders so red ?
From Brussels he sent me the shimmering lace,
To set off my face, the shimmering lace,
From Brussels in Flanders so red.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From Paris, the city of light ?
From Paris he sent me a silken dress,
A dreaming caress, ah ! silken dress !
From Paris, the city of light.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the deep, deep Russian snow ?
From Russia he sent me my widow's weeds,
For the funeral feast, my widow's weeds,
From the deep, deep Russian snow,
My widow's weeds, from the deep, deep Russian snow.

—*From a B.B.C. English programme.*

Nazi Children's Marching Song

Though the whole world be ruined around us after the day of war,
What the devil do we care ?—We don't give a hoot any more.
We will go marching forward, though everything fall away,
For the world will be ours to-morrow, as Germany is to-day !

Grit and Courage

By V. NAKRASOV

"COME, I want to intoduce you to our heoine," said the squadon commande as we walked up the stairs to the pilots' quarters.

We entered a small but surprisingly cosy room with four beds covered with snowwhite spreads. It was obvious that this was a girl's room. Neat dainty window curtains, mirrors, perfume and powder boxes were abundant evidence of this.

Coming to meet us from the table, which bore a neat stack of books, was a slender girl about 25 years' old in khaki, green, tunic and blue skirt. On her tunic were two brand-new decorations for valour in action.

" Meet Marusia Chikhireva, the pride of the whole squadron," the commander said.

The girl lowered her blue eyes. A tinge of red appeared on her cheeks and she looked embarrassed. " Why so much publicity, comrade commander," she said quietly.

CHOSE THE FRONT

But very soon no trace of her embarrassment remained. We began a friendly talk and she told me of her life and work in aviation.

There are thousands of girls like Marusia Chikhireva in the Soviet Union. Marusia was a polisher at the Moscow Cutglass Plant, and several years ago took up flying in her spare time. Later she entered a regular aviation school and graduated as a radio operator.

When the hour of peril struck she refused to stand aloof in the struggle against the Hitlerite invaders. She was still a cub radio operator and was given the choice of either remaining with her unit which was about to leave for the front or being transferred to some other unit. Marusia did not hesitate a single minute. " My place is at the front," she told the commander. She was in action for the first time on the third day of the war.

CRACK RADIO OPERATOR

Marusia Chikhireva is justly considered the unit's crack radio operator. Her courage and coolness never abandon her, however trying and apparently hopeless the circumstances may be. Under enemy anti-aircraft fire and in numberless combats with Nazi fighters Marusia has never failed to maintain constant radio communication with the home field.

For quite some period Marusia's squadron paid regular visits to a town besieged by the Germans and kept its defenders supplied with food and ammunition, returning with wounded men or evacuated women and children.

One day owing to bad weather conditions Marusia's plane made a forced landing before it could reach its destination. A group of enemy planes sighted our aircraft just as it was landing.

Marusia remained cool. If anything, she was tingling with the feeling that comes at the beginning of a dangerous battle. " Keep an eye on the passengers, Marusia," her pilot said, " and see that there is no panic. Meanwhile . . . ."

But Lieutenant Skrylnikov did not finish the sentence. He dashed for the machine-gun and opened fire on three Messerschmitts flying across the grey-clouded sky.

TENDS THE WOUNDED

Marusia removed her earphones and went over to the passengers. The women were frightened, some of them ready to jump out of the plane. Marusia soothed them and set them at rest as best she could. She felt that all these women and children were watching her every movement and that much depended on her behaviour.

The first bomb explosion could be heard nearby, then a second and a third. Soon everything was drowned in one ear-racking pandamonium of exploding bombs. One of them dropped quite near the plane and the heavy machine rocked from wing to wing. Marusia was thrown out of her seat and she lost consciousness. When she came to she saw that seveal of the passengers had been wounded.

There was no time to think of her own injured head and shoulder. She had to attend to the wounded and Marusia set about this piece of work with customary energy.

Skrylnikov came out of the machine-gunner's cockpit. " How are things," he inquired. " Three wounded," replied Marusia.

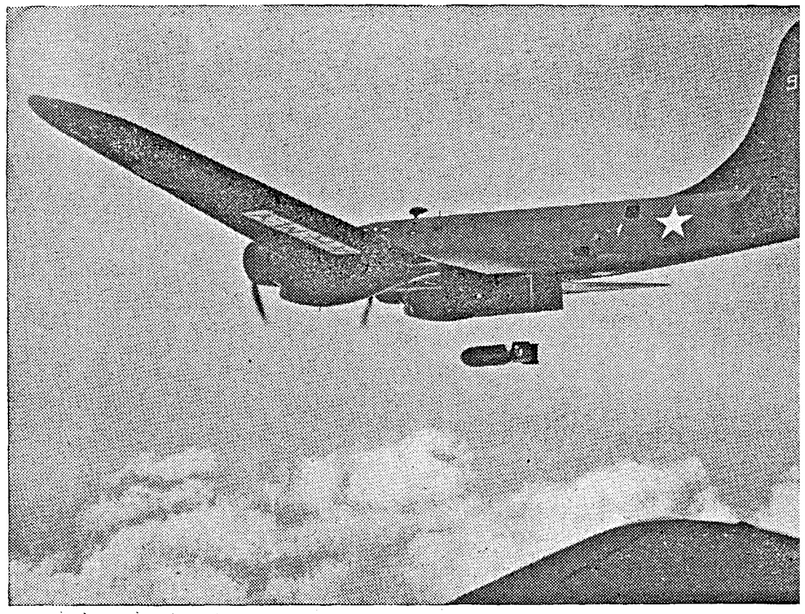
" How's the old bus? "

" Everything seems O.K. except for two holes in the fuselage."

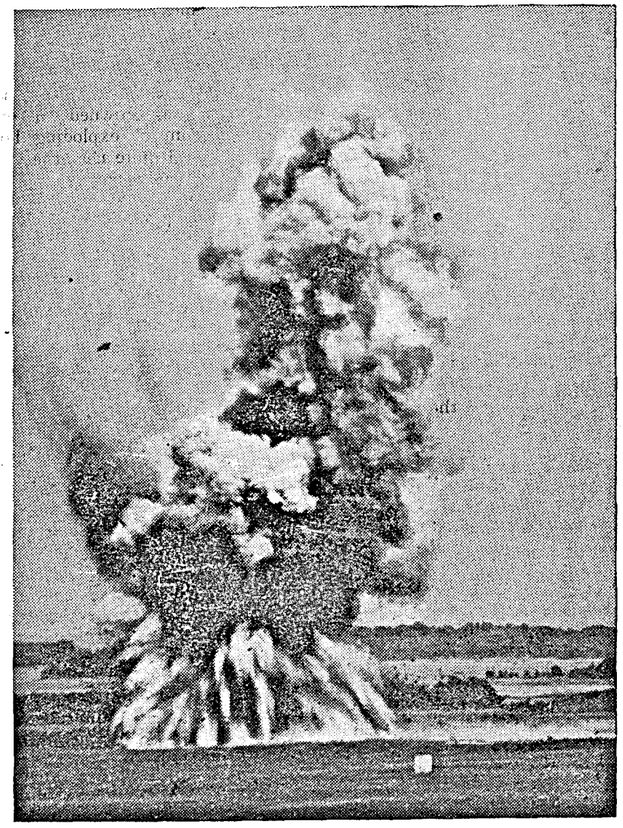
A few minutes later the plane took to the air and Marusia was back at the radio apparatus. She was still weak. Her head was whirling and her left arm hung limp. Every movement was sheer torture, but she stuck to her job, soon made contact with the home field and tapped off the plane's message.

This Soviet girl carries out every assignment with the greatest devotion and bravery.

"BLOCK-BUSTER" IN ACTION



Destruction below! A one-ton American bomb is pictured in this remarkable picture an instant after it was released from a U.S. plane.



Detonating with an earth-shaking crash, it sends smoke, flame and earth 2,000 feet skyward. This photograph was taken with a telescopic lens from a point one mile from the blast.

John Citizen Goes to War

THREE years of war. Three years of struggle. Three years in which the Navy, the Army and the Air Force, the factories, the farms and the dockyards have all played their part in strengthening Britain's power.

They have been doing big things, things that hit the headlines. But meanwhile the ordinary little man, with no uniform and no medals, has been doing his small bit. Grumbling at the price of beer, fishing for a sixpence for a savings stamp, getting his wife to turn his frayed shirt cuffs; trying to cut down smoking, walking where he used to ride, digging up his backyard, doing without his extra cup of tea; and cursing (and paying) the income-tax.

No wonder he doesn't hit the headlines. But multiply him by nearly 50,000,000 (giving the shirkers the benefit of the doubt) and he, too, has done big things in these three years of war.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

in 1942–43, it is estimated, the British inland revenue will net in taxes nearly treble what it did in 1938–39—£1,522,000,000 as against £520,000,000.

In 1941, it is estimated, about 40 per cent of the British national income went in taxes, including compulsory contributions for social insurance, war risks or damage, etc.

Over and above all taxes and restrictions the British are voluntarily saving or giving nearly every penny they can. In the first quarter of 1942 British small savings amounted to more than eight times what they were in the first quarter of 1939—£209,000,000 against £25,000,000. The National Exchequer has received nearly £20,000,000 in free gifts and nearly £50,000,000 in loans free of interest.

WHERE THE TIME GOES

Between 13,000,000 and 14,000,000 part-time jobs—the majority of them voluntary—are being done by the people of Great Britain. Every adult is thus doing a job and a half.

Voluntary labour helps to keep the war wheels turning; 1,050,000 women are members of the W.V.S.; 500,000 housewives have received evacuees; 120,000 men and women work as volunteers in canteens; 500,000 men and women work as volunteers in the National Savings Movement; and 7,000 voluntary workers help to run the Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

COUNTLESS OTHER THINGS

Food rationing has released half the ships which formerly brought food to this country for transport of troops and supplies. Pooling of retail store deliveries alone has released one 10,000-ton tanker for a year.

Allotments are growing between £10,000,000 and £15,000,000 worth of vegetables a year. Clothes rationing has produced an economy of 300,000 tons of imported raw materials and freed 750,000 workers for war industries.

But all the figures here—£, tons, men and women—add up to 2,368,237,000. The little things matter quite a lot.

Too-old-to-Fight Pilots who Defy the Enemy

"BUSINESS as usual", despite every Axis effort to make them close shop—this is the proud boast of British Airways, which are rendering the Indian Army valuable service in this war.

The Red Ensign of the Skies, the great flying boats and land planes which daily dare perils of weather and war to maintain Allied communications, are the aerial prototype of the Merchant Navy.

They were never built for war, but now war has come, they go on, doggedly, determinedly, doing a wartime job, and playing a vital part in the war effort.

In a hundred and one ways they make a contribution to our fighting strength—transporting high military personages to battle zones, rushing important equipment and stores to areas where it is urgently required, carrying vital despatches, succouring the sick and wounded.

These are some of the more spectacular moments in the war-time lives of British Airways pilots. Not every day are they called upon to carry a General, speedily and safely, through the skies. But when the work is of a more routine character, the danger is still there.

One of the least spectacular, but most important, functions of British Airways is the carriage of troops' mails. Nothing is more important for the morale of soldiers serving in distant lands than a regular flow of mail from home.

Throughout this war of fluctuating fortunes, the air route to the United Kingdom has been kept continuously open, almost with the regularity of a peace-time, and carrying hundreds of tons of letters, postcards and airgraphs.

Nearly all the men who pilot the great merchant aircraft on the perilous routes are "too old for active service." They are veterans—but they are helping us along the way to victory!

Europe's Fighters in Exile

By GEORGE ROBOZ

FOR the first time in history, the recognized Governments of eight Allied countries—Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Luxembourg, Yugoslavia and Greece have established their headquarters in England.

One of the brightest chapters of the war, and one which has been lost in the flurry of headlines, is the story of these Governments-in-exile which have gone on fighting even after their countries had been overrun. Their contributions to the united war effort have been so great that their importance will probably not be fully determined until the war is over.

Militarily, the eight Governments-in-exile have put an army of 300,000 men in the field. The Poles, though theirs was the first country overrun in the war, have the fifth largest army among the United Nations—150,000 men in Russia, Iran, Egypt and England.

FIGHTING ARMIES

Recruits escaping from conquered Europe at night in small boats are also swelling the ranks of the Greek, Belgian, Dutch, Norwegian and Yugoslav armies in exile. Fighting French Units—though General de Gaulle's movement is not recognized as a Government-in-exile—have fought in the Middle East. In the Ethiopian campaign, French Spahis, Foreign Legionnaires and colonial troops marched 1,000 miles through the heart of Africa to help break up Mussolini's East African empire.

In the air, 10,000 Poles, 1,000 Czechs and 800 Greeks are flying with the Royal Air Force. The Polish Kosciuszko squadron before it was switched to night-fighter duty bagged many Nazis like the other famous squadrons in the Royal Air Force, was famous for taking more chances "than the buses in Piccadilly during the rush hour." Polish, Czech, and other "exiled" airmen helped form the umbrella of air power over the Channel that made the Ranger-Commando raid on Dieppe possible.

The Norwegian and French navies, 110 ships including one battleship, light cruisers, destroyers, corvettes and mine-sweepers, are also fighting, as is the bulk of the Dutch fleet, which escaped from the East Indies, and several Polish destroyers.

The colonial empires of the Governments-in-exile are contributing sizeably to the United Nations' war effort.

POST-WAR PLANS

Politically, despite the fact that they rule no more on the continent of Europe than the hearts of the people they represent, the Governments-in-exile have prevented the Axis from consolidating its territorial gains, have kept it from setting up Nazi-controlled governments in Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, Holland and elsewhere which could claim to represent the people. Even in Norway, where the Nazis succeeded in setting up the Quisling Government, the Norwegians owe allegiance to King Haakon, and take every opportunity to show it.

The Governments-in-exile are also taking an active role in planning for post-war Europe.

(Condensed from New York Daily Mirror)

India's First Line of Defence

ALL our bombs fell in the target area. Another Japanese barracks, or goods yard, or harbour installation has been blasted by the Royal Air Force. Another blow has been struck in the defence of India.

Have you ever wondered how it is done, this bombing by our airmen?

The chief responsibility—and credit—falls to the navigator, who is also the bomb-aimer. But it is only by the closest co-operation between him and the pilot that good results can be achieved. Upon their work during the few seconds they are over the target depends the success, or failure, of the whole flight.

As the approach run is made, anti-aircraft fire will almost certainly be met. The pilot will be taking avoiding action, but in such a way that the bomb-aimer, who is gradually getting the target into his sights, does not lose it.

IGNORING OPPOSITION

Nearer still, and the pilot flies a steadier course, following the instructions of the aimer. "Left, left. Steady." Then, a more urgent "Left, left." Too much, and the pilot hears a long drawn out "Right". At last comes "Steady", and finally "Steady, bombing."

The pilot must now keep on a straight, level course, regardless of anti-aircraft fire, or even fighter opposition, until he hears "Bombs gone," usually the signal for him to take immediate further evasive action.

The navigator calmly returns to his charts and continues his work—calculating, plotting, dead reckoning, giving bearings to the pilot. He is it who finds the target, drops the bombs and guides the aircraft safely back to its base.

He is the one man in the crew who never has a minute's rest, from take-off to touch-down.

Polish Boy Refugee in India

"YOU must see Henzel. He owns the Hospital to day." These were the words that greeted the visitor going round a military hospital in India on Christmas Day.

Henzel is a Polish efuges, aged 8, an orphan as far as known. His pale face, blond hair, blue eyes and cheerful smile is all that one sees peering out of a big white bundle in the surgical ward. He is a spinal case, who lies on his chest in a barrel of plaster and bandages. His ward-mates are all British ranks, some wounded on service in India or overseas, some injured by car or air crashes, some just local surgical cases. His patience and cheerfulness has won all their hearts. They too have won his . . .

He can usually be seen holding his court, talking, having his English lesson and playing with three or four of them. They have—under the guise of "occupational therapy"—built him a table, just the right height for him to look down on and reach with his hands. They have also made him a "tray", an ingenious Heath Robinson contraption, part-bed, part-table, part-stretcher, where he can lie cocked up at a convenient angle and be carried out into the veranda, or to visit other bed-ridden cases.

His Christmas presents from the rest of the ward are his great pride. All chosen wisely to help in his recovery. A miniature piano, on which he can already tinkle "The Blue Bells of Scotland", to work his fingers. A real wrist watch. Picture books with the alphabet, and a suit of English clothes, a present from his R.A.M.C. orderly to wear when he gets up. He has other friends too, as two United States airmen have come in ten miles to see him and bring him their Christmas present.

On Christmas afternoon the Royal Air Force Band came to play to the hospital. Henzel was carried out and his "tray" adjusted so that he could see the band and spectators.

The General, who was visiting, went up and greeted Henzel, who held his hand and kept on holding it, while he got off with pride and delight all the English he knew and all that his ward-mates had taught him to say.

It seemed that he was going to join both the United States and British Air Forces as well as half the regiments in the Army List when he got well.

He was then carried back to the ward, tired and triumphant, with two British and two American friends at each corner of his "tray".

It was a scene which, if shown in the cinema, would be criticised as "impossible bathos" or "sentimental slush". In fact, however, it was a very real and moving one, as the fact that Henzel is going to get well is due to the innate kindness of the British and American soldiers.

Return of Empties Requested

THERE is a serious shortage of metal containers and of the steel from which they are made. After discussion with the principal business interests concerned, the Government of India appeal—

(i) to all *suppliers* of goods in metal containers to make every effort to secure the return of the containers by their customers;

(ii) to all *purchasers* of goods in metal containers to co-operate with the suppliers by taking every possible care of the containers and returning them to the suppliers.

Requests by suppliers for the return of containers have the full support of the Government of India, and purchasers can render a very real service to the war effort by complying with them.

In connexion specifically with 40 and 5 gallon drums used for oils and greases, Government have devised a scheme to be operated by the oil companies under the general supervision of Government. The general idea of the scheme is that drums must be returned before replenishments of oil can be obtained but in the case of up-country consumers, provision is made to enable replenishments to be despatched before the empty drums actually reach the suppliers.

It is emphasized that as the usual life of a container depends to a great extent on the treatment that it receives, all users are asked to take every possible care of them while in their possession and in particular to see that skids are always used when unloading drums from wagons or transport.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

8th Jan.—Dr. Newmann, Germany's Secretary of State and the head of the Four-Year Plan, was dismissed from service.

9th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Ruhr.

10th Jan.—Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister of Aircraft Production, said: "Once again we should start on more extended delivery of bombs over Germany and Italy."

11th Jan.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Ruhr again. Targets in Essen were attacked.

A treaty was signed between Britain and China for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

8th Jan.—President Roosevelt delivered a message to the Congress. He uttered a warning to Japan: "War will be taken to the enemy's country in 1943." After the war, he said, Germany, Italy and Japan must be disarmed and kept disarmed.

11th Jan.—A treaty was signed between the United States and China for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China.

12th Jan.—Writing in the *Christian Science Monitor*, Mrs. Roosevelt said: "First of all we want a world which is disarmed. There will have to be an international police force."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

8th Jan.—Mr. Philipps, President Roosevelt's representative in India, arrived.

The Royal Air Force destroyed a Japanese gun-post near Akyab.

10th Jan.—Allied troops contacted the Japanese near Rathedaung.

12th Jan.—Isolated parties of Japanese held out in the Mayu Peninsula. Fighting continued on either side of the Mayu river in the Arakan district.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

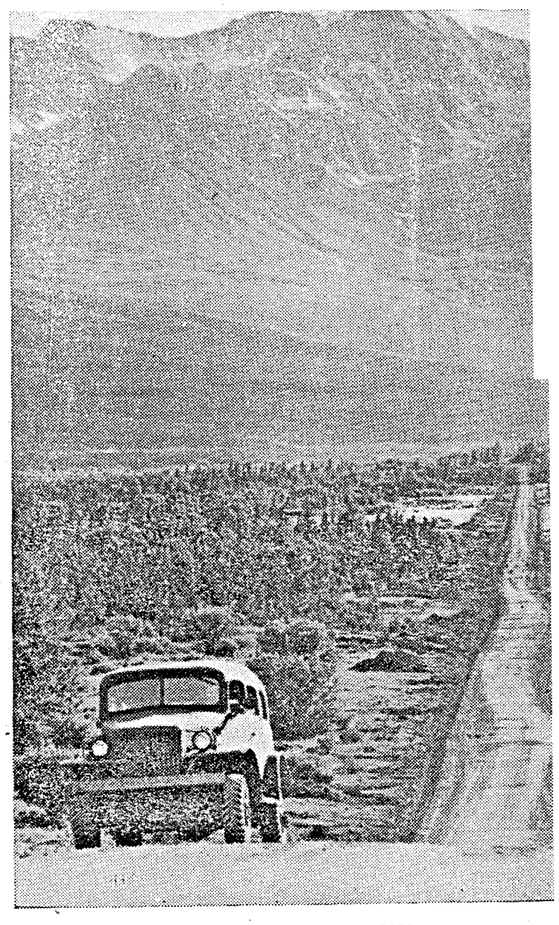
8th Jan.—Allied troops were dislodged from the summit of Dazzag.

It was reported that General Giraud had agreed to a meeting with General de Gaulle on French soil.

A LIMERICK FROM AMERICA

Not long ago news about Gandhi
Was daily most everywhere handhi,
But since his seclusion,
There's none for perusion,
Which truthfully seems rather dandhi.

—*Christian Science Monitor.*



A LIFELINE OF THE UNITED NATIONS.—Through swamps and marshes, around mile-high mountains, through bleak Canadian wilderness, the new Alaska Highway pushes to the North—a lifeline to the United Nations.

THEME SONG

Pilot: "Have you learned the theme song of the parachute corps?"

Cadet: "Theme song? What is it?"

Pilot: "It don't mean a thing if you don't pull the string."

An enemy troop transport and a supply ship were destroyed by British submarines in the Mediterranean.

The Fighting French forces captured an important Axis port 60 miles east of Murzuk.

10th Jan.—German troops were thrown back in Tunisia. The enemy was routed at Fezzan.

All French ships in Marseilles were manned by the Germans.

11th Jan.—Castel Benito was bombed.

General Giraud, addressing the French officers, said: "I give you my word that we shall drive the Germans out of Tunisia."

12th Jan.—Enemy attack near Sfax was repulsed. Axis transport was bombed in Tripolitania. The German headquarters in Kaironan were completely demolished.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

8th Jan.—Russian troops were within 75 miles of Rostov.

9th Jan.—The German radio admitted the "incredible Russian success."

10th Jan.—The Red Army occupied a vital rail head 60 miles from Rostov. Nazis retreated in the Caucasus.

11th Jan.—The Russians advanced on Salsk. Nazi troops faced encirclement.

12th Jan.—The Red Army took Georgievsk, an important railway junction. Mineralnye Vody was recaptured.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

10th Jan.—The Turkish press delegation left for India.

* * * *

SHIPPING

9th Jan.—A small United States merchantman was torpedoed and sunk by a submarine in the Indian Ocean.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

8th Jan.—The Japanese captured Lihuang, the capital of Anhwei province.

9th Jan.—The United States bombers attacked Kiska.

A Japanese convoy was attacked at Rabaul and two big transports were sunk.

10th Jan.—Two Japanese liners were sunk off Woosung, 25 miles from Shanghai.

Twenty Japanese fighters were destroyed in South Pacific.

11th Jan.—General Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, said: "Japan has secured her basic strategical positions. We are in a position to fight."

The Japanese sustained heavy losses in south-west Pacific. An enemy convoy was bombed off New Guinea.

12th Jan.—Allied planes raided Lae. An American War Department spokesman said in Washington that at least 353 Japanese aircraft, 19 warships and 85 merchantmen were destroyed in General MacArthur's New Guinea Campaign.

Coolies captured from the Japanese at Buna revealed that the Japanese flogged them with whips.

The Chinese retook Shancheng.

American troops advanced in Guadalcanar.

Substantial Advance in 1943

"I do not prophesy when this war will end, but I do believe this year of 1943 will give to the United Nations a very substantial advance along the roads that lead to Berlin, Rome and Tokyo."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT
in a Message to the U.S. Congress on January 7.

CONTINUANCE OF HELP TO EVACUEES

The Government of India have authorized the continuance of their scheme of financial assistance to evacuees and dependants of Indians stranded in enemy-occupied territories for a further period of six months from January 1, 1943.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

P.A.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1943 No. 19

GENERAL NURI SAID

WE REJOICE TO HAVE YOU AT OUR SIDE

WHEN His Majesty's Government first accepted responsibility for guiding the future of the new kingdom of Iraq, they made her complete and early independence their goal. The goal was reached ten years ago, and since then, the enemies of our two countries have spared no efforts to disturb our friendly relations. They have been lavish with falsehoods and have even resorted to force, but they could achieve no lasting success. The Iraqi Parliament, by a free and independent exercise of its constitutional powers, has now, on its own initiative, decided to show the world Iraq's adherence to the aims and ideals of the United Nations and her fundamental opposition to the dark forces which seek to enslave humanity

The struggle will be hard but the end is sure, and we rejoice to have you at our side

MR. CHURCHILL, in a message to General Nuri Said, Premier of Iraq

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	2
The Futility of Fear	8
General le Clerc	10
Contrast between China and Japan	11
China's "Full Stature"	12
A Crucial Year for China	14
Pacific: Just the Overture!	14
Story of the Siege of Malta	15
Russia's Master Plan: Resemblance to 1918 Strategy	18
Forced German Withdrawal: Contrast with Russian Planned Retreat	20
New Chapter in Russian Winter Offensive	21
Germans' Second Winter in Russia	22
Diary of the War	23

Running Commentary

President Roosevelt's Warning and the Bombing of Berlin.

President Roosevelt, in his message to the Congress on 7th January, said, "I do believe this year of 1943 will give to the United Nations a very substantial advance along the roads that lead to Berlin, Rome and Tokyo." A week after, a strong force of heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force attacked Berlin. According to the Berlin correspondent of the *Svenska Dagbladet*, Berlin's anti-aircraft barrage was the heaviest yet heard. It is reported that a great weight of high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped and many large fires were seen. This is the R.A.F.'s 54th attack on Berlin. The R.A.F. again bombed Berlin on January 17. What was described as the greatest R.A.F. offensive against Berlin was carried out 14 months ago, that is, on the night of December 7, 1941. The Soviet Air Force had also bombed Berlin a number of times. Moscow announced in September last year that Berlin had been raided 12 times by Soviet bombers during the preceding 12 months.

All these show the growing air power of the United Nations. President Roosevelt has laid special stress on this in his message to the Congress and drawn attention to the importance of air power in all theatres of war. He said he could not tell when or where the United Nations were going to strike next in Europe, but they were going to strike, and strike hard. "I can tell you," he said, "that no matter where and when we strike by land, we and the British and the Russians will hit them from the air daily and relentlessly. Day in, and day out, we shall heap tons upon tons of high explosives on their war factories, utilities and sea ports." He pointed out that the advantage of superior air power enjoyed by the Nazis when they bombed Warsaw and Rotterdam, London and Coventry, had gone for ever. As regards production of aeroplanes and tanks in 1942 he said it was something of which they had reason to be proud. In Africa they were shooting two enemy planes to each one they lost, and in the South-west Pacific they were shooting them down four to one.

U. S. STEEL PRODUCTION

The United States steel production for 1943 will approach twice the combined output of the Axis powers. Mr. Donald Nelson, Chairman of the War Production Board, says that the total production of Germany, Italy and Japan is estimated at 50,000,000 to 55,000,000 ingot tons annually. The United States steel capacity has already been increased to more than 89,000,000 tons. On completion of the expansion programme in the middle of 1943, the production capacity will be about 97,000,000 tons.

It may be pointed out that the kind of bombing which is going on in the Pacific does not nearly approach the scale of the R.A.F. raids on Germany. In the American raid on Wake Island on December 24, which is said to be largest raid so far by the U.S. Army Air Arm in the Pacific, 36 tons of bombs were dropped, which is 9 tons less than even the first big R.A.F. raid of the war in May 1940 on Sylt. Since then, bomb loads have been many times multiplied. But it may be remembered that in the Pacific the range problems of bombers are enormous, and every step, whether at Gudalcanar, or at Buna, or elsewhere, is a step towards a fresh air base, and each step means sea action and land action, neither of which can take place without air action. The Coral Sea and the Midway victories in the Pacific were due to air strength. Now gradually Americans are acquiring stepping stones for the return journey to Japan, which the President has promised. No one can say exactly when Tokyo will be bombed in 1943. But the mounting air power of the United States shows that when the bombing begins it will be with as much force as possible.

* * *

Roosevelt's Ambitious Production Plan and its Remarkable Results.

It is of interest to refer to some of the American war production figures. A year ago, President Roosevelt set up certain goals for American production in the coming year. Those figures were so high that many people thought they were intended as mere propaganda with which to frighten the Axis. On January 7, 1942, President Roosevelt set the following goals for American war production for that year:—

Aircraft	60,000
Tanks	45,000
Merchant shipping	8 million dead-weight tons.

This was a highly ambitious plan. For, the whole American economy had to be transferred to a war-time footing

THE NORTH AFRICA OPERATIONS: SCENES AT ALGIERS AND SURCOUF.—Allied forces landed in North Africa from the greatest fleet of transports ever used in a single military operation and after slight opposition, landings were effected at a number of points along the coast. The fleet was conveyed by the British and American navies and powerful aerial protection was provided by carrier-based aircraft. Photo shows guns being man-handled off the beach by American troops after they had landed from landing craft.

before the programme could be implemented. It was no easy task that faced the American factories. Skilled labour had to be augmented and mobilised, claims of competing industries had to be adjusted, priorities had to be allocated, and raw materials needed for war production had to be diverted from civilian consumption. All these had to be done before the actual goods could be turned out of the factories. And the most remarkable thing was the amazing speed and efficiency with which the American nation which, only twelve months ago, was primarily occupied in satisfying peace-time needs, was able to put itself on a war-time footing.

A glance at the following figures for 1941 and 1942 give an idea of this amazing change :—

	1941.	1942.
Aircraft ..	19,000	49,000
Tanks ..	16,000	32,000
Merchant shipping.	1,100,000 dead-weight tons.	8,200,000 dead-weight tons.

It will be seen that in only one of the three categories of war production was the President's goal reached, viz., merchant shipping. It became clear, soon after Pearl Harbour, that the greatest demand on American production would be in regard to merchant shipping. The war had become global, allied lines of communication had lengthened, and reinforcements had to be sent not only to Britain and the Middle East, but also to the South-west Pacific. Therefore, merchant shipping was given priority above all other branches of war production, because without ships other war materials could not be made effective. So greater concentration was made on building more and more ships, and this was the reason why the production of air-craft and tanks could not attain the goal which the President set before the nation. But still the air power of America and the United Nations is mounting up and up, and the bombing of Berlin is just a preliminary indication of the real march on the road to the Axis capitals referred to by the President.

* * *

Extra-Territorial Rights in China. One of the most outstanding events in international relationship, almost revolutionised by the events of the war and the terms of the Atlantic Charter, is the conclusion of the treaties just signed between China on the one hand and Great Britain and America on the other, relinquishing for ever the latters' extra-territorial rights in China. These treaties are significant of the deep desire of Britain and America to remove the last vestige of territorial aggression in international relations and to establish, and at the same time enforce recognition by others, the ultimate and supreme sovereignty of China as a nation. So far as Britain and America are concerned, and particularly

Initiative with the Allies

We can view the successes of 1942 with sober satisfaction and look forward to 1943 with justifiable confidence. Everywhere the initiative has passed into the hands of the United Nations . . . The Russian advance continues sweeping down towards Rostov, rolling up the German right flank in the Caucasus while at Leningrad, Veliki Luki and Voronezh renewed blows are being delivered. This great feat during the winter will surely take its place in history as an outstanding achievement . . . In North Africa Rommel's record retreat has begun again . . . In Burma, the initiative has changed hands . . . The Government is resolved during 1943 in the closest co-operation with all our Allies to strike at the enemy by land, sea and air everywhere with the utmost vigour and determination.

—MAJOR CLEMENT ATTLEE, *Deputy Prime Minister, in the House of Commons, on January 19.*

Britain, this selfless gesture of goodwill is only the culmination of a consistent policy of helping China to reorganize herself on modern lines as a first rate political power. Even during the middle of the nineteenth century, the Chinese, says Sir John Pratt, had no conception of the new international world in which China was being enveloped or of the new forces, material and spiritual, that western science had called into the arena. "In their eyes China was the whole civilized world, the Middle Kingdom surrounded by humble and admiring barbarians." It was, from the very commencement of her relationship with China in 1715, the desire of Great Britain, with a commanding lead in commerce, finance, shipping and industry, to see China prosperous, and though in seeking to further this desire, she had two occasions to come in clash with the Imperial Majesty of the Middle Kingdom, she did not give up her policy of helping China, whenever possible, to establish a strong central government which alone could hold together the vast and scattered areas of the Empire.

* * *

Nine-Power Treaty : Credit due to Britain. It is needless to recount the development of this policy ; but it is enough to note that the Washington Conference of 1921 which Britain and America so much tried to bring about ended in the famous Nine-Power Treaty by which the "Powers agreed to co-operate in maintaining the principle of the open door and equal opportunity and in promoting the economic and political rehabilitation of China." Great credit is due to Britain for having organized the conclusion of this treaty, because she, of all others, was the object of a deep misunderstanding by Nationalist China who had in 1911 expelled the Imperial dynasty of the Manchus and established a republic with Nanking as the Capital. On September 18, 1931 Japan, however, defied the terms of this treaty and attacked China in Manchuria. Britain still adhered to her policy of sympathetic alliance, helped China in her financial reorganization through the Leith Ross Commission, and made the last effort in 1935 to restore the balance of power in the Far East by proposals for international collaboration when Japan was persisting in her aggression in Manchuria. All this time America was more or less only a silent spectator of events on account of her isolationist policy ; but this policy had to be given up after the attack on Pearl Harbour in preference to an active policy of establishing American supremacy in the Pacific. Now Britain and America are determined to see China free and independent and the present act of selflessness is only a gesture of goodwill in which America has led the way. Britain retains hereafter only her rights in Weihaiwei which she originally got with a view to counteract the Russian occupation of Port Arthur, and her rights over Kowloon, a strip of territory on the mainland opposite Hongkong which is entirely on a different footing from the spheres of influence and interest. Kowloon is on a lease from the Chinese Government and has no political complexion for its retention. It need not frighten any one, because Britain has given up rights which are more valuable and more serious than one based on a lease contract.

* * *

Iraq Joins United Nations Iraq has declared war against Germany, Italy and Japan and joined the ranks of the United Nations. This is the first time in history that an independent Arab State declared war on the enemies of Great Britain as Great Britain's ally. Iraq's entry into the world war is welcomed by Britain. It may be recalled that Britain was closely associated with Iraq both during and after the last great war. Diplomatic relations with Germany were broken off by Iraq in this war in September 1939, with Italy in June 1941, and with Japan and Vichy in November 1941. Last year the Germans tried their best to disturb the cordiality of Anglo-Iraqi

POST-WAR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

"The Government's intention is to prepare a common programme of post-war economic co-operation in consultation with the Governments of the United States and the Soviet Union and other Governments of the United Nations, and considerable progress has been made by our Government in the preparatory work required for their part in the formulation of such a programme."

—Mr. ANTHONY EDEN,
in a statement in the Commons on January 20.

relations. In April 1941 the Germans stage-managed a *coup d'etat* in Iraq through Rashid Ali. This plan failed and Rashid Ali was forced to flee the country.

Latterly the Axis powers have been persisting in their hostile attitude towards Iraq. They have been broadcasting comments from their wireless stations against Iraq and her interests and have been trying to promote differences and disunity among the people of Iraq by disseminating rumours and false news with a view to endangering public order and security. Axis radio stations have also been making statements disrespectful of the Royal family of Iraq, which were calculated to undermine the loyalty of the people. Further, they also encouraged certain outlaws who wanted to subvert the established Government by force of arms. All these factors forced the Iraqi Government to declare war against the Axis powers. A statement issued by the Iraqi Government adds that "it is in the interest of Iraq in particular and the Arabs in general to adhere to the declaration of the United Nations." This declaration has been welcomed by Mr. Churchill in a telegram to the Iraqi Prime Minister. Mr. Churchill draws attention to the fact that the Iraqi Parliament has, on its own initiative, by a free and independent exercise of its constitutional powers, declared war on the Axis. He adds, "The struggle will be hard, but the end is sure and we rejoice to have you on our side." Iraq which Britain helped to create during the first world war has now thrown herself fully on the side of the 26 Nations and signified its adherence to the United Nations' declaration.

* * *

On the Russian Front: German Defeat According to Russian Plan

The situation of German armies in Russia has well been summed up by Paul Winterton, the *News Chronicle* Correspondent. In a cable to the B.B.C., he says: "Though the Germans put up a stiff resistance here and there, they are short of manpower. It is not retreat according to plan, but defeat according to plan—the Russian plan. From the air, it is perfectly obvious that the Nazis have abandoned immense quantities of materials some of which are in good condition." Russian forces are progressing rapidly in their smashing three-pronged offensive.

In the North Caucasus, they are threatening Armavir, the key railway junction on the Rostov-Trans-Caucasian Railway. Soviet strategy here is governed by the fact that there is a north-south railway running from Rostov to Grozny and a east-west railway running from Stalingrad to Novorossisk. Some hundred miles below Rostov is Tikhoretsk, at the junction of these two railways, and seventy-five miles north-east of this town is Salsk. If the Russians can take Salsk and Tikhoretsk, they will jeopardize, to a serious extent, the German forces which are falling back on to Rostov.

In the Don region Russian forces are approaching the Donetz on a wide front and are within a few miles of its confluence with the Don. Furious fighting is going on in the Middle Don and the Russian columns converging on Rostov are making steady progress.

In the Central Front, there are heavy German counter-attacks in the Velikie Luki section, which is not a matter for surprise. For it was here that the German High Command concentrated shock troops. They have now conceded the fall of Velikie Luki into Russian hands, but were denying it previously, because they thought that without considering the cost the German troops could break through to the Don and retake it. But their plans were forestalled by the Soviet Command. By incessant blows they have weakened the German forces and made it impossible for them to recapture Velikie Luki, which since January 1st is in Soviet hands.

The most welcome news is, of course, the raising of the siege of Leningrad. After 16 months, Russia's second great city, has been relieved, and the Nazi hordes have been driven back.

On the side of Britain

Iraq stands on the side of her ally Britain, both out of loyalty to obligations and dictates of her own interest. Iraq wants wholeheartedly to bind her destiny to that of the United Nations and to support them in their fight.

—"*AL-SHIBAB*," *a Baghdad journal.*

The Commander-in-Chief, Southern Army

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR NOEL BERESFORD-PEIRSE who recently visited Madras and met the press representatives at a Conference.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR NOEL BERESFORD-PEIRSE, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., popularly known as "B.P." He is 53 and is G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Army, which is defending the entire Bombay and Madras Presidencies.

He was first commissioned in the Royal Artillery in 1907. He served in the South African War, and later in the Great War of 1914-18. He commanded a battery in Mesopotamia and Egypt and was awarded a D.S.O. after the capture of Baghdad, and became Brigade Major in France in 1918.

After the war, he attended a course at the Staff College at Camberley and went to the War Office in 1929.

In 1936 he came to India in command of an artillery regiment and in 1940 went overseas as C.R.A. of the 4th Indian Division. Shortly afterwards he became B.R.A. at the G.H.Q., Middle East. In August 1940 he got command of the famous 4th Indian Division. His brilliant capture of Sidi Barrani earned him a K.B.E. He commanded the 4th Indian Division when it captured Agordat and Koren.

Later in 1941 he commanded the Western Desert Force and became G.O.C., Sudan.

He then came to India and commanded a Corps in the Eastern Army. Now he is the G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Army.

His motto is "Not a seat, but a springboard."

The Futility of Fear

By THE HON. MR. JUSTICE S. WADSWORTH, I.C.S.

WE have been talking a good deal about events in Calcutta during the last week or two and there has been quite a lot of speculation as to the chance of similar raids on Madras. My own opinion, which is probably worthless, is that serious air-raids on Madras are not very likely in present conditions; but none can say that they are impossible. And so long as raids are possible we shall have to go on preparing for them.

But I am inclined to think that we attach too much importance to air-raids. I don't mean to underrate the effect of large-scale attacks, such as were made on London, though even these did not stop London from working. I refer to the tip-and-run raids by small numbers of aircraft, such as Calcutta has been experiencing. No doubt they are very disturbing to sleep and they involve an infinitesimal proportion of the population in acute personal danger. But if we can only see these inconveniences and dangers in their proper proportions, we shall realise that there is nothing to run away from.

After all, there is no such thing as absolute safety. Apart from the natural perils of storm, flood and earthquake and the ever-present danger of epidemics, we live in an age when civilization itself has added to the dangers of life. Consider the disastrous figures of motor-car accidents in any large town. Yet people don't run away to the country for fear of being knocked down by a lorry in the streets of the city. They take this risk as one of the incidental disadvantages of town life and by keeping their eyes open and taking reasonable precautions, they hope to avoid coming into sudden contact with an onrushing car. They know quite well that if they live in the country to avoid the danger of city traffic, they may quite well perish in an epidemic caused by the lack of city sanitation. I wish we could get into the habit of regarding this air-raid danger as something akin to the traffic danger. In point of figures, the traffic danger is probably the worse by far of the two—always excepting the results of concentrated attacks by large forces of heavy bombers, such as the Japs do not seem to possess. It is also evident from the official reports that casualties in these raids, just like traffic casualties, are to a very large extent due to the carelessness of the victim.

DANGER CAN BE AVOIDED

The great majority of bombs, particularly bombs of small calibre, kill nobody at all. The newspaper accounts seem to show that the Japanese are using mainly what are known as "anti-personnel" bombs, which are very dangerous to people standing about in the open, but not very likely to demolish buildings or to injure people who have taken shelter. That is to say, they present a danger which to a large extent can be avoided by taking care.

Should Madras be attacked from the air, the safety of the individual would be much greater than in a city less generously endowed with open spaces. No doubt there are parts of Madras which are much congested; but the city covers an enormous area, much of which is occupied by parks, compounds, wide roads and playing fields. Bombs dropped at random are likely to achieve a very small proportion of direct hits.

Presumably the Japs know this as well as we do. Probably also they know that anything in the way of daylight bombing would be extremely expensive. Why then, should they try and bomb Madras? Well, I don't pretend to be able to read the minds of the Japanese general staff, but presuming that they are intelligent men, as they undoubtedly are, the most obvious reason for them to try and bomb the cities of India would be to try and cause panic and interfere with communications and the ordinary life of the country. Anything which obstructs the working of railways, which prevents the flow of supplies, which interferes with the processes of manufacture, is worth doing, if it can be done without serious loss. Our business therefore is obviously to prevent them from achieving these objects.

WHAT A STORY!

A Staff Officer in the Western Desert, tired of office life, asked permission to go out on a camel with a tommy-gun, as a kind of one-man Commando. After much argument permission was granted.

For a long time nothing was heard of him. There was great excitement therefore when one day a message was received from him: "Rommel captured; returning to-day."

What a capture! What a story! All waited breathlessly for the hero's return with his distinguished prisoner.

Hopes were dashed, however, by a second message. It read: "For 'Rommel captured' read 'Camel ruptured.' Am returning to-day."

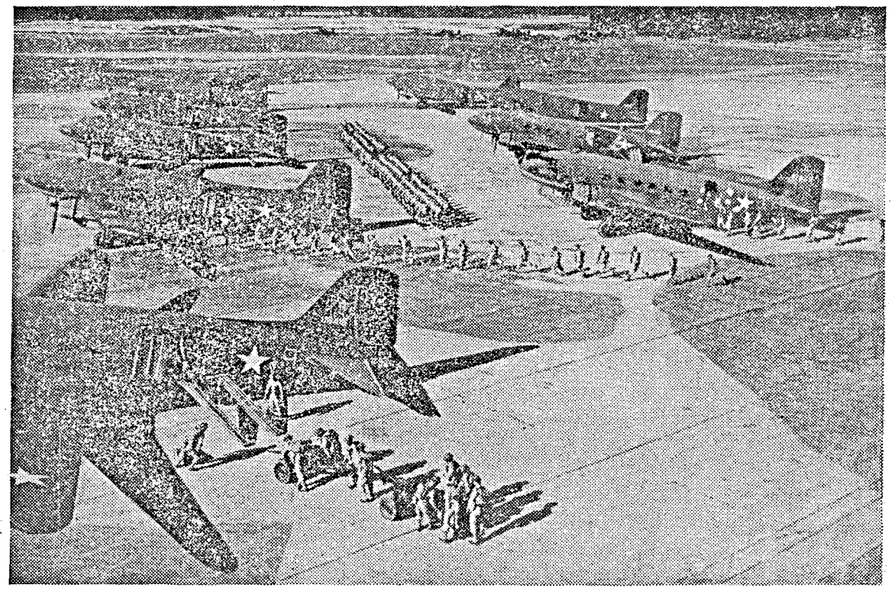
PANIC PARALYSES DEFENCE

How can we do this? Clearly, the better our defences, the more expensive their raids will be. But you and I are not responsible for defence, which is in the excellent hands of Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell, who is the right man for the job. But what you and I can do is to see that casual air raids do not cause panic out of all proportion to their real danger. Panic paralyses defence. Military operations depend to a large extent on the smooth working of the life of the country. The railways, the harbours, the post office and telephones, the lighting and water-supply, the shops and restaurants, the medical and sanitary services—all these are essential to the defence of the country. And it is our business to see that the ordinary workers stay at their posts and do not flock into the country if a stick of bombs is dropped in the neighbourhood. Even if no damage or casualties are caused, an attack would be deemed successful if it upset the life of this city at a time when important military movements were afoot.

We can therefore do much to thwart the object of air raids, by spreading the idea that they are nothing to get into a panic about. Of course they are always unpleasant and they are undoubtedly attended by a certain amount of danger. But the unpleasantness is no more than we can endure and the danger is no greater than an ordinarily resolute man or woman can meet with fortitude and cheerfulness.

Remember that the good name of the city of Madras lies in our hands. We are or ought to be proud of this beautiful and historic city of ours. Do we wish it to be said that we are a city of cravens, unable to stand a very small dose of the medicine which has been the daily diet of others less fortunately situated?

Think of Malta where the air raids are counted not in tens but in thousands. The people of that brave little island do not enjoy air raids. But they do not let their dislike of the danger prevent them from performing their daily duties. They have won for their native city a name which will ring down through the centuries. The lovely old buildings of Valetta may be shattered, but the work goes on and when victory is won, there will be no community in the world which will deserve the credit for it more than the gallant Maltese.



THE START OF AN AIR-LAND EXPEDITION.—Men of the Army's Airborne Command rush to enter the huge transport planes, while guns and machines are quickly placed aboard. The various ships will carry the following: One mortar, 1 machine-gun, 15 men, one 75-inch howitzer, 1 jeep, 8 men, 10 riflemen and ammunition; 16 parachutists, 2 anti-tank guns, ammunition, 11 men, 16 to 20 riflemen and equipment; 4 motor cycles, 4 bicycles, 12 men.

CHUNGKING'S ENDURANCE

Think of Chungking, which was battered to bits by bombs against which they had no effective defence. Thank God, they have now got the American Air Force to protect them and are no longer the helpless prey of the

Japanese. But before those defenders came to their help, when the bombers rained down death and destruction without any real hindrance, they endured it all with unflinching courage and set an example which we may well copy.

The other day I heard some foolish and thoughtless people say that it was a mistake to attack Burma, because this only brought reprisals on Calcutta. Just think for a moment what this means. It means that in order to save Calcutta from casualties such as may on any day be done by a few recklessly driven lorries or motor-cars, we should betray the Chinese by allowing the Burma road to remain in Japanese hands. It means that in order to escape for the moment a very inconsiderable danger, we should allow a deadly enemy of India and of the whole civilized world to establish himself on our very doorstep, where he can watch for a favourable opportunity to complete our destruction.

For the safety of India, it is essential that the Japanese should be driven out of Burma. For the safety of China, it is essential that the Burma road should be re-opened. For the safety of the world it is essential that the forces of aggression shall be curbed.

LIVE DANGEROUSLY

Some years ago a great traveller advised all young men to live dangerously. His idea was that all the best things of life are won by taking risks, that the misery of fear is greater by far than the actual danger warrants and that we should enure ourselves to danger just as we get ourselves inoculated against typhoid. Well in this brave new world in which we live, we have all got to live dangerously, whether we want to or not. We no longer have any option in the matter. The question is no longer whether we are going to undergo risks, but whether we are going to regard those risks in a sensible way or not. Very few people are really fearless. But there is a great difference between those who feel fear but vanquish it, and those who are a prey to their fears. Some people make their lives a perfect misery by giving way to fears, often conjured up by their own imagination. Not only do they make themselves miserable but they poison the air around them. There is nothing more infectious than fear. It spreads like a forest fire and is just as difficult to check. But we can do much to prevent panic from starting. One obvious way is to avoid all sorts of panicky talk. We should not join in defeatist conversation nor give any encouragement to those who love to dwell on the possibilities of disaster. If we have fears, let us keep them to ourselves and present a smiling face to the world whatever happens. If the unexpected happens and bombs fall amidst us, let us take cover till the raid is over and then go about our daily tasks, determined that no shortcomings of ours shall help the enemy to achieve his object. Let us remember that the enemy does not really want to kill us, but to frighten us; and if we refuse to be frightened, we defeat the main object of his raid. If others show signs of panic, let us reassure them by our courage. Let us above all make up our minds that whatever happens, the work of this city shall go on.

—A Broadcast talk on January 18th.

General le Clerc

THE daring and resourceful General le Cleric is to-day in the forefront of those battling to uphold the honour of France, writes W. M. Towler, in the *Daily Herald.*

His motorised cavalry, with some air support, has moved more than 1,000 miles from its base at Fort Lamy in the heart of Africa. Now they are battering at Rommel's side door on the borders of Tripolitania. If General le Clerc can make a flank attack on Rommel's forces round Tripoli, he will have accomplished one of the war's most spectacular feats.

His own career is just as spectacular. When the French armies collapsed in June 1940, he was an unknown cavalry captain. He was wounded and captured by the Germans but escaped by cycling into Vichy territory. Eventually, he reached London. De Gaulle promoted him Major and sent him to Africa to attempt to rally the French equatorial territory to the Allied cause. Le Clerc succeeded.

De Gaulle appointed him Lieutenant-Colonel and gave him command of the military forces in Chad territory. From there he organized an expedition into southern Libya which coincided with General Wavell's first offensive. Le Clerc captured the oasis of Kufra and won the first Fighting French victory over Axis forces. He was awarded the newly created French order of "Liberation" and the British D.S.O.

Vichy passed a sentence of death on him and De Gaulle retorted by giving him the rank of Colonel. Le Clerc returned to Chad after our setback in Libya last summer—but only to prepare for his present more powerful drive. Now with the rank of General—he is still under 40—he has led his men across hundreds of miles of waterless desert—to the battle zone of Fezzan in southern Libya. There they have dislodged and put to flight one Italian garrison after another. By organization and determination, le Clerc has triumphed over staggering difficulties.

Contrast between China and Japan

[The contrast between China and Japan is emphasized in a lengthy article in the British Catholic periodical "Month" for November-December 1942, by Peter Johnson, who makes the following points.]

CHINESE history is a record of expanding culture rather than of a conquering empire. The civilization which grew up in the Yellow River basin has been extended through colonization and peaceful reception by non-Chinese people and not—with a few exceptions—by armed force.

This expansion has gone on for 3,000 years at varying speeds. The process of absorption has sometimes been slow, but always complete and final. No territory once subjected to Chinese civilization has ever been lost, and no territory incorporated in a Chinese area has ever withstood the penetration of Chinese culture. The prestige of a nation which had originated Far Eastern culture, the easy tolerence of Chinese administration and the pervasive influence of Chinese literature combined to maintain Chinese rule over alien communities.

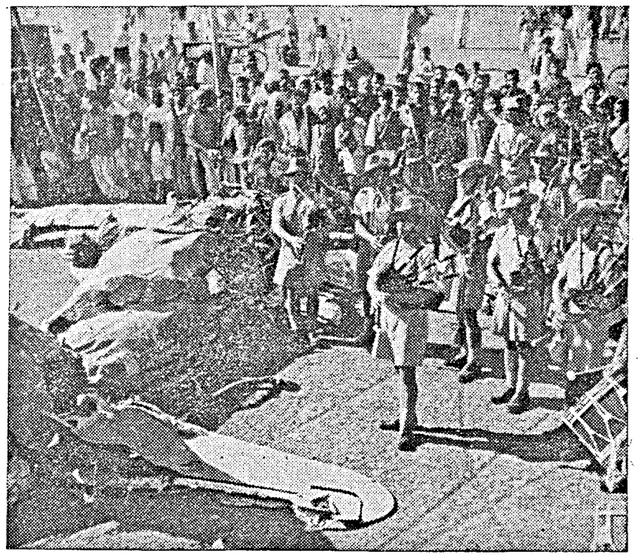
FLEXIBLE GOVERNMENT

The Chinese had established a system of government flexible and tolerant enough to allow subject peoples to fit into it. No attempt was made to suppress national dress or speech, and religious persecution was unknown. The army was recruited locally, and after the Ming conquest in 1368 there were no alien armies of occupation in China. The Chinese Government conceived its duties as keeping peace, raising taxes (which fell equally on Chinese and non-Chinese) and undertaking necessary public works such as irrigation.

THE JAPANESE WAY

It is difficult to imagine a greater contrast to this civilized outlook which produced the wise and benevolent regime of China than that which was found in China's near neighbour, Japan. There was no ethical basis for government in Japan. The Emperor was Emperor by hereditary divine right, not by divine appointment, and because he was worthy to rule. Whereas the Chinese revered their Emperor as a benevolent father and as a pattern of goodness, the Japanese worshipped their Emperor as God on earth. The Chinese conception of government by example allowed for and sanctified a revolution when the ruler had ceased to fulfil his functions of leadership. Benevolent absolutism was limited within bounds of utility, and when a dynasty had failed to fulfil its purpose, it was usually deposed and replaced by another.

There was—and could be—no question, however, of deposing the Japanese God-Emperor, though in practice all effective power was usurped by the Shogun or office of generalissimo invested for many generations in the house of Tokugawa. A revival of Shinto in the late 18th century brought about a rebellion against these upstart mayors of the palace, but the identification of the Emperor with the Government which followed, was a danger in itself. If the Emperor is a living God—and the Japanese really believe him to be such—his right to rule all peoples who can be



SMASHED RAIDERS.—A number of Japanese planes have been destroyed over Assam and Bengal. Some of them have been put on view so that the civil population can see what our defences do to uninvited guests. Photo shows a small section of the crowd that came to see the wreckage.

brought under Japanese sway can scarcely be questioned and any revolt against his authority becomes a sacrilege. And the Japanese, regarding themselves as descendants of the sun goddess, aim at nothing less than world domination: "haakko ichiu", or "all the world under one (and that Japanese) roof."

The difference between a civilized and an uncivilized race is nowhere more clearly seen than in the Chinese and Japanese approaches to other peoples and racial groups. The Chinese were content to leave others to assimilate their culture without coercing it upon them. They were conscious of the splendour and antiquity of their own civilization and they assumed that other peoples would be glad to emulate them—a message sent by the Manchu Emperor, Thien Lung, illustrates this attitude—but they seldom if ever tried to extend this civilization by aggrandisement and war.

MEN OF PEACE

Their character has not essentially changed. They have proved themselves willing and able to fight and win victories in defence of their country, but they are primarily interested in reconstructing their country for peace and in building up a new agricultural, educational and industrial system. Before the outbreak of the present war they did not concentrate, like the Japanese and Germans, on piling up stores of armaments, but learnt from the scientific and medical and educational experience of Western nations how to improve conditions of life among their own people.

The Japanese on the other hand have proclaimed their intention of coercing the whole of East Asia into accepting their version of the "New Order." They have imposed the "blessings of imperial rule" upon one race after another that has been too weak to resist them. Resistance to their divine mission is in their eyes a crime. Peoples who have been compelled to join their "Co-Prosperity Sphere" find that they have nothing to hope from their conquerors but oppression "worse than a tiger's" and exploitation.

The Arab's Faith

Any Arab with zeal for his honour and believing in his right to a free life and in the justice of his cause, cannot but declare his support to the United Nations. Thus we declare our point of view to all the world and will remain faithful to it for ever.

—"*AL-AKHBAR,*" *a Baghdad journal.*

China's "Full Stature"

THE *Daily Herald* in an editorial says that from the beginning of China's national revolution, the abolition of "unequal treaties" was one of its cardinal aims. That aim is now achieved. In the Generalissimo's phrase, China to-day "assumes the full stature of an independent democratic nation."

This, let it be clear (continues the *Daily Herald*), is no part of the Far Eastern settlement that will have to be made when peace comes. Then there will have to be territorial changes ending past injustices. There will be security arrangements and economic provisions. It will be a formidable task for peacemakers.

All that is for the future for friendly negotiation among the United Nations. What has been achieved now is the ending of all legal foreign interference in China's internal affairs. China to-day has in law—and will, when the invader is expelled, have in fact—full and untrammelled sovereignty over her own territory.

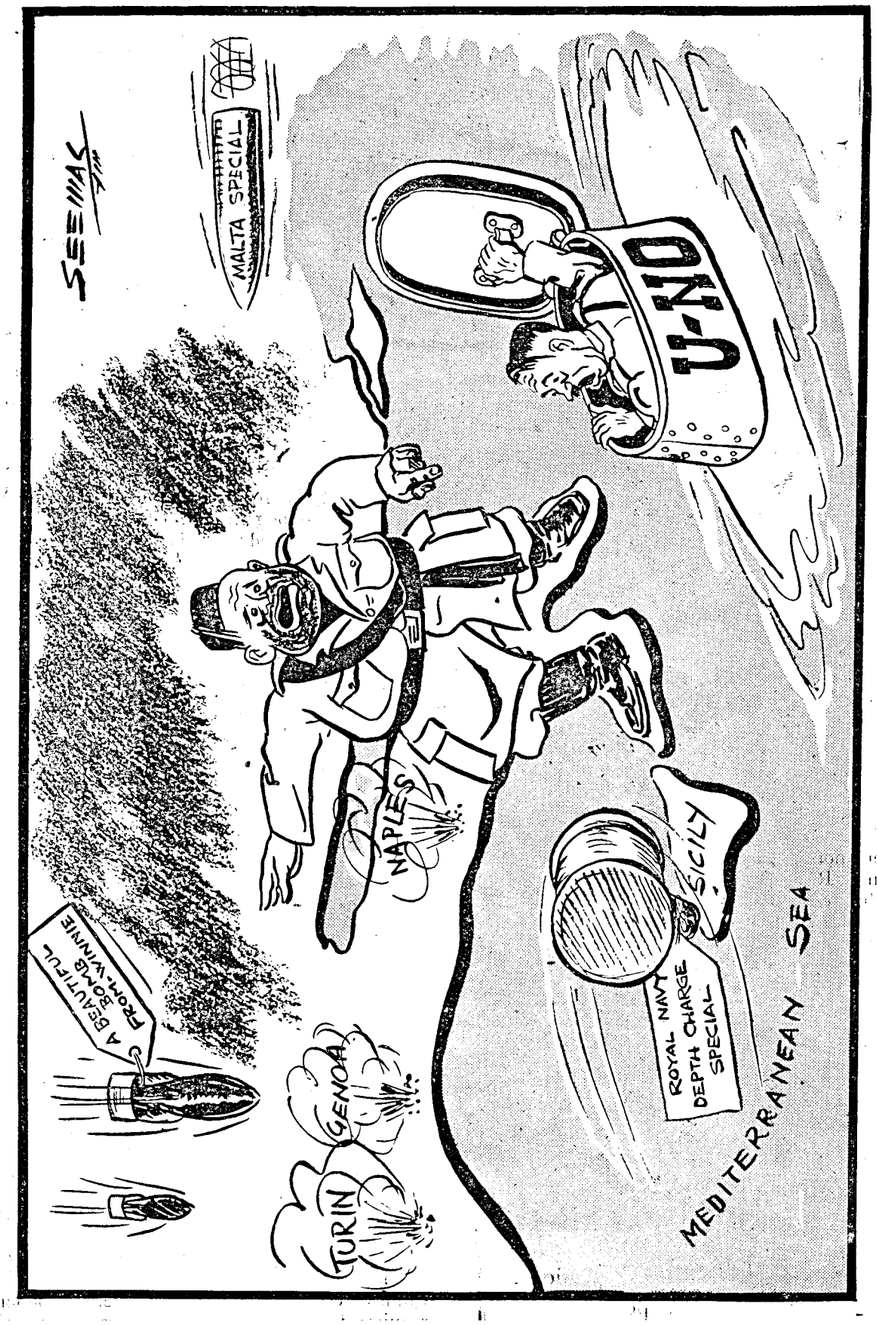
"Servitudes" are ended. Britain and America, in gladly surrendering old privileges, welcome a gallant ally to the society of free nationhood.

"TRULY WON HONOUR"

If heroic and unconquerable patriotism is a title to national greatness, the Chinese people have well and truly won that honour, writes the *Daily Telegraph*. The new treaties between China and Britain and China and the United States register what is an accomplished fact—that China holds her place among the United Nations in complete equality of comradeship.

Help for China, as Field Marshal Smuts has said, is "one of the Allies' most important objects." Without the establishment of Chinese security and independence, the war will not be won. The magnificent resistance of the Chinese is a momentous factor in all strategy of the Far East.

That co-operation and goodwill which finds its machinery in the representation of the Chinese Government on the Pacific Council requires that China should exercise beyond doubt the full equality of a nation whom, in the Prime Minister's phrase, we are proud to acclaim as "fellow architects of victory." In the freedom after the peace the co-operation of China will be needed by America, Russia and Britain and the whole of mankind.



HITLER:—"And do you think I'm happy in here?"

MUSSOLINI:—"Genoa. I'm worried!"

A Crucial Year for China

THE *National Herald* (organ of the Chinese Foreign Office) says: ' Militarily, the year 1942 has witnessed very little change in the respective positions of the Chinese and Japanese armies. The year has been marked by the absence of large-scale fighting. However, while the Japanese failed to make any substantial gains during the year, China's power of resistance has been on the up-grade notwithstanding the severance of the Burma Road and the attempt at tightening the blockade of Free China by the enemy. One of the most significant developments during the year as far as the Chinese war theatre is concerned is the wresting of the mastery of the air from the Japanese by Sino-American air forces. With the year 1942 drawing to a close, the Chinese people are eagerly anticipating that success in the Burma campaign will radically alter the Chinese position and will make possible an earlier realization of the eagerly awaited counter-offensive on the Asiatic mainland.

" The year 1943 is a crucial year for China. However, if given the necessary aid by her allies she certainly can weather the storm and leap the last hurdle on the road to victory."

YEAR OF VITAL CHANGE

The *Shih Shih Sin Pao* writes: " This year has witnessed a vital change in the world situation. The Axis tide has been ebbing on the various fronts and the Allies have been gradually wresting mastery from the enemy in the sea and air and on land. On the Chinese war front there have been no fresh successes gained by the enemy and the Japanese are still being held by Chinese troops on all fronts. Owing to the gallantry of the American air forces, the Japanese air forces have been forced on the defensive.

" In the South-West Pacific, the Allies gained the initiative by launching an offensive and the enemy is being reduced to extremity. Reviewing the whole world situation, we are gratified to note that the Allies have gained the initiative on every front. The year 1942 ends with tendencies of war continuing in favour of the Allies. The dark days are over. We are facing the new year with the brightest prospect."

TWENTY-NINE ALLIES

The *Ta Kung Pao* (Independent) says: " The year 1942 has seen the outbreak of the Pacific war and by the outbreak of the war China has gained 29 allies. But the year 1942 has proved the worst time for China since the commencement of her war of resistance. Viewing the situation as a whole, we believe that the Allies will be able to start a big offensive before the end of next year. Victory is determined by the use of the offensive. With an offensive launched by the Allies next year there is not the slightest doubt that the Allies will be able to gain final victory."

Pacific: Just the Overture!

THE *Ta Kung Pao* (Independent), referring to Japanese views of the world war situation published recently in Japanese magazines and papers, says: " Japanese writers are unanimous in bragging about their war achievements in the Pacific, but they all agree that the real battle in the Pacific has not yet been fought. In brief, the Japanese have realized that the Pacific war in its present stage is just the overture. Japan's fate is uncertain. We can find no real comfort of natural optimism for the Japanese from the articles in Japanese periodicals."

The *Chung Yang-Sao Tang Jih Pao* (Central Kuomintang and Government organ) writes: " President Roosevelt issued an important statement on the first anniversary of the alliance of the United Nations. The statement coincides with traditional beliefs of Chinese people. They will do their part to the best of their ability under the leadership of the Generalissimo."

The *Hsin Min Pao* (Business) writes: " We hope our Allies will pay attention to President Roosevelt's New Year message and work out a plan for post-war reconstruction without undue delay."

LIKE SHOVELLING SAND!

Fighting the Chinese is like shovelling sand. No sooner have the Japanese occupied and cleared out an area than gradually the Chinese begin to reappear. Conquering China, even if it could be done, would probably require a larger garrison force than the Japanese can afford."

GENERAL STILWELL, *in an interview to "New York Times."*

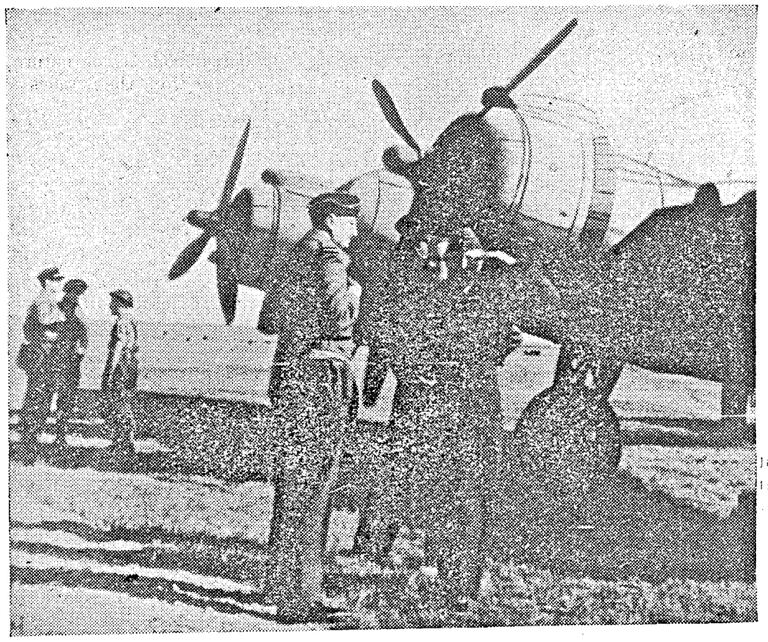
Story of the Siege of Malta

By GENERAL SIR WILLIAM DOBBIE, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O.

[*General Sir William Dobbie was born in Madras in 1879. He was a classical scholar at Charterhouse and then went to the Royal Academy at Woolwich. He served throughout the last war and was mentioned in despatches seven times. From 1928–32 he was Brigade Commander in Egypt and from 1935–39 General Officer Commanding in Malaya. He served in Malta as Governor and Commander-in-Chief from 1940 until May 1942.*]

THE story of the siege of Malta is not yet complete. Other glorious pages still remain to be written. But even so, it is permissible to examine the story so far as it goes, and draw lessons from it which may help us in the days of siege which still lie ahead. Wars and battles are not won only by material means, important as these things are. In the end it is, under God, the man and the spirit of man which count. The story of Malta is a notable example of this truth. It is a story of human endurance and determination triumphing often over a lack of material resources. It is in this that its value lies.

A word first about the people and the place. Malta is the most densely populated country in the world; with a population of well over a quarter of a million, it carries 2,700 persons for each square mile. The country therefore obviously cannot support itself in essential foodstuffs, although every square yard of suitable ground is cultivated. Most of its food and all its manufactured goods have to be brought in from outside. Thus the sea plays a decisive part in the well-being of Malta. For this reason Malta has always had a specially intimate connection with the Royal Navy, and Maltese men are to be found serving in most of His Majesty's ships and in many merchant vessels. Malta well understands the significance of the phrase 'command of the sea.'



This picture taken at an advanced air field in Algeria shows Air Marshal Sir William Welsh, Air Officer Commanding, North Africa, and other officers.

Malta is some sixty miles from Sicily and about a thousand miles from the nearest British territory. It is, in fact, the most exposed part of the British Empire. For this reason many persons, especially among our enemies, thought that Malta could not be held. The Italians openly boasted that it would be overrun and captured by them within the first few days of war. At that time, June 1940, when the resources of the British Empire were strained almost to breaking-point, the defensive strength of Malta was far less powerful than it is to-day. The Italians might surely have seized what

must have seemed to them a favourable opportunity to implement their boasts. But though they talked big, they acted small, and could never screw themselves up to taking the plunge and testing the defences of the island, which has remained in our hands and has been a veritable thorn in their side.

" HE IS ONLY ITALIAN "

Malta was the first place in the British Empire to experience serious aerial bombing. The people therefore had to face the unknown, which always has peculiar terrors of its own. In spite of the instructions and advice—largely based on theory—issued by the Government, Malta, like other places had o win its knowledge of how best to cope with these new perils in the hard school of experience. In this Malta had to lead the way, and right well did she face the issue. They say that familiarity breeds contempt, and a tendency soon showed itself—which persists to the present day—to treat the enemy with real contempt, especially if he was Italian. Men and women, and even children, were frequently heard to say of a raider: 'He is only Italian,' while they went on with their business. This tendency, of course, has to be checked, since even an Italian bomb can hurt if it hits one. Malta is blessed with a rock which is soft enough to work, but hard enough to stand up to the severest blows. This has meant much to the island, since it has enabled shelters to be built which really do give first-rate protection. If it were not for this the casualty list would have been infinitely higher. But though it might protect the people it could not protect their houses, and they would often emerge from their shelters only to find their homes a heap of ruins. It was a pathetic sight to see these people probing the debris, trying to extricate some of their furniture and household treasures. But I was immensely struck by the courage of these very people and their grim determination to see this thing through. More than once I have met such women by their ruined homes and they have said to me: 'We have lost all, but it does not matter so long as we win this war.'

One often wondered what would be the effect on children of the continuous alerts and raids. Generally speaking, they seemed to stand the strain remarkably well. The small boys, especially, appeared to derive actual enjoyment from the raids, a feeling which was not always shared by their elders and betters. They took the liveliest interest in what was happening. Their unbelievably keen eyes would spot the Messerschmitts or Junkers or the Italian Cants at distances beyond the powers of ordinary mortals, and follow the happenings in detail when our Spitfires came on the scene. When peace comes I am afraid they will find life rather dull. The education of these youngsters presented a difficult problem, but it had to be faced—to give these citizens of tomorrow as good a start in life as possible. Many of the schools were destroyed by bombs, others had to be used for hospitals, but by the exercise of ingenuity and by distributing classes in different buildings, a good degree of education has been maintained.

DESIRE TO HELP

Malta's isolation from the outside world, of course, deprived many persons of their livelihood. Importers, exporters, and businesses of all kinds were affected, as were also retail shops which could not adequately replenish their stocks. Thus many persons had to seek other means of livelihood, and many were absorbed in the Armed Forces of the various Government departments. The conscription of man-power for essential services reduced unemployment to a minimum. All these upheavals were generally accepted with good humour and a fine realism. And the people tried to help each other and the community. I remember once getting a letter from the boys of a village offering their services. Could they not make themselves useful in some way: carrying messages, roof-spotting, as guides, or in any other way? They would like to wear some uniform, but if that were not possible it didn't matter so long as they could be useful. It was the right spirit, and I believe the motive was not only a boyish love of adventure but a genuine desire to help.

A MIRACLE

The people of Malta are proud, and rightly so, of their buildings, many of which are of great historic interest and architectural beauty. Many of these have, alas, been destroyed, and many more seriously damaged, much to the distress of the people. Some buildings have had remarkable escapes. I remember watching a raid one afternoon and I saw a bomb hit the dome of a church in a neighbouring village. The dome was a remarkably large one and the church was thought much of by the people of the village who had built it. I immediately went to the village, expecting to see a scene of great desolation. I entered the church and to my relief I found that the bomb, which was a very large one, had bored a neat hole in the dome but had not damaged the crypt underneath, in which a large number of people were sheltering. The people regarded the episode as a miracle, as indeed it was.

I have said very little about the garrison, but the fighting Services have of course played a great part in this epic struggle. Their co-operation with each other and with the civil population has been first-rate, and has contributed largely to the successful defence of the island. We used to say that Malta stood squarely on four legs—the Navy, the Army, the Air Force and the civil population. The importance of a good understanding and mutual confidence between these four cannot be overestimated. The anti-aircraft guns of Malta have gained a world-wide reputation. These are manned by both British and Maltese personnel. In certain periods, when we were short of fighter aircraft, they largely bore the burden of defence—and well did they respond. The amount of practice they have had should have made them good, and they certainly are good. I remember in one month the guns alone destroyed over a hundred enemy aircraft for certain. The work of the fighter aircraft was also magnificent. Starting from nothing they have until recently always been fighting against odds, and sometimes very heavy odds. Between them and the guns a remarkable toll has been levied on the Axis air forces which has caused a continual drain on resources they can ill afford.

THE KING'S GRACIOUS ACTION

Life in Malta has been and still is serious and strenuous, and many of the amenities of life have had to be discarded. But while all concerned have kept up their courage and their spirits, they are glad when they see that their efforts and their contribution to the common cause are appreciated and understood. It was therefore with the greatest pleasure that they learnt of the delightful gesture of His Majesty the King, when he conferred the George Cross on the island. This delight was all the greater because the King's action was unexpected and without precedent. The appreciation of the people was enormous, and it gave them great encouragement. I venture to think that no honour has been better earned by any community. The most pleasant task which fell to my lot during my two years as Governor was to tell the people of the King's most gracious action.

One word more. I have purposely left to the last the point that really overshadows all others in importance. During these two years of the siege, I was very conscious of the good hand of God upon us, and I am sure that the continued safety of Malta was ultimately due to His Divine protection.

PRIORITY

Accompanied by a Negro driver, an American major in a motor vehicle was stopped by the sentry on guard at a cross-roads.

"Who goes there?"

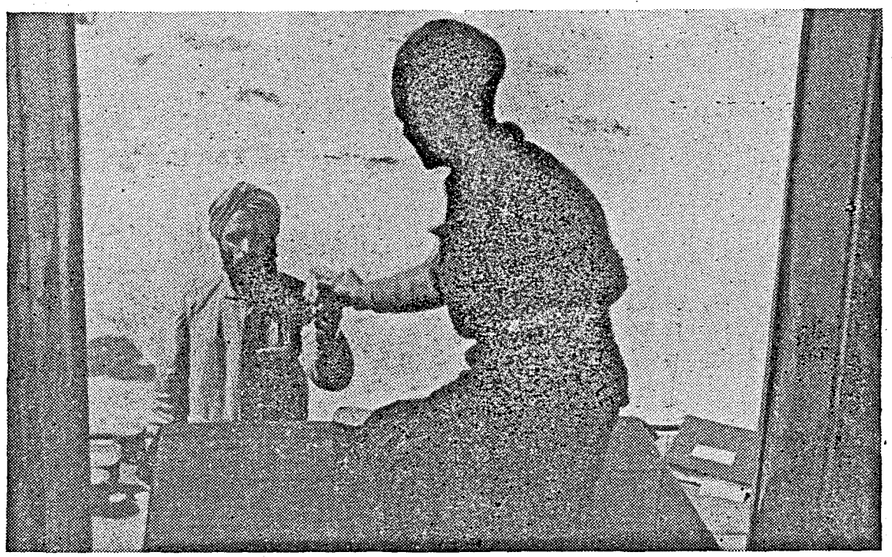
"One American major, a one-ton truck of fertilizer, and one buck private."

They were allowed to proceed, but at every cross-roads they went through the same formula.

After a time the driver asked if they were likely to be stopped again.

"I guess so," replied the major.

"Well, major," said the private, "the next time we are stopped would you mind giving me priority over the fertilizer?"



MOBILE WORKSHOP.—Photo taken at a workshop behind the lines in the desert where damaged trucks, carriers, guns and even tanks are repaired and returned to the battle zone. The storeman issues stores.

Russia's Master Plan : Resemblance to 1918 Strategy

WHAT is the master plan behind the daily news of the Russian blows in half a dozen different sectors of the enormous eastern front?

For on the eve of 1943 there is a master plan for Hitler's ultimate Russian discomfiture—make no mistake about it. I believe that the plan closely resembles the strategy of the Allies at the Western Front in 1918 and that in its usual rather indefinite way, history is repeating itself.

In the spring of this year just as in 1918 the German High Command had local superiority of force on the main battlefront which was unlikely to last more than a few months and it had decided how best to use its superiority to break down the enemy's resistance as quickly as possible and induce him to accept terms of peace. The Allied resources, like those of the Allies in 1918, were growing and if the critical period of temporary inferiority could be survived, the balance would then turn, more and more, in Russia's favour. The German aim was in each case to strike a swift and annihilating blow; that of their enemy was to gain time to hold out and be ready to pass to the offensive as soon as the German superiority disappeared.

The German strategy, both in 1942 and 1918, was to put the whole weight behind one heavy punch at a time and exploit it to the full in an endeavour to obtain a decision by smashing up hostile resistance. If they could rupture the hostile line and shatter it to fragments they might win this victory even at the eleventh hour; even though the time left while they still had the necessary superiority was short and fleeting.

THE TURNING POINT

We know the result in each case. In 1918, first on the Somme and then on the Aisne and the Marne, the Germans were within a reasonable distance of full success. The turning point came when the Germans had frittered away their superiority in a series of spectacular but abortive efforts and the Allies had accumulated enough reserves to pass to the offensive in their turn.

The same thing is repeating itself now in Russia. Both at Stalingrad and in the Caucasus, the Germans rushed forward with such vigour, speed and fury that it seemed they could not fail to rupture the Russian line and score a really decisive success. But they failed. In the end, worn-out with the chase of the phantom, they came to the end of their strength and had to halt. Now assured of increasing superiority over the enemy, our Allies are delivering a series of separate and inter-connected blows, each one aimed at one of the enemy's weak spots on his long and sinuous front.

MARSHAL FOCH'S PLAN

Marshal Foch in 1918 devised this plan of a series of short-range and quickly delivered punches aimed at one hostile weak point after another and broken off as soon as resistance stiffened in the front of each one so as to make further effort there uneconomical. As soon as this happened, another punch would follow in another sector which, if successful, would have the effect of creating another enemy pocket from where he would have to withdraw unless he was to risk having the troops holding it cut off and lost. The Russian High Command is using the same methods today.

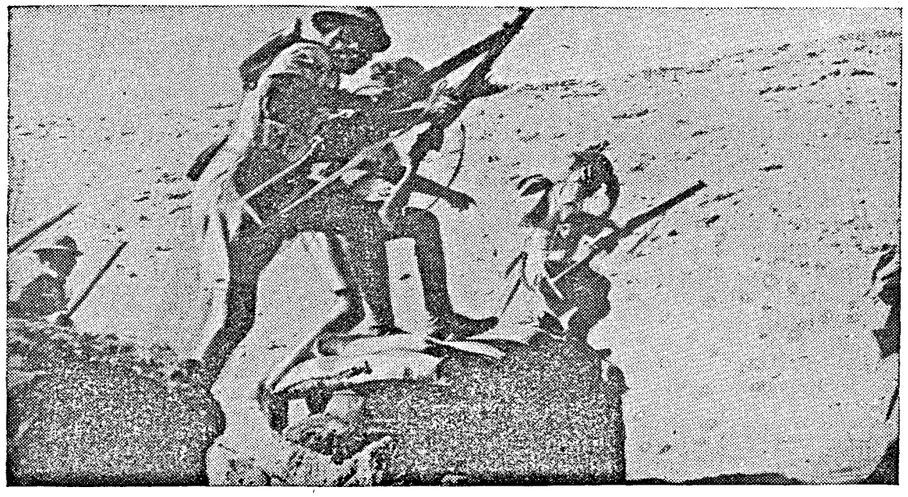
It is the strategy of the side whose forces are growing in contrast to those of the enemy. So 1918 may thus serve as a forecast of 1943. And the ultimate issue of the contest between these rival strategists bids fair to be the same now as it was then.

—The *Daily Herald.*

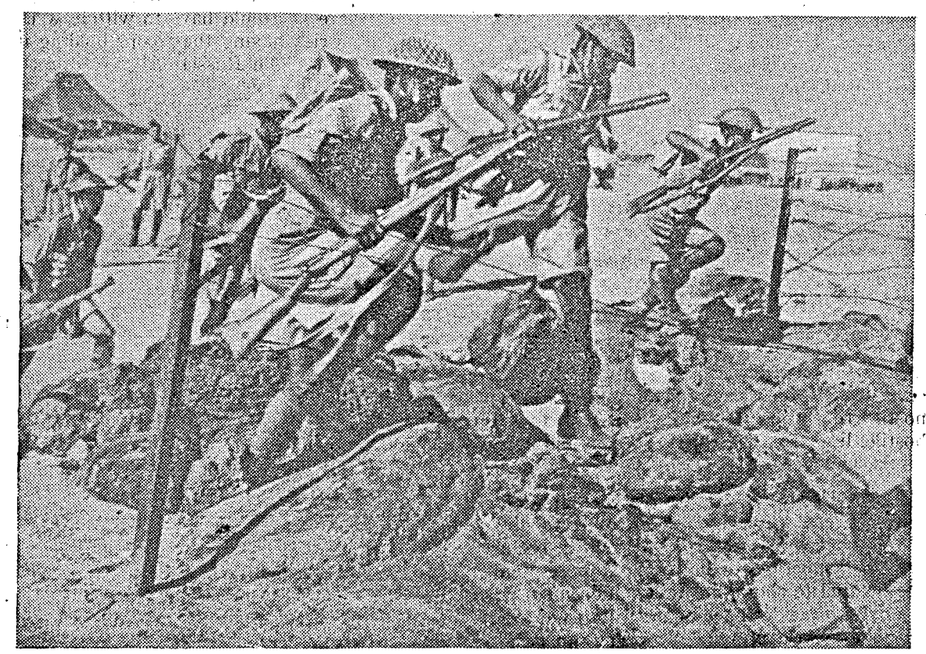
JAP JAZZ

"Jazz numbers are highly inappropriate to the present times," states a Japanese broadcast, announcing the banning of English and American dance tunes and popular songs. To anyone acquainted with Japanese Western style dance bands there is a good deal of unconscious humour in this announcement. Though Jazz is perhaps the most universally performed of Western music, and in many Eastern countries has a high standard of execution, the Japanese have undoubtedly been the least successful with it. Like many of their Western imitations, Japanese-performed Jazz has a machine-like and nondescript character—and usually at least one instrument out of time!

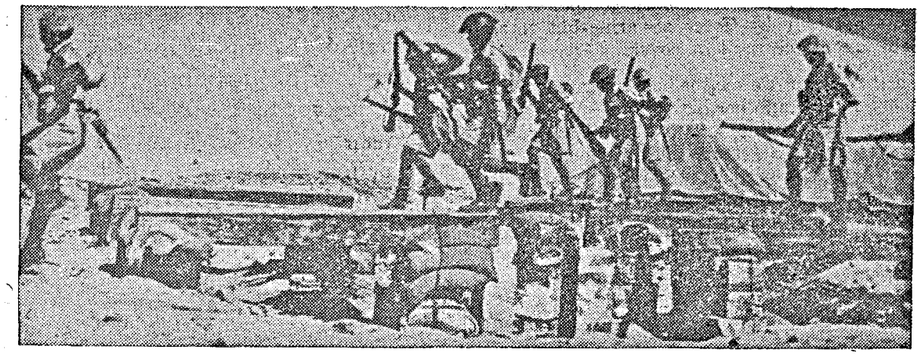
TOUGH TACTICS SCHOOL



Indians are taken from all Indian army units in the Middle East to go through a Tough Tactics School. Indian troops negotiate a sand-bagged wall at the double.



They have to negotiate many difficult obstacles, and as seen in the picture, rough stones are no deterrent.



Troops are here seen negotiating a difficult series of obstacles known as the fishnet.

Forced German Withdrawal

Contrast with Russian Planned Retreat

By LIEUT.-GEN. SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

THE opening of New Year shows Germany everywhere on the defensive and in many places in retreat. The remarkable offensive in the south brought the Russians great success and a measure of this can best be gauged by the number of prisoners taken and booty captured rather than by any assessment of territorial reconquest.

It is in respect of the human material captured that we can see the great differences between the Russian retreat of the last summer and the German retreat of the present time. When Von Bock was advancing east with great rapidity, the Germans never laid claim to any large number of prisoners in the Don elbow but contented themselves with advertising the amount of Russian soil they had occupied. The Russians now advancing over the same terrain in the opposite direction are capturing German prisoners by tens of thousands and immense quantities of warlike stores. This gives the clue to the real difference between the two retreats.

TACTICS OF 1812

The Russians withdrew deliberately sacrificing territory in order to save the army. It was the tactics of 1812 all over again. It was because the withdrawal was well-planned and deliberately executed that the Germans were in the main only opposed by rearguards in the Don elbow. This accounted for the comparatively small number of prisoners—because only a small number of the Russian Army had been actively engaged.

The return journey has been a very different affair. The Germans never intended to give ground; they have been forced back by better tactics and superior generalship. If more proof were wanted to show that this is indeed so, we have only to ponder on the large dumps of food that have been captured. The German is not the man to lay in stocks and provisions for the benefit of the enemy. Most emphatically, the Germans had no intention of coming out of the Don elbow; they have been compelled to do so—not only by force of arms but to a certain extent for want of cover.

Further north, we see the beginnings of what may prove to be another big victory—for in the Leningrad region the Germans have less depth behind them than further south. The loss of Velikie Luki may well be the first step to great successes.

The Russian winter counter-offensive has been so remarkably successful that we must guard against expecting the pace of their advance to be kept up indefinitely. Further west they progress, the easier railway communications become for the Germans.

A glance at the railway map of Russia is most enlightening. It shows how much denser are the lines of rail west of the general line from Leningrad-Moscow-Voronezh-Krasnodar than east of it. This has been the result of the intensive development in the Donetz basin as an industrial area. But no matter what the cause, it gives the opponent facing east far better lines of communication behind.

SEVERITY OF RUSSIAN WINTER

The increasing severity of the Russian winter is of course another factor which favours the defenders who necessarily have lesser need to undertake large troop movements.

The lesson we should learn from the Russian counter-offensive is that our Allies have made remarkable use of the time which has been at their disposal but we cannot expect the present rate of progress to be kept up much longer.

In North Africa the very speed of the opening moves has made some people restless because the pace has slackened. Let us take a warning from this to anticipate the same development in Russia.

Communications are the key to military movements—and in developed countries railways are still the basic means of communication.

ALLIES ON THE WAY TO VICTORY

"When Hitler collapses he will become desperate. We are on our way to victory. I cannot say how long it will take but no one should overlook the possibility of a long rough road. 1943 may well see the prelude to the victory that is coming—if, so far from relaxing, we should increase our efforts."

—LORD HALIFAX, *the British Ambassador to U.S., in a speech in New York on January 18.*

New Chapter in Russian Winter Offensive

THE storming in five days of the ancient town of Velikie Luki, which fell to the Russians on New Year day, is not only a model for all such operations, says the *Daily Telegraph* Moscow correspondent. It opens a new chapter in the winter offensive along the front between Moscow and Leningrad. Within 24 hours of the storming of Velikie Lukie the Russian Railway Corps got the trains working.

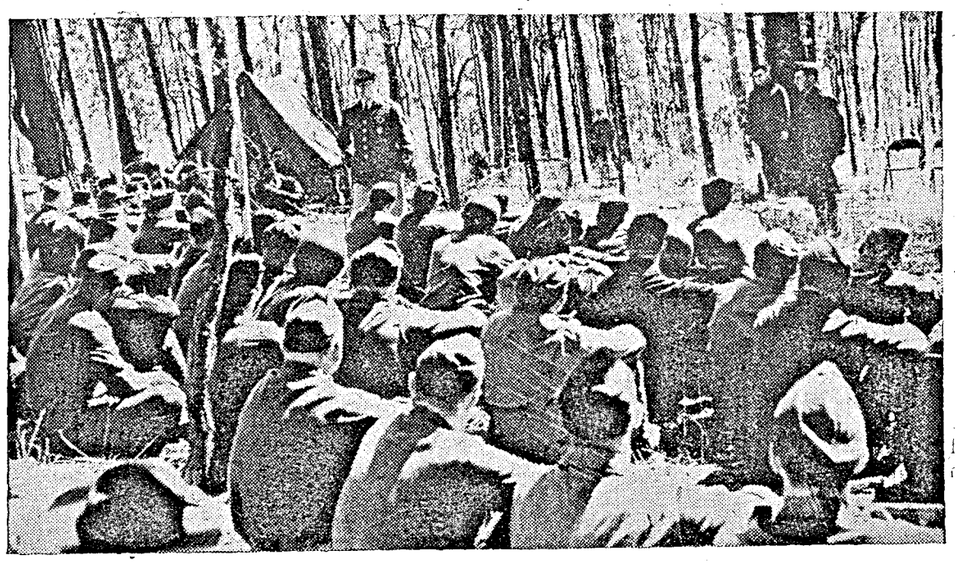
There was one outstanding fact during the hellish hand-to-hand fighting for the town. Everywhere shrivelled women and pale children crawled out of the cellars under fire and led the Russian troops to the hidden German key-points. Among other guerillas was a 20-year old girl, Amara Proshago, who led the first wave of the assault showing the Russian troops the best ways into her town.

The German 83rd Division which was wiped out at Velikie Luki refused to surrender because it knew that the Panzer Division, with 70 extra tanks and artillery support, were still trying to break through to its relief. The final Russian assault was launched without a hitch.

It began on a surprise position after half an hour's artillery preparations. Within two hours the Russian guardsmen with their special mortar companies and sappers were crawling on right under the gun holes of the enemy strong points, while the fierce Usbek and Kazak soldiers from Central Asia had with tank support got a grip on the town's suburbs. Light artillery went right ahead with the infantry blasting the enemy gun-nests at point blank range. Altogether 130 German strong points were counted on these suburban fronts which were subjected to direct assault.

The huge Vyazma-Rzhev-Velikie Luki triangle has long been a threat to Moscow. The Russian assault on the triangle has been the Cinderella of their winter campaign. The German bastion at Rzhev remains on the direct line to Moscow. But the loop lines, northwards of this town, are being used to speed up the new and wider thrusts. The Velikie Luki region is marshy and studded with lakes and ponds. All are now frozen but they still impede transport. Most of the roads are poor.

After encircling or smashing 60 enemy Divisions in the first six weeks of their offensive, the Russians are determined to destroy even greater forces in the next 12 weeks—before the spring thaw. Russia wants to finish her war this year. Her armies intend to exploit their supreme winter mobility to the limit so that Hitler will not be able to attempt any further spring offensive here.



MacARTHUR VISITS HIS TROOPS.—General MacArthur, Allied Commander-in-Chief, is seen addressing a group of officers while on tour of inspection at the headquarters of an American division, somewhere in Australia.

Germans' Second Winter in Russia

THE Soviet Army's current campaign bears many resemblances to the winter campaign of 1941–42, but some differences are already discernible, writes Hanson Baldwin.

First, and most important, in this second winter war of attrition is the physical and moral effect on both sides—but particularly the moral effect on the Germans—which is cumulative. Second, the Nazis have assumed the defensive and have relinquished—or were forced to give up—the strategic initiative somewhat earlier in the season than they did last year. The Russian counter-attacks have thus mounted earlier and driven more rapidly into German-held territory than they did initially a year ago.

Giving the reasons for this, Hanson Baldwin quotes Ralph Parker, who wrote in the *New York Times* from Moscow that greater mobility, better co-ordination and improvement in command had enabled the Red Army to take more rapid advantage of its opportunities.

Proceeding, Hanson Baldwin declares that this third winter, according to reports from Russia, is not comparable in severity with last winter, which was one of the worst in Europe's history, and hence more manœuvrability on both sides is possible.

It is the second winter of the Russian war; German divisions that otherwise might be resting and recouping their strength are locked in death grapples, the Nazis are on the defensive, and in certain sectors they are probably in retreat.

HAVING A HARD TIME

German spokesmen are now dwelling on the heavy demands made on German troops who are fighting the Red Army in the present weather while harassed in the rear by partisans, writes *The Times* military correspondent. Berlin correspondents of Swiss newspapers have recently made the following points, manifestly from official inspiration: That early exhaustion of Russian offensive power is not to be assumed; that Russian tanks are of good quality and difficult to knock out; and that Russian tactics, though of a type "unknown to the west," are effective in this theatre and thoroughly understood by Red troops.

President Roosevelt's Sons

All four sons of the Roosevelts are now with the armed forces outside of continental United States. Marine Corps Major James Roosevelt is in the Solomons. The two youngest sons are Lieutenants aboard destroyers—John as a supply officer for four destroyers in the Pacific, Franklin Jr. as a gunnery officer on a destroyer in the Atlantic. Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott Roosevelt is with the Army Aviation Command in England.

BASIS OF PEACE

"All of us know that a mere military victory, important and essential as that clearly is, will not of itself bring us lasting peace. It is not a question what kind of peace victors would like to impose upon the vanquished, but, in the cold light of experience, how we can build a peace which is likely to prove enduring and which rests upon Christian fundamentals.

"The only way to make the peace secure, is to set up an international organisation for keeping that peace. This does not mean creating an overnight world government with sweeping general power to invade the domestic affairs of sovereign States.

"Presumably, these powers would include among others, power to prevent by concerted action territorial aggression, to regulate and control heavy armament building in every country of the world, power to administer and supervise the Government of certain backward and colonial areas and power by concerted action to attack certain discriminatory anti-social practices in the field of international trade and finance."

—MR. FRANCIS B. SAYRE, *Special Assistant to Mr. Cordel Hull, U S. Secretary of State, and former High Commissioner to the Philippines, in New York, on January 16.*

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

14th Jan.—The Royal Air Force raided Ruhr. Industrial plants in Lille were also attacked.

15th Jan.—General Sikorski, Polish Premier, arrived in Britain from United States.

Bombs were dropped in a few places in south-east England.

16th Jan.—The Royal Air Force bombed Berlin.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

17th Jan.—Col. C. S. Booth, the Assistant Deputy Adjutant-General to the Canadian Military Headquarters in Britain, in an interview in Winnipeg, said he expected that the Allied forces would invade German-occupied Europe early in summer.

The United States War Production Board announced that the Government's war expenditure in 1942 totalled 52,406 million dollars or 169,100,100 dollars daily compared to 13,895 million in 1941.

19th Jan.—Lord Halifax (British Ambassador to United States) said: "When Hitler

Their guns held high to keep them dry, steel-helmeted United States parachutists advance through a stream toward the air field. They must pack their full equipment of course, even in such an emergency as this, for once on the ground, every man must eventually be "on his own."

18th Jan.—Berlin was bombed again by the Royal Air Force. Large fires were started.

German aircraft raided London. Ten enemy planes were brought down.

20th Jan.—It was revealed in the Commons by Sir James Grigg, War Secretary, that British prisoners in Germany were still shackled.

Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, said in the Commons: "Everywhere the initiative has passed into the hands of the United Nations."

21st Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Northern France.

collapses, he will become desperate and have a crack at England. We are on our way to victory."

21st Jan.—Chilean Senate voted for break with Axis.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

14th Jan.—There was heavy fighting in Burma for Kathedaung. Indian troops captured Temple Hill. The Royal Air Force raided Shwebo district.

15th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked four Japanese-occupied villages in the Akyab area.

16th Jan.—The Royal Air Force shot down three enemy aircraft over Calcutta in four minutes.

17th Jan.—Japanese attacks near Rathedaung were repulsed.

18th Jan.—A Japanese convoy was attacked south of Rangoon by American aircraft. One cargoship was sunk and another damaged.

Japanese aircraft attacked Feni aerodrome in Chittagong area. One raider was shot down.

19th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked Taungoo aerodrome.

20th Jan.—Calcutta was again raided. One enemy plane was damaged.

A place near Rathedaung was captured by British troops.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

14th Jan.—Allied aircraft raided Tripoli.

15th Jan.—The Allies launched a new offensive. Allied aircraft raided the enemy landing ground at Mismata.

The Pretender to the French Throne, the Comte de Paris returned to Tangier.

16th Jan.—Iraq declared war on the Axis.

17th Jan.—There were air battles in Tunisia. Twenty-three Axis planes were shot down. Tripoli was bombed by Allied aircraft.

18th Jan.—Axis troops retreated in Tripolitania. The Allies were 130 miles from the capital.

19th Jan.—The Eighth Army advanced 80 miles from Buerat. Forty miles were covered in a day.

Two Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

20th Jan.—The Nazis launched an attack in Tunisia. The Fighting French captured more places in Tripolitania. The Eighth Army was 30 miles from Tripoli.

21st Jan.—Thirteen Axis vessels were sunk in the Mediterranean.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

14th Jan.—Nazi troops retreated in disorder in North Caucasus. The Soviet Caucasus and Kalmuk armies linked. The Russian army began mopping up Hitler's 22 trapped divisions in Stalingrad.

15th Jan.—Russian troops reached the east bank of the Donetz.

16th Jan.—The Red Army was within 60 miles of Rostov.

17th Jan.—The Russians were within two miles of Donetz. German lines near Voronezh were pierced and 17,000 prisoners were taken.

18th Jan.—The Russians captured Millerovo.

19th Jan.—The siege of Leningrad was lifted.

The Russians crossed the Donetz and recaptured the Voronezh–Kamensk line.

20th Jan.—The Russians won a major victory at Leningrad and Kamensk.

* * * *

SHIPPING

14th Jan.—The British corvette **Marigold** was lost.

16th Jan.—Two or three Nazi merchantships were bombed and hit by aircraft of the Coastal Command.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16th Jan.—Hitler, fearing an Allied invasion through Germany's "back door," gave orders to speed up fortifications in the Balkans.

18th Jan.—A regime, resembling a state of siege, was proclaimed in Lyons. Vichy and Nazi officers were attacked.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

14th Jan.—American reinforcements were landed in Guadalcanar. Allied troops advanced in Sanananda.

15th Jan.—An American torpedo boat scored hits on two Japanese destroyers in the Solomons.

16th Jan.—General MacArthur opened a new front in New Guinea.

17th Jan.—The Chinese recaptured Loshan. Three Japanese destroyers were damaged in south-west Pacific. Allied troops broke through at Sanananda.

18th Jan.—Japanese resistance collapsed in Papua.

19th Jan.—Five Japanese ships were hit in Rabaul.

20th Jan.—Allied troops captured Cape Killerton and Wye Point.

A PAL EXPLAINS

A member of a Scots regiment was being decorated for gallantry.

"This soldier", said the officer presenting the medal, "stood his ground in the face of overwhelming numbers. Armed with a tommy-gun, he stood up to the enemy and refused to retreat an inch."

"Must have had his foot on that six pence I lost", muttered one of the hero's pals.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1943 No. 20

Overwhelmingly OUR SHOW

SIR JAMES GRIGG

To-day we have news of the fall of Tripoli. To all intents and purposes this completes the destruction of the Italian Empire in Africa. Both Russian and British armies have had their dark days and their retreats. For both we believe that the tide has now firmly turned. We believe that both will bear their due share in the annihilation of the 'blatant beast' of the Axis

For months past we have been filled with admiration and gratitude for the stupendous exploits of the Red Army. To-day we have special cause to extend to our own army that admiration and gratitude. For the destruction of the Italian Empire in Africa is overwhelmingly our show, ours and India's, and Australia's, and New Zealand's, and South Africa's, and of the inhabitants of British East Africa and British West Africa. Of course, we have had ungrudging help from American supplies and from American air forces in the latest stage, but nevertheless it has been overwhelmingly our show

SIR JAMES GRIGG, Secretary of State for War, in a broadcast from London on January 23

THE CASABLANCA CONFERENCE

"For ten days the Combined Staffs have been in constant session, meeting two or three times a day and recording progress at intervals to the President and the Prime Minister. The entire field of war was surveyed, theatre by theatre throughout the world, and all resources were marshalled for a more intense prosecution of the war by sea, land and air.

"Nothing like this prolonged discussion between the two Allies has ever taken place before. Complete agreement was reached between the leaders of the two countries and their respective staffs upon war plans and the enterprises to be undertaken during the campaign in 1943 against Germany, Italy and Japan, with a view to drawing the utmost advantage from the markedly favourable turn of events at the close of 1942."

—A Communiquè on the Churchill-Roosevelt Conference, published on January 27.

Liberation of France

"We have met, we have talked. We have registered our entire agreement on the end to be achieved, which is the liberation of France and the triumph of human liberties by the total defeat of the enemy.

"This end will be attained by the union in war of all Frenchmen fighting side by side with all their Allies."

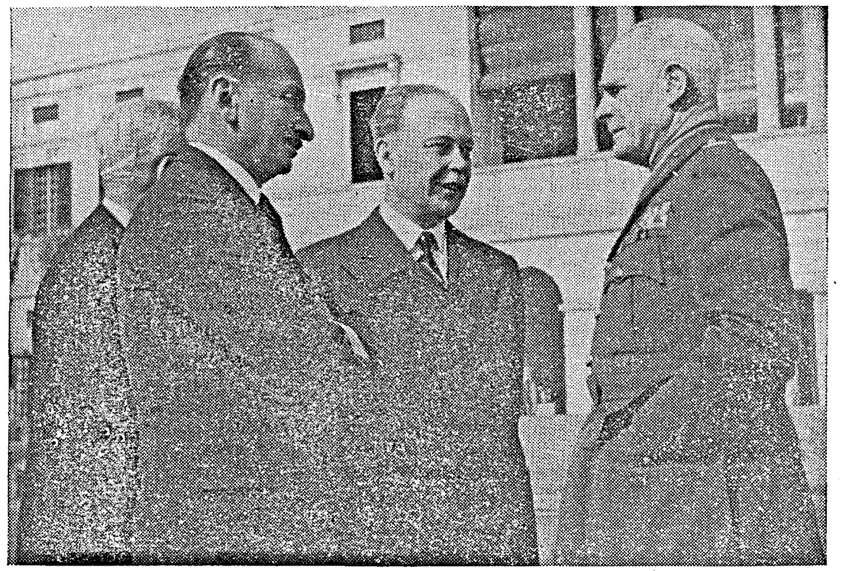
—A Joint Statement of General Giraud and General de Gaulle, issued at Casablanca.

To the Troops!

You want to be amused?
You want some light music?
Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras,*
211 or 60·98 metres,
Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
"A Resounding Victory"	4–5
An Interview with M. Sarajoglu	9
Anglo-Turkish Alliance	9
Turkey's Foreign Policy	10
Rostov "Key to the Caucasus"	11
Medical Supplies for Russia: Over £2,000,000 collected in Britain	12
The Red Army Man	14
Rumania's War Weariness	15
Preparing for "Blitz" on Germany	16
Bombing of Berlin: Then and Now	18
New Status of China	18
Reconquest of Burma	19
British Commonwealth: A Worldwide Society	20
Who should rule the Pacific after the War?	21
Diary of the War	23



The delegation of Turkish journalists was entertained to lunch by Field Marshal Wavell on January 20. Photo shows the Commander-in-Chief in conversation with Mr. Atay, the leader of the delegation (centre), and two other members.

Running Commentary

Turkish Delegation's Visit to India: History of Britain's Ally.

The Turkish Press Delegation, which is in India, has been visiting a number of important centres. At Nowshera a welcome address was presented to the delegation. In replying to it M. Sadek, one of its members, said that he was happy to find Muslims playing a prominent part in the war effort as faithful members of the British Empire, and emphasised the fact that Turkey was a firm ally of Great Britain. This gives us an opportunity to pay a tribute to a remarkable nation which has remained a staunch neutral bulwark in the midst of warring nations. It may be said that Turkey is peculiarly fitted to be a bridge between east and west.

It was on October 29, 1923, that Turkey was proclaimed a republic and Mustafa Kemal popularly known as Kemal Ataturk ("father of the Turks") was elected by the Grand National Assembly to be its first president. He was the man who symbolised the spirit of new Turkey. He saw clearly the need

(*Continued on page 6.*)

"A Resounding Victory"

M. STALIN

FROM Russia continues to come news of great successes. The Red Army is moving forward, and the Nazi forces are withdrawing. In an Order of the Day, issued on Monday, to the Russian troops on the South-western, Southern, Don, Northern Caucasus, Voronezh, Kalinin, Volkhov and Leningrad Fronts, Premier Stalin, the Supreme Commander of the Red Army, says: "As the result of two months of offensive operations, the Red Army has broken through the defences of the German Fascist troops on a wide front, routed 102 enemy divisions, and captured over 200,000 prisoners and 13,000 guns. During this period, Soviet troops have advanced about 250 miles. Our troops have won a resounding victory. The offensive of our troops continues." M. Stalin has congratulated the Russian Commanders and troops on routing Hitler's armies. The immensity of the victory on the Russian front is likely to be blurred by the series of successes secured by the United Nations in North Africa. It is, therefore, of interest to examine the importance of the Red Army's great offensive along the 600-mile front, between Voronezh to the Kuban steppes.

BEFORE doing so, a reference to the raising of the seige of Leningrad is necessary. After 16 months of grim starvation, the heroic defenders of the great City were relieved, and only on January 19 they received their first normal ration of food. It was by the capture of the fortress of Schlusselburg on the southern shores of Lake Ladoga that the last obstacle across the rail communication between Leningrad and Russian territory to the east, was cleared. To the south-east of the City a part of the main Leningrad-Moscow Railway is still being held by the Germans, and this short stretch will have to be cleared by the Russians before joining up with the forces along the Lovat Valley, which are thrusting upwards in the direction of Staraya Rusa and the southern shores of Lake Ilmen.

After Leningrad—German Plan

IT may be expected, now that Leningrad has been relieved, that the Germans will hold on to Nevel and Novosokolniki which are the main Russian objectives in the central sector, because the German line of communication between Leningrad and the Ukraine runs through Nevel and because the direct railway line between Moscow and German-occupied territory to the west passes through Novosokolniki. If these two important railway junctions are captured, the easy movement of German troops towards Leningrad on the one hand, and towards the strong points east of Velikie Luki on the other, could be seriously hampered.

Threat to Rostov

COMING to the southern sector stretching from Voronezh in the north to the Northern and Central Caucasus in the south, we find that the resounding victory referred to by M. Stalin carries the Red Army nearer to its main objective, Rostov, which is the gateway to the Caucasus and the Ukraine. Rostov is now threatened from three sides—north, south and west. In the Caucasus sector, Armavir and Salsk, the objectives of the two Soviet forces in this area, have been recaptured. The threat to Rostov has greatly increased as the other vital railway junctions like Voroshilovsk and Voronezh have also been occupied by the Russians. On the lower Don front, the southward thrust from Kamensk is being reinforced by the westward thrust from Tsymlyanskaya. In the Middle Don area, the capture of Millerovo, Rossosh and Veluiki gives further strength to the southward drive for Rostov.

Russian Strategy

THE strategy of the Soviet High Command seems to be directed towards cutting the Voronezh-Kursk railway. This will enable them to sever the southern German armies from the armies of the centre and encircle the enemy forces facing Voronezh. The threat to Kharkov, which is to the northwest of Rostov, is taking shape. The question is: Can the main body of the German troops in the Caucasus reach Rostov before the Russians close the bottle-neck? Already Hitler's southern front bases of Kursk and Kharkov are threatened from the new Russian positions to the southwest of Voronezh. The German High Command is very much concerned about its line of communications much further back on account of the threat to Kharkov, through which the main arterial line of communications from Germany now passes. Where are the Germans to concentrate their strength? If they do it too far forward, they risk another Stalingrad. If they do it too far back, their forward positions may be overwhelmed. They are in a dilemma.

M. Stalin's Exhortation

THE present tempo of the great Soviet offensive is such that the Germans cannot wholly retrieve themselves from their present plight. In his Order of the Day, M. Stalin has exhorted the Red Army forces to go "Forward—to rout the German invaders, and to drive them out beyond the limits of our country." Everything indicates that the exhortation of the Soviet leader will be carried out in a large degree by the Red Army.

☆

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

for shaping Turkey into an independent national State. He abolished, in 1924, the Khalifate, the office of spiritual leadership over all Islam, which the Ottoman Sultan combined with his secular powers. The Kemalist revolution brought about great changes in Turkey's economic life. In 1933 Turkey launched its first five-year plan and in 1935 Etatism or State Socialism was officially adopted as a plank in the Government's programme. After Mustafa Kemal, the present President, Esmet Inonu, is successfully guiding Turkey in a policy of peace and growing strength.

During the last three years, Turkey has been observing a policy of neutrality with remarkable consistency. This policy rests on two foundations. First, Turkey mobilized her army when war broke out in 1939. Government increased the armaments and efficiency of the army. Turkey is the only neutral state in Europe, which has a large, highly-trained army numbering more than 1,000,000 men, which is powerful enough to sway the balance at any moment. Secondly, in spite of intense Nazi pressure, Turkey has managed to follow a foreign policy which is not unacceptable to any of the belligerents. But Turkey will fight when it is forced to. "We shall strive to keep out of the War," declared President Inonu on March 18, 1942, "but if that shall prove impossible we will fulfil our duty to our country with dignity." In spite of their best efforts, the Nazis have failed to divert Turkey from the path of neutrality.

* * * *

Turkey and the United Nations: A Neutral Bastion of Defence. Though Turkey is following this policy, her stand for peace has brought her into ideological friendship with the Democratic Powers. In October 1939, Turkey signed a treaty for reciprocal aid with Britain and France in the event of the extension of war to the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean. After the defeat of France, she retained her alliance with Britain. M. Sarajoglu, Prime Minister of Turkey, declared on August 5, 1942: "Our friendship with Britain is the fundamental factor in our political system."

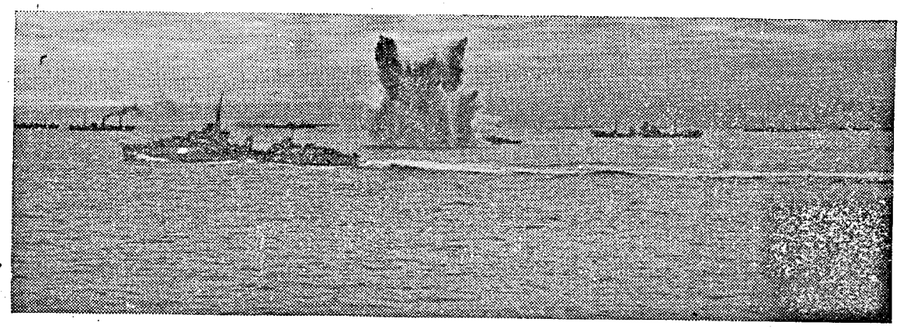
As a neutral bastion of defence, Turkey has been of great value to the United Nations by holding back the disaster of war from the Middle East. Her neutrality helped the Allies to defeat easily Nazi designs in Syria, Iraq and Iran and gave them invaluable time to build up their defences in lines of supply. The Allies have to a large extent saved Turkey by their policy of economic collaboration from the disastrous consequences of the inevitable war-time economic disintegration.

* * * *

Fall of Tripoli: Mr. Churchill's Two-year old Pledge Fulfilled. Referring to the capture of Tripoli by the Eighth Army on Saturday morning (January 23), Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, declared that "the fall of Tripoli to the British constituted one of the most overwhelming, outstanding and important victories of the War." Sir James Grigg, Britain's Secretary of State for War, described it in a broadcast as "an unparalleled feat of military organization that has flung so great a force at such speed so far across an inhospitable desert." This victory is a fulfilment of the pledge given by Mr. Churchill two years ago. The British Premier promised the Duce at Christmas in 1940: "We will tear your African Empire to shreds and tatters." The fall of Tripolitania's capital has taken place almost exactly three months since Rommel's forces stood at El Alamein hoping to drive on to the Suez Canal. General Montgomery launched his great attack on October 23, and for 90 days he continued the harsh and unrelenting pursuit of Rommel's forces. Tripoli marks the triumphant conclusion of the Eighth Army's 1,400-mile desert trek.

The fresh attack which General Montgomery launched at dawn on January 15 is likely to carry the war beyond Tripolitania into Tunisia. It was expected that the depleted Axis forces, the remnants of Rommel's original "invasion of Egypt" army, would seek some position in front of Tripoli to make a definite stand. But it didn't happen. It may be Rommel's plan to save what he can of his battered forces and take them to Tunisia so that he can link up with General Von Arnim's forces there.

The next stand of the Axis may be made inside Tunisia along what is known the Mareth Line, the artificial fortifications prepared by the French for the protection of Tunisia. Rommel will have to depend for supplies on Tunisia's two ports, Bizerta and Tunis, which have been receiving the special attention of Allied bombers. The final battle for ridding Africa of the Axis forces will be fought in Tunisia, and its progress will be followed with the closest interest.



BIGGEST ALLIED CONVOY FIGHTS THROUGH TO RUSSIA.—The biggest Allied convoy to Russia fought through a four-day attack by enemy torpedo planes and U-boats to deliver her cargoes at an Arctic port. The Commodore of this convoy was Rear-Admiral E. K. Boddam-Whetham D.S.O., and the escorting forces were under the command of Rear-Admiral R. L. Burnett, O.B.E., flying the flag in the cruiser H.M.S. SCYLLA (Cap. I. A. P. MacIntyre, C.B.E., R.N.). Photo shows a general view of the convoy showing a near miss on an aircraft carrier.

Food Problem: H.E. Sir Arthur Hope's Speech. In the course of his address inaugurating the First Conference of the 91st Rotary District comprising Madras Presidency and Ceylon, His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, referred to the food position which had been engrossing the attention of most people and of members of the Government to the exclusion of almost everything else. His Excellency expressed the hope that the situation would get better and better and appealed to the public to do everything that they possibly could to discourage profiteering, hoarding and black-marketing—evils practised in wartime on a large scale. Let us briefly examine here how other countries have tackled this problem and what we in India should do to relieve the situation.

In his budget address to the American Congress, President Roosevelt said: "There is no easy, pleasant way to restrict living habits—eating, clothing, heating, travelling and working habits—of 130,000,000 people. There is no easy, pleasant way to wage a total war." In peace-time, the Americans as a class were generally better fed, clothed and housed than others, but war has changed their life and living conditions considerably. America has tackled the problem by enlarged controls, increased taxation, and intensified regulation of production and distribution. As regards Britain, she is the heaviest-taxed country in the whole world and has adopted a comprehensive rationing system, so that the price of victory may be fully and equitably paid. Russia and China, who have their enemies right on their own soil, are facing and surviving enormous difficulties.

Two Aspects of the Problem in India. So far as India is concerned, she has a population thrice as large as America, very much more varied and more firmly attached to traditional habits, and the problem is not therefore easier. India has to face two alternatives. Either her social conscience has to assert itself in the matter of hoarding and private speculation, or entrenchments on the liberties of the individual by the Government must be accepted in a genuine spirit of co-operation. Our readers are aware that there has been some criticism of Government policy and an insistent demand for "better control." It may be pointed out that condemnation of the "bureaucracy" for not being able to meet such a situation amounts to nothing more than a practical plea for dictatorship. The situation in dictator-ridden countries is far worse and the remedies they have adopted are gruesome in the extreme. To relieve Germany of its food problem, Himmler, it is stated, has suggested the massacre of all Jews in Poland and elsewhere. Goering, it may be recalled, pompously declared, "Whoever starves in Europe, it will not be the Germans." On the other hand, the United Nations are dealing with the food problem in a humane manner: they are building up food stocks for the relief of the general famine which will otherwise be the consequence of the "New Order."

* * * *

Food Shortage: Three Causes and a Two-fold Solution. Let us examine the causes of food shortage in India. Mischief-mongers suggest that the presence of a million armed men—who after all are defending India from the enemy

who is at the root of all the trouble—has by itself seriously jeopardised the living conditions of 380 million civilians. This is absurd. Equally absurd is the statement that exports to the still more hard-hit Middle Eastern countries, which have now been very much reduced, is the main cause for the present situation. What then are the real causes ? Firstly, India is not at all getting her former supply of foodstuffs from outside because of Japan's occupation of certain countries. Secondly, all shipping space is urgently needed for war-tasks of every kind and it is difficult to get shipping facilities for import of foodstuffs from other countries. Every ship diverted to take extra food to India means one less to feed Britain and supply Russian and other fronts. The third and most important factor which is responsible for the present situation is the unreasoning panic which has followed upon military dangers of last year. It is this unreasoning panic which is responsible for all the hoarding, profiteering and black marketing.

In a recent speech in Calcutta, Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar, Commerce Member of the Government of India, has referred to two aspects of the solution to the present problem. The first is, more food crops should be grown and the maximum quantity of supply from various producing centres should be obtained. Secondly, the available supply should be distributed equitably. So far as the first is concerned, some appreciable progress has been made, to which reference was made by Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Education, Health and Lands, Government of India, at a press conference in New Delhi about two weeks ago. He said that the last season's goal of an increase of 7·6 million acres under rice and millet had probably been achieved.

* * * *

Fighting the Hoarder and the Profiteer. As regards the second aspect of distribution, this depends on the proper utilization of restricted physical means of distribution. It is gratifying to note that the important step of granting priority to food wagons has been taken. A perhaps more important factor is the co-operation of all sections of the public concerned in the marketing of grain and on the steadiness and good sense of the consumers. In fact both aspects of the solution to the problem involve public co-operation. Without such co-operation, no Government in the world can defeat the hoarder and the profiteer. What is required is a return to confidence and to reasonable ways of buying and selling and a readiness to accept, where necessary, changes in diet such as Britain and America have willingly undergone. These are essential for the successful working of any scheme initiated by the Government. Mr. Amery's statement in the House of Commons on the food situation in India indicates that His Majesty's Government and the public of Great Britain, a country which throughout the war has accepted increasing shortages and changes of diet as the necessary price of victory, have genuinely realized India's difficulties. Government will shortly take important steps to deal with the situation, and the public should effectively co-operate with them.

* * * *

The Calcutta Raid and the Berlin Canard. Japanese planes raided Calcutta on the night of January 15. This was the first attack of this year. But it is not surprising that Berlin should have ante-dated this raid by 11 days. In a Hindustani broadcast on January 6, Berlin said :

> "On the night of January 4, Japanese planes intensively raided the port of Calcutta, including the harbour installations and military objectives. Heavy damage was caused. The Howrah factory (*sic*) was completely destroyed, while huge fires were started in oil depots. The Howrah Station and military barracks were also bombed. Several British navigation premises were severely damaged. One vessel was sunk while a gun-boat was left ablaze in Diamond Harbour. . ."

In its home broadcasts and in English, Berlin described this raid as ' the heaviest of all " and gave further details of damage and disaster. It said fourteen British aircraft were shot down for the loss of four Japanese planes. From start to finish, this broadcast was a complete fabrication. As every one knows, there was no air raid by Japanese planes on Calcutta either on January 4, or on any other date between December 27 and January 15.

As regards the raid on January 15 itself, it was on a small scale and it could not do anything serious as against Calcutta's strong defences. The raiders were forced to drop their bombs almost harmlessly outside the target-area. A single R.A.F. night-fighter brought down three of the Japanese planes in four minutes. This gives an idea of the strength of Calcutta's defences.

An Interview with M. Sarajoglu

M. SARAJOGLU

I was received by the Turkish Prime Minister, M. Sarajoglu, who saw me in his private study in the building of the National Assembly, cables the *Daily Telegraph* Ankara correspondent.

Despite his heavy burdens I had an opportunity of a long talk in which he discussed latest political and economic developments as they affect Turkey.

The following are the impressions which emerge from this conversation. It can now be definitely stated that Turkey's strategic position has improved. To achieve this, the army has been kept mobilized even though it has imposed great strain.

It is now clear why the Government was compelled to apply drastic measures such as the recent heavy profits tax to put the finances of the country in order. But great help has been received from Britain within the framework of signed agreements.

Turkey has received materials from Britain continuously in amounts varying according to Britain's own requirements. Imports have, especially in the last two months, increased considerably and reached a steady flow. Until recently, supplies from the United States came through Britain which, before America entered the war, had undertaken guarantees for Turkey.

Now without any solicitation the United States Government has offered materials directly through the medium of Lease-Lend. This development is highly gratifying to Turkey.

As regards the food situation, Turkey will still need help though in decreasing measure during 1943 until the harvest is gathered.

Shipping is a difficult problem. Turkey can send occasional ships to the Suez but no further. The Government has tried to obtain neutral ships but this has proved impossible. It now hopes that the United States will provide the necessary tonnage.

While relations with Britain and America thus continue to be highly cordial those with Russia are not less satisfactory. At the same time Turkey desires to continue her policy of co-operation with the Middle-East States. She believes that this policy runs parallel with that of Britain.

It is difficult to formulate judgment while the war goes on but Turkey would welcome any suggestions for a renewal of co-operation among the Balkan States.

Anglo-Turkish Alliance

By F. R. ATAY

[*Mr. Atay is the leader of the delegation of Turkish Journalists now visiting India.*]

THE third anniversary of the signing of the Anglo-Turkish Treaty of Alliance gave occasion to cordial demonstrations in the Turkish and British Press and Radios. When one looks back on the three-year old history of this alliance, its basic quality cannot escape the eye : the British and the Turks have used this alliance not as an instrument to spread and to intensify the tragedy of war, but as a means of saving further peoples and countries from suffering and destruction. We are certain that there no longer is a single Englishman or Turk endowed with enough commonsense who still discusses whether it would be better for Turkey to enter or to remain outside the war.

When the British and the Turks signed this Treaty of Alliance, the directing principle of their foreign policy was the preservation of peace. The two Presidents whom Turkey has had at her head since the Treaty of Lausanne have each in turn repeatedly emphasized in every speech that the Turkish people have no other aim than to further the cause of their

independence and of their industrial and economic rehabilitation and prosperity. From the foundation the New Turkey to September 1939, our desire to safeguard peace and to avert war by reciprocal agreements and treaties has dominated both our national and international policy. Nor have the British Government ever clandestinely or overtly approached us with a view to making us their accomplices in any war of aggression.

MILITARY POLITICAL PRECAUTIONS

The desire for defence does not confer immunity from aggression. It is necessary also to take military and political measures of protection, and to exchange guarantees with neighbouring and other concerned countries within the bound of common danger and interests. We neither desired the outbreak of the Second World War, nor had we anything to gain by it. We neither wish to intervene in it, nor do we perceive any gain for ourself, in such an intervention. Those who believed that her alliance with Britain would drag Turkey into the war were those who doubted the sincerity of Turkey's claim that she had no territorial desires or demands, and who were under the delusion that once Turkey became involved in the war Britain would be pleased to see the immediate spreading of the war to the British spheres of security in the Near and Middle East.

The relations between the British Empire and the Ottoman Sultanate passed through contrasting phases. In some cases, the British Empire fought side by side with the Ottoman armies because the territorial integrity of the Sultanate was of vital importance for Britain. In other cases, exactly the opposite happened. But ever since the British Empire saw no need to fear a free, national and strong Turkey which had established herself on the 100 per cent Turkish territories of Thrace and Anatolia, no cause remained to disturb or cloud the friendship and faith between the two countries. Furthermore, it is impossible that Turkey should have but friendship for those who consider a free and independent Turkey necessary for world order and who have no designs on her rights.

We are a people frank of speech and soul. We have a very old history, full of honourable memories, and a traditional nobility of ethics. Those who have faith in us will never have cause to regret it. Nor does Turkey doubt the sincerity of the word given by those countries which, relying on Turkish uprightness and gentlemanliness, have extended to us their hands.

It is our hope that the Anglo-Turkish alliance now entering upon its fourth year will continue to be as beneficial as before—*Ulus*.

Turkey's Foreign Policy

ONE of the prophecies which have been made at about this time every year since the beginning of the war is the prediction that Turkey will be involved in the war by the next spring, cables *The Times* Ankara correspondent.

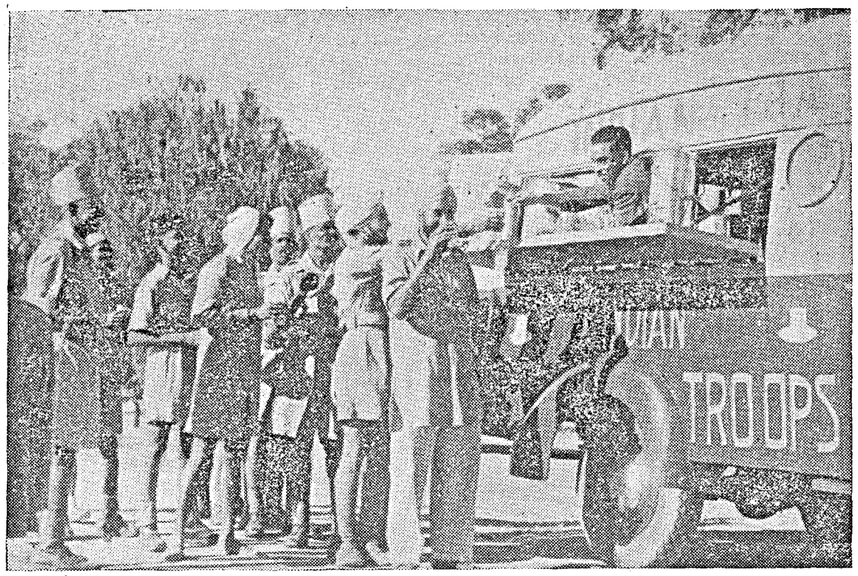
The reasons advanced in support of this belief change from one year to another which must be very baffling to those who are unfamiliar with the intricacies of Turkish policy. Yet the diversity and the complexity of the cause which might eventually place this country in such a position as to leave to it no alternative to drawing the sword and fighting are no more than a direct and almost logical consequence of her geographical position which dominates and dictates the requisites of her foreign policy.

A survey of the problems facing Turkey, arising out of the various aspects of her position in regard to other countries, is enough to explain the reasons which in the past have very nearly brought her to the verge of war and may crop up in the future.

AN EXTENSIVE COASTLINE

Thus, one, as a Balkan country and member of the Balkan entente Turkey was and is directly interested in what happens in that peninsula; two, she is a member of the Eastern (Saadabad) Pact—which was recently prolonged for five years—and therefore she is concerned directly with everything which affects Persia, Iraq, Afghanistan and indirectly with the fate of the Arab countries; three, she possesses an extensive coastline in the Mediterranean and consequently, the safety and mastery of the eastern part of that sea cannot leave her indifferent; four, the same applies to her as regards the Black Sea; five, Turkey is entrusted with the guardianship of the Straits under the Montreux Convention and she is committed to maintain the freedom and security of that great waterway; six, Turkish territory lies on the historic route which was followed by all those—whether the more recently by the Ottoman Sultans who Phalanxes of Alexander the Great, the Roman Legions or the Crusader Knights—who came from Europe for conquest in Asia; and, seven, in the other direction that same routes has been trodden by the Asiatic warriors who invaded Europe like the Xerxes and his Persians in the classical times and might inspire imitators in our times.

This enumeration shows clearly how at some time or the other during the last three years German military or political actions



Sikhs and Sappers and Miners enjoy a cup of tea from the waggon presented by the Tea Marketing Board to the Southern Army.

very nearly involved Turkey in the war. Those who believe that even now Turkey may be implicated in the war base their belief alternatively on the fifth or the seventh of the abovementioned contingencies—namely, that she may be attacked by Germany in order to prevent, either, passage through the Straits of Allied supply ships going to Russia or the use of Turkish territory by the Allies for an invasion of the Balkans or both.

TURKEY UNMOVED

Echoes from Berlin indicate that both those possibilities are in the minds of Germans and a recent article in the *Volkischer Beobachter*, which addressed a stern warning to those countries who might be willing to serve as a spring-board for the Allies, was obviously meant for Turkish ears.

All this speculation about her future prospects, however, leaves Turkey unmoved. Through her most authoritative statesmen she has never ceased to reiterate her firm determination to continue to remain neutral, and in order to prove her sincerity and good faith towards the belligerents on both sides, she has been striving to keep a fair balance between them by trading with both and by signing various, if somewhat involved, economic agreements. Turkish political circles are of the opinion that they have thus furnished enough evidence of their peaceful intentions to allay any apprehensions that this country might let herself be dragged in the war. Moreover, those same circles think that Germany possesses at present neither the freedom of initiative nor the resources necessary for a war against Turkey which would result in adding at least one million first rate soldiers to the forces of her enemies.

Rostov "Key to the Caucasus"

By MAJOR PHILIP GRIBBLE

ROSTOV, the "key to the Caucasus" was occupied by the Germans on November 23, 1941.

By November 29, Timoshenko's armies had moved southwards from the Donetz and reoccupied the city. On the previous day, Don Cossacks entered the suburbs of Rostov from the south. Von Kleist's army was pursued to Taganrog and expelled from the Donetz basin.

By July 24, 1942, Rostov was again in German possession.

At first sight it appears remarkable that this key centre should have changed hands three times with no more than two or three days' local resistance. Has Rostov become the Russian Benghazi?

In November, 1941, the Germans took Rostov with relatively light forces, which were forced to withdraw under threat of subsequent

encirclement. Last July it had been expected that Russian resistance in the Donetz basin covering the approaches to Rostov could be successfully maintained. But, as with the Germans in the previous autumn, the Russians, now under threat of encirclement owing to the enemy's rapid advance down the Moscow-Rostov railway south of Rossosh through Kantemirovka, Millerovo and Kamensk, in their turn withdrew.

Now the Russian threat to Rostov comes from the direction of the previous German threat down the railway through and around Kamensk, supplemented by a second thrust seven miles north of the confluence of the Donetz and the Don, where the Russians are striking westwards at Kransi Sulin, 35 miles north of Rostov on the Moscow-Rostov railway and 15 miles south of the last east-to-west railway.

If this point is reached, the only rail communication with Rostov remaining to the Germans would be from the west through Taganrog.

South of Rostov the situation of the Germans in the North Caucasus largely reproduces conditions under which the Russians were forced to withdraw from the Donetz-basin last summer.

Rostov is a well-protected bottleneck unassailable by the Russians except from the north and south. The Don delta protects it from the west. In the east on both sides of the Don as far as the junction of the Sal, marshlands stretch in two strips four to eight miles wide. There is no road parallel to the Don to the south of the river. The railway from Salsk and Tikhoretsk outlines the southern approaches.

It seems probable that Timoshenko's successful offensive in November 1941, may soon be imitated—*News Chronicle*.

Medical Supplies for Russia

Over £2,000,000 collected in Britain

By HENRY ROVICH

THE growing aid rendered by the public abroad to the Soviet Union in its struggle against Hitlerite aggression is particularly expressed by the increase registered in shipments of medical supplies received here. Beginning with August 1941, when the first ship with medical supplies sailed for the Soviet Union, aid in this field has been steadily on the upgrade. Many of the parcels received contain canned goods, chocolate, egg, powder and other foods.

In the store-room of one war hospital in the rear I visited recently I saw piles of warm woollen sweaters and gloves from England; warm underwear from the United States; woollen socks and scarves from Canada; enamelled hardware from the American Red Cross; soft, fluffy woollen blankets from the Argentine and many other useful articles.

HIGH QUALITY

Army Doctor of the First Rank, Professor Rafael Colonzko, chief of the hospital, had high praise for the quality of the medical instruments received.

"Portable X-ray apparatus from England," said the professor, "used for examining the wounded without shifting them from the wards are of great help to our surgeons."

To gain some idea of the general scope of the medical aid rendered the Soviet Union by foreign countries, I interviewed P. K. Divakov, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society.

VALUABLE ARTICLES

"For obvious reasons," said Divakov in answer to my questions, "it is not expedient to publish summary figures on this point. I am at liberty, however, to say that the medical supplies and instruments we receive total 220 items, and include sulphamide preparations, caffein, X-ray apparatus and other extremely valuable articles."

Returning to the scope of international medical aid to Russia, Divakov said that the number of organizations conducting this work at present is quite large. He mentioned the British Red Cross, the Committee of Aid to the U.S.S.R. headed by Mrs. Churchill, the Trade Union Committee, the British Miners' Federation, the Anglo-Soviet Medical Committee headed by Dr. A. V. Johnson, and many others in Great Britain.

"I am informed," he said, "that these organizations have collected more than £2,000,000 for medical aid to the U.S.S.R."

In the United States this work is being done by a host of public organizations which collect funds, purchase supplies, hospital equipment, etc., and ship them to Russia.

"Judging by information at my disposal," Divakov added, "many public organizations in Australia, Argentina, Uruguay and China are doing the same."—Condensed from *Moscow News*.

FROM THE WESTERN DESERT

Col. L. E. Hobbs, left, Major-General L. H. Brereton, commanding United States Middle East Air Forces, and General Strickland, who commands the fighters of the United States Air Forces, rest in the shade of a building at Gambut after they had entered Libya.

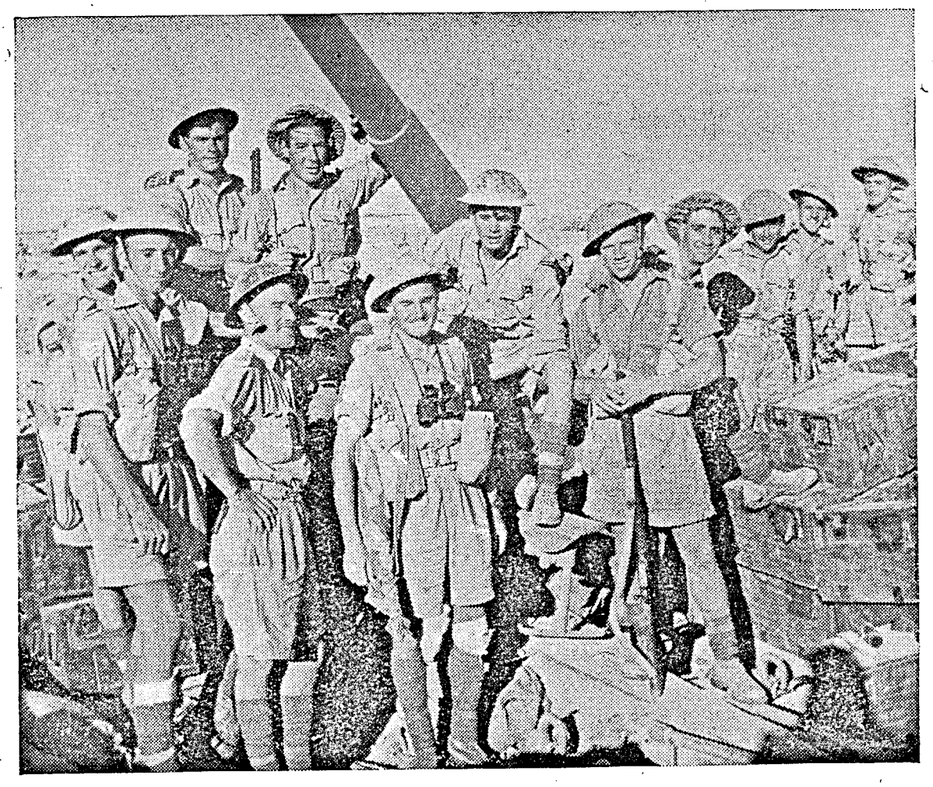


Photo shows men of a Home Counties Regiment with men of the Highland Division. The Home Counties men are machine gunners, and have been covering the Jocks in recent actions.

The Red Army Man

By WALTER GRAEBNER

LIKE the Russian people as a whole, the Red Army man is good-natured, unsophisticated and intelligent. He makes friends easily and, if he likes a person, he will give him his last piece of bread or his last pair of socks.

He is slow to anger but once he gets mad there is no stopping him. Now the full flood of his fury is loosened against Nazis. However, he has no wish to destroy German culture or take reprisals, when the chance comes, for atrocities committed against Russians.

The Red Army men maintain that all they demand is the destruction of Fascism and its leader; but if German people, as distinguished from Nazis, try to obstruct Russians in their war on Fascism then they too will have to suffer.

The Red Army soldier is on an average about 5 feet 8 inches in height and weighs about 11 stones six pounds. Many of them shave their heads. They have good appetites but when necessary—it often is they can fight like tigers on black bread and water. In camp, before going into battle, they sing endless songs to the music of balalaikas. Nearly all soldiers carry something to read, often cheap paper editions of war thrillers, sometimes classics like "War and Peace" or volumes of Puschkin. Though they do not talk a great deal about politics, they are avid readers of *Pravda*, the official mouthpiece of the Communist Party.

WELL-EQUIPPED

The Red Army man is as well equipped as any soldier in the world. His uniform is made of pure wool, his heavy leather boots would last a civilian a lifetime. In winter, every man is given a greenish felt valenki to replace his boots, quilted pants and vest and a heavy woollen overcoat and plenty of warm blankets.

In 18 months of war, the Russians have learned a lot about fighting. Their greatest strides were probably made in developing individual initiative and self-reliance. The Red Army's plan from the very beginning of the war was to fight delaying actions which would be more costly to the enemy than to itself and then, after the punch had gone out of the German fist, to turn its full offensive power on the Reichswehr.

For her winter offensive, Russia undoubtedly has millions of trained troops which have been in field reserve east of the Volga. In the northern half of Russia, the Red Army is far stronger than it was last spring because the Germans attacked nowhere along the whole front and the Soviets moved practically nothing to the south to support Marshal Timoshenko at Stalingrad.

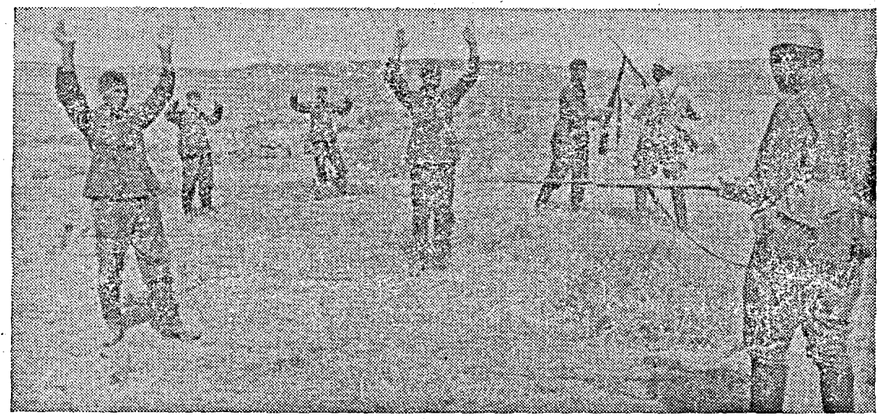
Recognising long ago the possibility that Baku might be taken or the Volga cut, the Soviets laid in several years of oil supply for the armies in the north. Industrially, Russia is not as strong as she was at the start of the war because of the disastrous losses of plant and sources of raw materials like iron and coal in the Don basin and other areas and because of their tremendous loss of manpower. Nevertheless, Russia is probably stronger now in relation to Germany than she was a year and a half ago. Almost every day the Soviet Press announces the opening of a new factory at some place in the Urals or Siberia, and trains are jammed with workers and technicians moving east.

SCIENTIFIC PLANNING

Though Russia's agricultural position is desperate and will get worse, it would be hopeless this winter had not her Government introduced science and the machinery of planning under collectivised and State farm systems. Farm output of the Soviet Union has increased between 50 and 100 per cent since Government control went into effect. The increase, of course, has been more than offset by the German thrust into the Ukraine and Kuban.

Without strength behind it, even the toughest and the bravest army would fold up. The big reason why Russia has been able to bear nearly the full weight of the Wehrmacht for 18 months is that almost her whole economy has been utilized for military rather than civilian requirements.

Russia's war effort is almost incredible. A large proportion of shops have been closed and those still functioning are practically devoid of goods. The best stocked and busiest of all stores are bookshops, but they deal mostly in old volumes. Probably fewer than 10 out of 1,000 civilians have been able to purchase a new item of clothing for a year. All over Russia, men, women and children are wearing shoes that in England or America would long since have passed from the master to the servant and to the junk heap. Probably over 95 per cent of all food consumed in the Soviet cities is rationed but a small percentage is sold in the open market.



The Northern Caucasus. German soldiers surrendering to Red Army men.

WOMEN AND THE WAR EFFORT

Women do everything that men do, no matter how strenuous the task may be. Their replacement of men in factories, on farms and in other industries is far more complete than in Great Britain which has made a concerted drive in that direction. Russian women drive street cars and locomotives, dig defence lines, lay railroad tracks, build highways and bridges, sweep streets, cut timber, make munitions and machine-tools, operate tractors, harvest grain, and serve in hundreds of different capacities in the army, naval and airforce. Hard work has made them tough and brawny.

Unlike the American and British women in industry, the Russian women look as if they belonged there. The Russian women also have time to bear babies. Moscow's streets are full of mothers with infants.

Food supplies for a large part of the general public have dropped below the irreducible minimum necessary to maintain the health of the nation. Undoubtedly the position will become worst this winter and by next spring many believe that it will be grave for those Russians not engaged in war work. Most of the available means of transportation are needed to haul supplies to the various fronts. Food for civilians comes second in Russia to imports from America and Britain. Food also takes second place to munitions. It is known that owing to a shortage of ships, Stalin had to make a choice between wheat and weapons. He chose weapons—*The Daily Mail.*

Rumania's War Weariness

INFORMATION from reliable sources indicates that Rumania has some 30 Divisions fighting in Russia and that her losses there now amount to between 350,000 and 400,000 men.

With a bare four Divisions at home, the country has reached a point at which it is humanly impossible to supply further manpower for the fighting line and it can be regarded as fairly certain that this was one of the pleas put forward on her behalf at the recent conference at Hitler's headquarters, cables *The Times* correspondent on the German frontier.

Very heavy losses have been suffered by the Rumanians in the Stalingrad area; for instance, five whole Divisions were lost in the fighting north-west of the town during the week after the opening of the offensive there on November 22. The losses included General Lascar, General Masarini and General Sion; the first was killed and the fate of the other two is unknown. Rumania's financial and economic experts who attended the conference had a similar tale to tell. Rumania must no longer be regarded as a potential source of supplies except in the case of petroleum production which in 1942 was possibly slightly higher than in 1941. The big draw in the Rumanian manpower has, however, affected the agriculture of the country to such a degree that there has been a serious deterioration in the food situation during the last few months.

The mission, probably, has pointed out again that Rumania's sacrifices are proportionately far more than her Balkan neighbours.

Preparing for "Blitz" on Germany

By GORDON YOUNG

THE return to London, as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, of Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Air Officer Commanding, Middle East, may have vital effect on our air force policy in 1943. This has been made clear not only by the talk he gave to war correspondents when he said farewell on January 9 but also by a remarkable authoritative statement on air force policy issued in the Middle East.

Sir Arthur described air war as a "separate war though linked to those on land and sea." He added: "It is only by the realization of this fundamental fact that we will stop the war going on for far longer than it need."

This declaration which re-opens one of the war's greatest controversies is amplified by the statement issued in the Middle East.

This emphasizes that "Command of the air determines what happens on land and on sea whereas armies and navies cannot affect command of the air. Air supremacy will win the war."

The statement argues that the Empire air forces have now grown equal in status with the land and sea forces and are commanded "by men who have specialized in air work for over a quarter of a century" unlike the Axis air forces which are ruled by soldiers.

It urges that its importance as a service should be related to the fact that the war will be won by air supremacy. "The air striking force in the Middle East has pointed the way to the future of the Royal Air Force. The desert squadrons have not blazed but blasted the path to ultimate determination of what the air force can and must do . . .

A SEPARATE OFFENSIVE ENTITY

"The essential lesson learned in the Middle East is that an air force is a separate offensive entity, striking at the enemy in co-operation with the army. Today, because of that lesson Britain alone of the embattled nations, can look to a striking force in the air unshackled and untrammelled by parochialism and preconceived ideas and free from glib phrases like 'air support' and 'fighter assistance'—an air force which commands the air."

"From being a puny shrunken limb, the air arm has grown in the Middle East to a vigorous strong flail smashing at the enemy with determination and untiring effort. Clearing the skies of opposition, it has gone on to administer punishment on the Axis ground forces where such attacks would most benefit the army, not by chance or luck but by planning. . . The enemy has been driven back in a series of well-timed blows from the two forces until Tripoli is threatened.

"The cobwebs have not been shaken away from the old ideas of air support—they have been blown away, shattered by the guns and bombs of the air striking force."

Many commentators point to the fact that Sir Arthur Tedder is on his way to London with this statement in mind at a time when an improvement in Europe's weather may open up the way to mass air force activities. Sir Arthur Tedder had a plan for the Middle East. They are saying that he now has one for Europe too.

Sir Arthur Tedder has always been looked on as the man primarily responsible for the remarkably close co-operation between the Middle East air forces and the Eighth Army. Thanks to that co-operation, military commanders were able to get close air support on demand within minutes instead of hours—as was the case in previous campaigns. The Royal Air Force is the only separate air force among the principal belligerents. United States aviation is divided between the army and the navy as is the Russian; Germany's three services—the Wehrmacht—are welded together under one supreme command.

It has been rumoured that Sir Arthur is returning home to take charge of that part of our air force—fighters and light bombers—which would be used to support the Anglo-American army invading Europe.—*Sunday Express.*

AIR-SEA RESCUE SERVICE —REWARDS

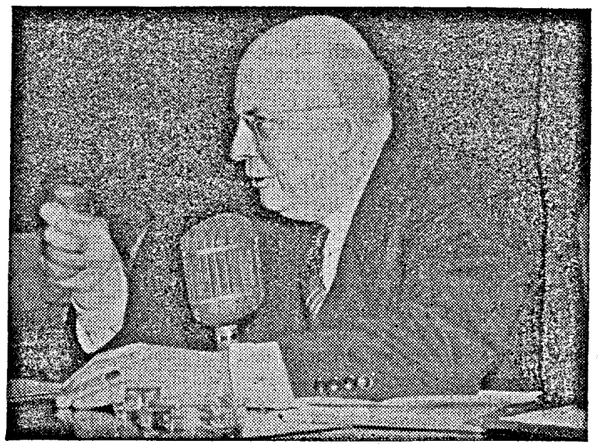
[*G.O. No. 4127, Public (War), dated 30th December 1942.*]

The Governor-General in Council is pleased to sanction, as a war-time measure, the grant of a reward to private individuals and/or bodies for the rescue of Air Force flying personnel, force landed or shot down into the sea.

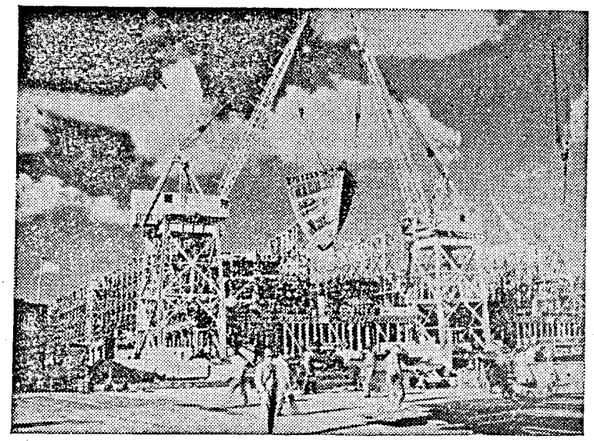
2. The reward will be paid through the local civil authorities on the following scale:—

	Amount of reward.
	Rs.
For each person rescued alive.	100
For each dead body recovered.	50

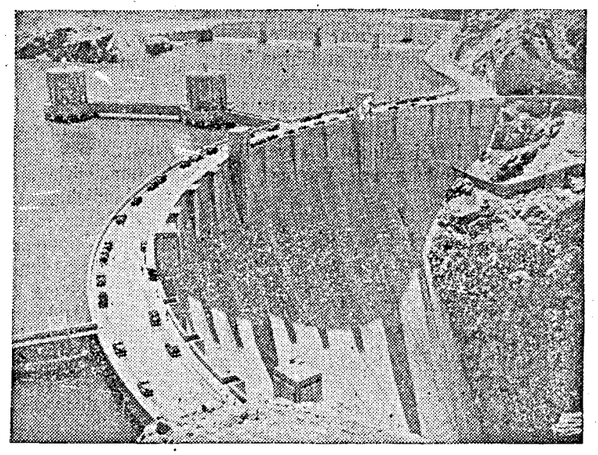
"MIRACLES" IN U.S.A.



HENRY J. KAISER, U.S. Builder, did these "impossible" jobs:—He built Boulder Dam 18 months ahead of schedule. He built a giant cement plant for Shanta dam in six months. He turned shipbuilder, produced Victory ships in 10 days, and recently under 5 days for a world's record. To-day, Kaiser is starting on his biggest job; producing giant seven-engined cargo planes. Photo shows Henry J. Kaiser, holder of the U.S Maritime Commission records for ships per yard, ships per way and average time per ship, telling members of the U.S. Senate about his plans for giant cargo-carrying flying boats.



In his new West Coast shipyards, attacking a brand new job, Henry J. Kaiser set out to beat the estimated construction-time of 105 days per ship. The man who had never even seen a ship launched before 1940, was soon building freighters in sixty days, then thirty, finally less than five days—a world's record. This photo shows a ship under construction by the new assembly method, in one of the Kaiser yards.



The highest dam ever built by man, Boulder Dam, saves the turbulent waters of the Colorado river for irrigating thousands of acres of desert land and for turning electric generators to supply power for the U.S. war effort. As President of the Six Companies that built Boulder Dam, Henry J. Kaiser got his start as a mass-production and engineering expert, began his climb to fame by accomplishing the seemingly impossible feat of completing the dam 18 months ahead of schedule.

Bombing of Berlin: Then and Now

THEY came back from Berlin—back from the volcano of flak and waves of M.Es.—with the job well done. I saw them coming in at the bomber station. They were content.

Flight Sergeant Eddy, a bomber wireless operator—it was his 62nd trip. He had seen Berlin before in November 1940.

"That time we went over in old Hampdens," he told me. "Altogether we dropped thirty tons of bombs before we left and we saw a few scattered fires. Last night it was different—a whole lot different. They shot a volcano at us but we dropped hell on them. Before we left, Berlin was ablaze. No scattered fires this time but a sheet of flame."

Flight Sergeant Lou of Ottawa, Canada, pilot of "H. for Harry" told his story. "The 8,000 lb. 'cookies' we gave Berlin are like nothing else in the Bomber's belly. They hit like lightning and branch out like flying mushrooms. I should not have liked to be underneath them," he said.

Flight Lieutenant Eddy, Captain of another Lancaster, said: "We did not take the Germans unawares last night. That did not keep us from dropping our load. Flak was thick and fighters thicker. But we went through on schedule."

The Lancaster was enthusiastically praised by the crews. Pilot Officer Albert, Captain of one of the Lancasters, said: "It is a great machine—and can do almost everything except sing. I don't think there is a bomber to equal it anywhere."

Many of the crews who took part in the week-end raids have recently been over Italy. "A great load of bombs"—official description—was dropped by a strong force for the second night in succession. Our losses (22) were heavy compared with Saturday night but in contrast to the calm, cloudy conditions which prevailed then, our bombers on Sunday flew most of the way to Berlin in bright moonlight.

The pilot of one Lancaster who had dropped an 8,000 lb. bomb on Berlin was attacked on the way home by a Junkers-88. His rear and mid-upper gunners returned the enemy's fire and the fighter turned on its back and went down.

Another Lancaster was attacked twice, first, by a FW.-190 and then by a JU.-88. Both were driven off. The Captain of a Halifax said: "What made things rather baffling was that the whole landscape looked different because the ground was covered by snow."—*News Chronicle.*

New Status of China

BY the new treaties with China, Great Britain and the United States formally and finally relinquish their extraterritorial rights. The abolition of these rights is no more than a stage which China would in any event have reached sooner or later, writes *The Times.*

The policy followed by Great Britain and the United States and other countries for some years had as its aim the freeing of China from unequal treaties. The war has consummated the policy. But so long as China is not in physical possession of the whole of her national territories, including the treaty ports in which the discarded rights were exercised. the recognition of her inalienable sovereignty inevitably lacks full substance. Victory, then, is the immediate task.

The fighting spirit of the Chinese, which has been so steady under major setbacks and grievous sacrifices, will be reinforced and refreshed now that her full and untrammelled rights of nationhood have been acknowledged by Great Britain and the United States. In a larger sense still, China is now offered a guarantee that with victory she will take her part as a great power in undisputed and unconditional enjoyment of her just rights in shaping and sustaining the coming New Order in Asia.

A RESPLENDENT DESTINY

A resplendent destiny is opening for her, based on a firm reality and born of her manifold sufferings. It has long been foreseen and is now explicitly recognized in the new treaties that in the resettlement of Asia, China must have a pre-eminent place. Her record in war, no less than her national culture, requires it.

From the fastness of Chungking, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek maintains the fight with means that are woefully inadequate but with a faith that is superb. Neither blandishments nor bludgeonings have brought the acceptance of that illusory structure which the Japanese call "co-prosperity." The Chinese who have long and bitter experience of Japanese methods know well the extent of social and economic ruin which the Japanese "co-prosperity" brings to those within its clutches. In place of this ruthless and self-seeking conception, the United Nations have the duty to base future settlements in the Pacific on broader and more honourable lines.

His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar recently visited the "Baroda" Squadron at an R.A.F. Fighter Station in Great Britain. Here he is seen inspecting the guard of honour. His Highness arrived in India on Sunday, January 24.

Reconquest of Burma

WHILE all goes well with our land and air attack on Japanese forces in Burma, the recent warning by General Irwin, Commander of India's Eastern Army, against expectation of swift or major results from the advance of his columns upon Akyab sets in its true proportions the supreme value to all Allies of recovery of the whole of Burmese territory, observes the *Daily Telegraph.* The unbroken success of our advance upon Akyab has been, and will probably continue to be slow because British and Indian troops are fighting through some of the most difficult country in the world—steep mountains covered by dense tropical jungle intersected by creeks and swamps.

When Akyab is captured, its occupation will not, so far as can be judged, open the way to further advance. Its possession is, however, an indispensable preliminary to decisive operations. At Akyab the Japanese have a useful port and a good air base only 350 miles from Calcutta. So long as they are there, the Allies lack, in spite of the good work of Admiral Somerville's forces, that command of the Indian Ocean which, as Field Marshal Smuts has remarked, dominates the war in the Far East. Until General Irwin's forces have a firm hold on Akyab and the Arakan coast, the way is not open to Rangoon, and Rangoon—we have proved in the past and the Japanese confirmed last year—is the door to the whole of Burma.

GOOD REASON FOR CONFIDENCE

General Irwin looked forward at Christmas to the day when the great armies of India would be provided with all the means to set them in motion. Urgent demands of other fronts last year delayed their complete equipment, but since the movement on Akyab began, there has been an intensification of air attack on Japanese positions and vital communications which promises well. Enemy air forces apparently lack the strength to react effectively. However much we may discount reports that Tokyo has found it necessary to diminish the drafts of troops sent to Burma, there is good reason for confidence that heavy losses of aircraft over Gudalcanar and Papua have limited the number of planes which the Japanese can put in the air over Burma.

Japan's land forces in Burma, however, show as desperate a determination as at Buna. The topography of Burma, in its natural obstacles and in its lack of roads and railways, offers great advantages to stubborn defence. It is therefore to be expected that reconquest will be a hard task. This has long been realized in the councils of the Allies, but they are not less well aware of the fact that the possession of Burma is the key to victory in the East. When the Japanese have been driven out, a wide breach will open in their line of conquests. British, Indian and American forces and supplies can pour into China and bring the threat of attack near to Japan herself. The task of reconquest may be long, but the time is now at hand when the Allies can unite upon it adequate forces in all three elements—air, land and sea. The result of a campaign of such combined strength is not doubtful.

British Commonwealth: A Worldwide Society

MR. HERBERT MORRISON, Home Secretary, speaking at Newcastle recently answered critics of British colonial policy and outlined likely future developments. The following is *The Times* editorial comment:—

Mr. Morrison's speech was marked by the same balance and breadth of view, by the same mixture of idealism and practical common sense and by the same absence of political dogmatism as his speech at Swindon three weeks ago. At Swindon he was discussing economic and social development in this country after the war. But he recognized, as everyone must do, that prosperity and security in one country depend on the achievement of prosperity and security in the rest of the world.

In his Newcastle speech, he was concerned with the contribution which the British Commonwealth of Nations can make to that end and especially with positive aspects of colonial policy—the development of those great territories which have not yet attained complete self-government and assistance which must be afforded to enable them to stand upon their own feet and play a part in the world corresponding to their resources and capacities.

Again, as three weeks ago, he gave to public opinion the kind of lead for which the country has been waiting. He crystallized many ideas upon which discussion of these matters has led to a general, if vague, agreement and indicated the lines upon which opinion in many different camps is converging to shape a definite policy to-day. More than ever the British Commonwealth has something to give to the world which the world urgently requires. Without it, as Mr. Morrison said, the world would lose a great factor of stability and progress just when these things will be most needed.

STATUS OF COLONIES

He was at pains to clear up the misconception, widespread abroad, that hard and fast barriers had been set between the status of self-governing Dominions and the status of Colonies. The Dominions constitute a family of adult nations, each with its own environment, problems and interests and freely acting together in matters of life and death importance. But each achieved full self-government by practical working out of democratic principles expressed in the demand and capacity for self-government and the willingness of the mother country to grant it fully and freely. This principle of growth is still active; and the trend is always towards freedom.

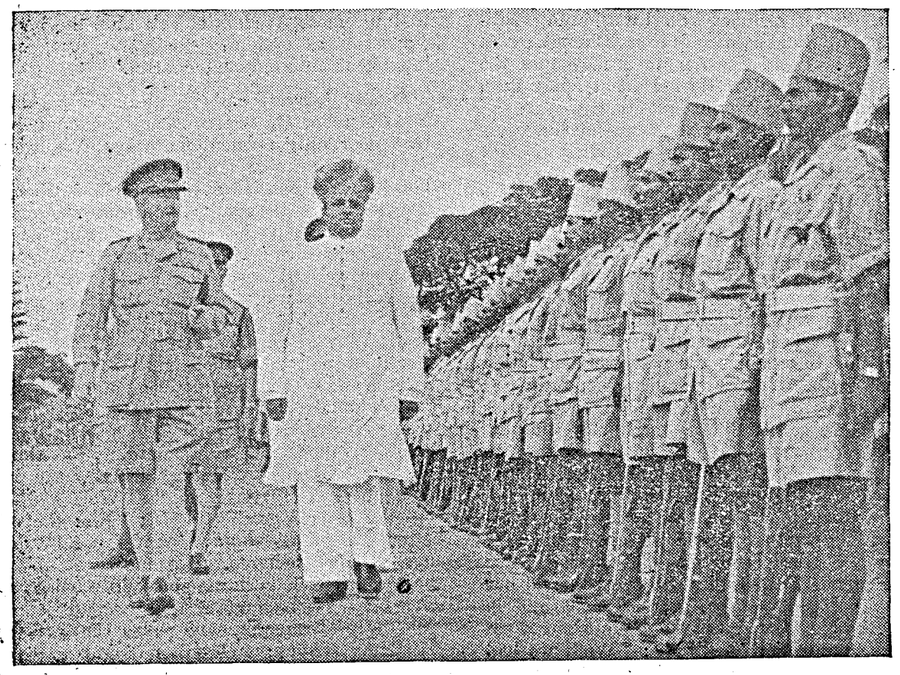
Mr. Morrison is not one of those who are inclined to apologize for the Empire or belittle its glories. On the other hand, he does not pretend that our colonial record has been without blemish.

On the whole, however, we have set an example of humanity, decency and fairmindedness which the enlightened world has been glad to follow. What, however, is still more significant is the general recognition that more is needed in the future. Debates in both Houses of Parliament, especially in the House of Lords, have shown a practically unanimous consensus of opinion that not nearly enough has been done to develop the economic side of the Colonies and to raise the economic and social standards of the population. The fault has not been so much in the local administrations which have been hampered by lack of means and lack of interest at home.

POSITIVE POLICY OF ADMINISTRATION

There has been, at any rate, a beginning of improvement in this respect during the last few years. But, as Mr. Morrison contends, a fuller understanding and keener realization are needed almost everywhere of the conditions implied in the positive policy of administering the Colonies for the benefit of their own people. Colonial partnership is, however, a conception which cannot attain full fruition within the framework of the British Commonwealth alone.

To the development, economic and political, of her dependencies Great Britain has responsibilities of her own which she cannot shirk. She must frame her own policy to discharge them to her own satisfaction and to the benefit of all. But—and this was the point which Mr. Morrison rightly emphasized—the British Commonwealth is a worldwide society: and international co-operation on a world scale is a condition of its survival. No limited or restrictive system can be adequate for its need. The door is wide open for what Mr. Morrison called "some wider pooling of the tasks and responsibilities with others" who may be ready in their turn to share the burdens as well as benefits. For the peoples of the Commonwealth, as for the people of this country, any policy of securing exclusive advantages for themselves would defeat its own ends. It is the strength of the Commonwealth that its long-term interests are the long-term interests of the whole world. Care for those interests as well as for those principles of progressive growth towards the wider freedom on which the Commonwealth rests, lead inescapably to thinking in terms of still broader partnerships.



A photograph of Madras Sappers and Miners taken on the occasion of a recent visit of H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

Who Should Rule the Pacific After the War?

By SIR FREDERICK WHYTE, K.C.S.I.

[*'Freedom Forum,' the Saturday-night discussion in the BBC's North American Service, is six months old. The Forum, headed by Sir Frederick Whyte—first President of the Legislative Assembly of India and at one time Political Adviser to the National Government of China—has mainly concerned itself with Anglo-American and European problems. But now it has turned its attention to the Pacific.*]

SOME six months ago Freedom Forum held its first discussion at the microphone of the BBC. It was designed to give listeners in lands overseas the chance of hearing a group of men in London thinking aloud on the problems of our time. And so it ranged freely and widely over the face of the globe, but paying most attention to post-war questions in their British aspect. Now it is six months old; and as I am in some sense its parent I can tell you that it is going strong. I know that it has made many friends and hope it will make more.

So to-day is our twenty-sixth meeting. Here round the table are Harold Laski, one of the Forum's original members, learned, lively, stimulating, provoking; next, Tahu Hole, from New Zealand, well-known 'down under' as a political journalist; next to him Mr. Boissevain, Netherlands Consul-General in Shanghai, straight from Japanese internment in that great metropolis of Far Eastern trade; next again, Arthur Mann, the London voice of the Mutual Broadcasting System of the United States, bringing the fresh incisive tones of America to this microphone miscellany; and finally myself as ringmaster of the circus of debate.

FAR EAST AND NEAR NORTH

And now come down with me to that secure cellar where Freedom Forum is now assembling to discuss the future in the Pacific. After a try-out of each voice, to make sure that it is tuned to proper microphone pitch, I open the session with the question: 'Who is to rule the Pacific in future?' Answer: not Japan anyway; nor, indeed, any other Power by itself; for this great ocean is too wide, too full of many interests to be the playground of any one Power.' And just as I am about to

show that it includes everything from Vladivostok to Singapore and from Chungking to . . . Laski chips in to declare that the Pacific and the Far East are not apart from the rest of the world, but that we are all part of 'a single civilization.' And Hole puts in a pertinent reminder for Australia and New Zealand that the place we call the Far East is to them the Near North, coming very near to them in these days, bringing a new association between these Dominions of the South Seas and America.

Thus the discussion opens in a free give and take; and Arthur Mann, taking up the word 'association,' wants to know how we are going to organize the post-war association of all the peoples concerned. What can we learn from the way the Washington Treaties of 1922 worked or didn't work? 'Up to you, Boissevain,' says the Chairman: whereupon our friend from the Netherlands recalls that his country signed the Washington Treaties and declares that the war has emphatically shown the mutual interdependence of all the regions of the Far East. 'For us, in the Netherlands East Indies, our growth and our comfort depend on peaceful relations and in trade co-operation with all. We want organized co-operation.' *Whyte*: 'Well, we had it in the Washington Treaties: perfectly good in themselves but why did they break down?' *Laski*: 'Why? Of course, because they were just pious principles, without sanctions; Russia wasn't in; and Japan felt frustrated; and America . . .' *Whyte*: 'That's up to you, Mann.' *Mann*: 'Yes, America's got to be in on that. And I don't want to start with naval ratios this time. Nor do I want the new arrangement to be just a big bluff.' *Hole*: 'Big bluff or not, the new scheme must be one in which the small Powers must have an equal voice with the big ones.' 'Sure,' says *Boissevain*. 'We Netherlanders are with you Australians on that.'

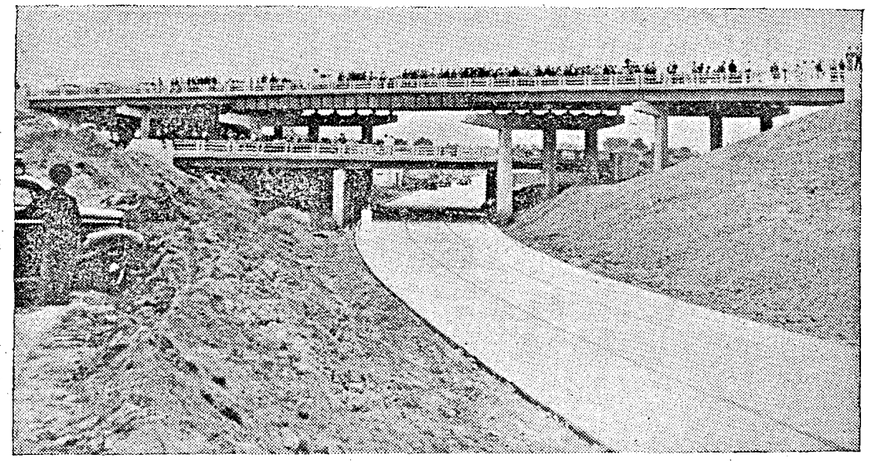
ALL OR NONE!

Here *Laski* interrupts (*Freedom Forum* lives by free interruption all round the table): 'Say, Hole, havn't we got the right germ of the new thing in the present Pacific Council? Re-shaped a bit for work in peace?' *Hole*: 'Admirable idea: we in the Dominions aren't going to let that Council go after the war.' *Whyte*: 'So what we make for war is going to serve us in peace. You agree, Boissevain?' *Boissevain*: 'I do indeed! And I guess that means that we've answered our own question: "Who is to rule the Pacific?"' *Whyte*: 'Yes, it's all or none! So far so good. But, let's go a step further, and rough out the lines of policy in things like trade, tariffs, emigration and the rest. And here I pass the buck to you, Boissevain, for the Netherlands have a pretty clean record in that.' *Boissevain*: 'Thank you for that! The Netherlands have always tried to keep trade free from restrictions, and we would say that the more freedom of this kind the better for our new system. Control? Yes, but intelligent international control.'

Mann: 'Can I butt in, please? We used to talk about the Open Door in China; but that door only opened one way. We want it open both ways; and the Chinese will ask how we are going to open our door to them.' *Whyte*: 'Racial equality, you mean. Agreed in principle; but the open door should cover other things too. There has been new industrial growth all over the East which will affect the historic policies of the older countries.' *Hole*: 'You've hit the nail on the head, Whyte; and the new war industries of Australia will seek their outlet when peace returns: they will be new competitors in the international field.' *Mann*: 'Ho, ho! That's going to give our high-tariff boys back home in the United States something to think about.' *Whyte*: 'High tariffs? Are we going back to that?' *Mann*: 'Well, protection's not dead yet.' *Whyte*: 'No: the old Adam dies hard.' *Laski*: 'And this old Adam has a long pedigree. Alexander Hamilton began the tariff business and sold the idea to Friedrich Liszt, the German economist, who sold it to Bismarck, who paved the way for Hitler.' *Whyte*: 'Hamilton seems to have been a very prolific ancestor. I bet he never thought that when he married Betsy Schuyler . . .' *Laski*: 'No; but he wasn't faithful to her, and Hitler is the result.' *Whyte*: 'Hear the words of Laski writing Tariff History Through the Looking Glass!'

A CHANGE OF OUTLOOK

At this point *Freedom Forum* lost the thread for the moment in laughter and cross-table chaff; but as the pleasant uproar subsided, the voice of the Chairman was heard saying: '. . . it all means a change of outlook. But we've got to give scope to new productive capacity.' *Laski*: 'Well, Whyte, I'm not in the least abashed by being called Alice in Wonderland. And I'm going to suggest that we can find the new openings for new productive capacity by a development policy for backward countries—China, India, Africa—raising their standard of life and purchasing power by capital investment.' *Whyte*: 'Back to our old friend the Economic Hinterland, in fact.' *Laski*: 'Precisely.' *Boissevain*: 'And the whole policy following the Atlantic Charter and the spirit of Lease-Lend. I would welcome that.' *Mann*: 'Looks to me as if we'd need a World Economic Conference in permanent session.' *Laski*: '. . . a very useful thing in the post-war world.' *Boissevain*: 'Yes; and if we don't find new outlets in Laski's Economic Hinterland we shall just be digging our own industrial graves if we go on encouraging new industrialization all over the world.' *Mann*: 'I guess Russia's not a bad illustration. This Five Year Plan business was making the Soviet Union an expanding market for British and American industry even before the war.' *Boissevain* and *Laski* (in chorus): 'In fact, no country was ever harmed by the expanding prosperity of any other.' *Whyte*: 'And the key to the whole problem is just what you call expanding prosperity, promoted by a general plan and pursued by the ordered energies of nations united in peace as they have been in war. . . . But I see the clock is pointing its warning finger at me; and that means time's up, gentlemen! We've ranged far and wide, though we began in the Pacific and the Far East. Significant, isn't it, that wherever and however we begin, we have to take everything, back to its true setting in the world picture. Laski was right when he said that there is neither East nor West now, but one civilization. And so we see that we've reached a stage in the story of mankind when war is really civil war which seeks to break up our unity of purpose and to turn us back from our true goal.'



SUPER-HIGHWAY AT U.S. BOMBER FACTORY.—Lined up on the tri-level super-highway inside the Willow Run bomber factory, crowds watch Under Secretary of War, Mr. Robert Patterson, dedicate the highway network. The high-speed roads connect units of Henry Ford's bomber plant in Central United States.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

23rd Jan.—The Royal Air Force carried out a large offensive sweep over France and northern Belgium.

A German-Japanese economic agreement was signed.

24th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Ruhr. Commandos raided Laervik on the Norwegian coast.

25th Jan.—The submarine base at Lorient was attacked by the R.A.F.

26th Jan.—The Royal Air Force bombed the docks at Flushing.

27th Jan.—Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the Commons that the war cost Great Britain about 14 million sterling daily.

28th Jan.—American aircraft raided Wilhelmshaven.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

22nd Jan.—Admiral Sir Percy Noble, Chief of the Admiralty Delegation in Washington, said that the submarine menace was "most grave" and must be beaten before the war was won.

25th Jan.—Vice-Admiral Percy W. Nelles, Chief of Naval Staff, Canada, said: "We have reason to believe that German submarine strength is increasing." The secret of killing the U-boat, he said, was more escort vessels, closely co-operating with more aircraft.

26th Jan.—Mr. J. G. Winant, the United States Ambassador to Great Britain, in a speech at Baltimore before the Council of the State Governments, said: "I believe that Great Britain is more efficiently and effectively organized, armed and equipped both on the military front and on the civil front than at any time since the war began."

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

22nd Jan.—Chittagong was again attacked. Two enemy planes were destroyed.

23rd Jan.—Donbaik in Arakan was bombed by the Royal Air Force.

24th Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked Heho aerodrome in Burma.

24th Jan.—The Royal Air Force raided Rangoon.

27th Jan.—A Royal Indian Navy ship on patrol in the Mayu river area in Burma rammed and sank an enemy coastal craft.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

22nd Jan.—The fall of Tripoli was imminent. Homs and Tarhuna were occupied by Allied forces.

23rd Jan.—Tripoli fell into the hands of the Allies. Rommel withdrew into Tunisia.

24th Jan.—U. S. bombers raided Bizerta.

25th Jan.—Zuara was violently bombarded by British naval and air forces.

Two Axis ships were sunk between Tunisia and Sicily.

26th Jan.—U.S. troops raided Maknassi and Bizerta. Zuara harbour was bombed.

27th Jan.—Zuara was occupied by Allied troops. Rommel crossed into Tunisia.

28th Jan.—Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt completed a 10-day meeting in Casablanca. They reached complete agreement regarding the offensive programme of 1943.

General Giraud and General de Gaulle also met at Casablanca and announced an agreement.

Allied troops regained positions in Ousseltra Valley.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22nd Jan.—The Russians captured Voroshilovsk.

23rd Jan.—The Russians captured Salsk.

24th Jan.—The Russians took Armavir.

25th Jan.—In an Order of the Day issued by Stalin, he said: "Forward—to rout the German invaders and to drive them out beyond the limits of our country." The Order added: "The Red Army has broken through the defences of the German Fascist troops on a wide Front, routed 102 enemy divisions and captured over 200,000 prisoners and 13,000 guns."

26th Jan.—The Russians reoccupied Voronezh. It was revealed 70,000 Germans were captured in the Caucasus in 11 days.

28th Jan.—The Russians opened a new offensive in Rzhev.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

25th Jan.—The Vichy French police arrested 6,000 people in Marseilles "to safeguard order in the city."

26th Jan.—A state of siege was proclaimed at Marseilles.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

22nd Jan.—United States planes bombed Japanese positions at Munda on New Georgia Island.

Major-General Alexander Patch of the United States Army assumed command of the United States forces stationed in Guadalcanar.

23rd Jan.—United States aircraft raided Ambon. A Japanese cruiser was set on fire.

24th Jan.—Four Japanese ships were sunk in Rabaul.

25th Jan.—Fighting ended in Papua.

26th Jan.—Japanese bases in New Guinea were bombed.

27th Jan.—Japanese bases in Hupeh were attacked by the Chinese.

The Japanese base was destroyed in the Kolombangara Island in the New Georgia group.

Allied aircraft attacked shipping in Rabaul harbour.

28th Jan.—A Japanese ship was set on fire in Rabaul.

A Japanese airfield in Ballale Island was bombed. American aircraft raided Wake Island.

HIT THE OCTOPUS ON THE HEAD

"I cannot feel happy about the idea that Japan is to be defeated island by island, tentacle by tentacle. The tentacles will wither when the Octopus is hit on the head, and if he is to be hit on the head, my belief is that Burma must be captured, the gateway to China re-opened, and Japan attacked on a grand scale developed from as near as possible to the Sino-Japanese frontier. Secondly, Japan must ultimately be attacked at her centre from China by air and from the Pacific by air and by sea."

—MR. MENZIES, *former Australian Prime Minister, in a broadcast on January 22 from Sydney.*

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4343

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1943 No. 21

The advantage is all ours

COLONEL FRANK KNOX

I THINK there are darned good prospects of an air attack on Tokyo, but when or how it will be hit, I will not say. But they had better get ready. Our submarines are doing a magnificent job and operations against Japanese lines of communication are going on at a good rate . . .

IN my judgment—it may be a fallacious one—but my opinion is the Japanese have abandoned any idea of reinforcement of their troops and within the next thirty days all organized resistance in Guadalcanar will disappear.

WE are giving the Japanese lots to worry about in the Pacific. In a war of attrition the advantage is all ours. In our vastly greater power of building, and in that type of warfare—I am not saying this is the only type—ultimate victory is certain.

COLONEL FRANK KNOX, United States Secretary for the Navy in an interview in New York on January 31, after a tour of inspection in the Pacific

POTATOES DO GROW IN MADRAS!

THE Madras Agri-Horticultural Society has just published an invaluable booklet called "Grow More Vegetables." It would be even more invaluable if it included a paragraph on potatœs. Oh! but potatœs cannot be grown in Madras, you say. Well, here is an extract from a conversation on February 1st with Mrs. Dorothy Clarke of Band Master's Quarters, Civil Orphan Asylum, Madras:

"I dug a trench about 18" deep, towards the end of November, and manured it with last year's manure. I bought potatœs from the bazaar in lot and finding that some of them began to sprout in storage, cut out the 'eyes' and planted one yard apart in my trench, 'eyes' upwards, about a foot below the surface. The trench was filled in and watered twice a day until the rains came. Within three weeks plants were showing above the ground, and are now about 2 feet high.

Today, two months after I planted the 'eyes', I bring you a basket of a couple of pounds of perfect new potatœs—a hundred per cent germination outturn—and about 5 potatœs on each plant."

With our mouths watering we print this as a recommendation to Madras citizens to get down to a very valuable aspect of Government's "Grow More Food" Campaign.

MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS

BEFORE our eyes one of the greatest marches of history has been performed by the Eighth Army in Africa, declares the *Daily Express*. No Allenby marching to Jerusalem, no Alexander crossing the country from Greece to India, no Xenophon bringing his 10,000 through Asia Minor to the sea can ever eclipse the story of the British route and German rout from Alamein to Tripoli. Marlborough's lightning dashes through Europe to the Danube are small affairs compared with the glory that is our General Alexander's and the monumental achievements that are Montgomery's. Bearing solemnly in mind all the difficulties that come in winning this war—the troubles that are and the trials that will be—let us uplift our hearts and rejoice at the triumph of our soldiery.

. . . To the Troops!

You want to be amused?
You want some light music?
Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras*,
211 or 60·98 metres,
Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
The Casablanca Conference	4–5
Pincer movement against High Prices	9
Britain and the War: Karig, in "Liberty," replies to "Life"	12
A portrait of President Roosevelt	13
Frontiers of Deliverance within Reach	15
Vigour of the Russian Offensive	17
A very remarkable Campaign	18
Japan deprived of Initiative in Far East	19
A Gamble that failed	20
North Africa: British Navy's Magnificent Part: An Interview with Admiral Cunningham	21
Diary of the War	23

Running Commentary

Soviet advance towards Rostov: Alternatives before Germans.

The Russian advance towards Rostov is continuing. They have captured the large railway junction of Kastornaya, where the Voronezh-Kursk and the Veluki-Yelets railway cross, Kropotkin, the vital railway junction on the main Rostov-Caucasus railway, Maikop and Tikhoretsk. The capture of the last two important positions means that the fate of the German divisions in this area is now sealed, as they are completely cut off from retreat northwards. The spearheads of the new Soviet pincers pointed westwards from Tikhoretsk and Maikop, and brought in all the German armies in the Caucasus into yet another Stalingrad trap and encompassed their annihilation. The capture of Maikop tightens the ring around the German forces in the Kuban and narrows their room for manœuvre. Maikop, in addition to its being of immediate tactical value, will be of considerable help in regard to oil. It is stated that special detachments of Soviet engineers followed closely behind their victorious troops and are busy restoring the damage in the Maikop oil fields wrought by the Red Army during its summer retreat. It is of special interest to note that Russian strategy in the Caucasus aimed at disorganizing the German communication lines by capturing important railway positions, and this has been done exceedingly well. Now Russians have taken the railway junctions of Kupyansk, Kuschevskaya, Zolotukhino and Vozy.

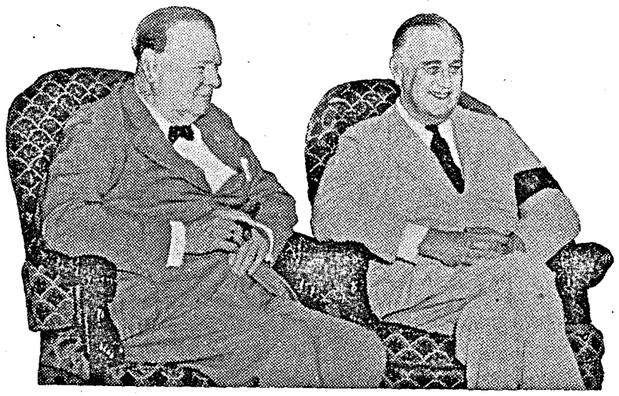
When the Russians started their offensive in the Caucasus, they attempted to cut the two main railway systems which fed the German armies in that region. The German thrusts closely followed the Soviet railway lines. Their move towards the Grozny oil wells took the path of the Rostov-Baku railway, while their drive to Stalingrad followed the Krasnodar-Stalingrad railway. An important stage in the Russian offensive was reached when Armavir and Salsk were captured from the Germans. After smashing up the German salient which pointed out dangerously towards the Grozny oil wells, the Russian forces advanced along both sides of the main Rostov-Caucasus railway and captured Armavir, which is the junction of the branch railway to the Maikop oil fields. From Armavir they struck westwards and captured Maikop. The next Soviet threat is to the Black Sea port of Tuapse.

Another Russian force which was operating along the Stalingrad-Krasnodar railway captured Salsk, the junction of the branch railway to Rostov. The next stage was the capture of Tikhoretsk, the junction of the Rostov-Baku and Stalingrad-Krasmodar railways. The importance of the Soviet capture of Tikhoretsk lies in the fact that though it has not cut off the German line of retreat to Rostov, it robs them of the most convenient way of cutting back.

What are the alternatives now before German forces? Will they fall back to Rostov or hold on in the western Caucasus and suffer the same fate as the German forces trapped before Stalingrad? Whatever it be, one thing is certain: the Soviet offensive in the Caucasus was mainly an attack on vital German communications, and the Red Army has succeeded in jeopardizing the enemy's communications with Rostov, their vital base.

(*Continued on page* 6.)

The Casablanca Conference



★

AT a press conference in Washington on Tuesday, President Roosevelt explained the objects and achievements of the Casablanca Conference held in French Morocco for 10 days from January 14. He said it was a conference to win and make plans for winning, so far as it was possible to plan ahead, for the year 1943. He emphasised what he had recently told the U.S. Congress, that he could not prophesy when and where the United Nations were going to strike next in Europe, but they were going to strike, and strike hard. He could not tell where they were going to hit them, but he declared that no matter where they struck by land, they would hit the enemy from the air heavily and relentlessly. The object of the Conference was, he said, in fulfilment of that statement, and it had reached a unanimous agreement as regards the "offensive campaigns of 1943." The Conference formally re-emphasised the agreement that the Allies would make no compromise with any of the aggressors. There would be no kind of negotiated armistice for obvious reasons, and the only way by which the war could be ended was by an unconditional surrender of the Axis powers. This was the central idea of the Casablanca Conference which, Mr. Churchill told newspapermen, was "the most important war conference" he had known.

Two Objectives

TWO primary objectives were kept before the Conference, namely, the principle of pooling the Allied resources on a worldwide basis and that of maintaining the initiative of the Allied powers in every part of the world. As a result of the discussions on these objectives, four points emerge, says *Reuter's* Military Correspondent, which are of deep significance. First, offensives against Europe will take place this year; secondly, the plans are completed as to who is to commence these operations and how they are to be co-ordinated; thirdly, they envisage a complete victory of the Allies and an unconditional surrender of the enemy; and fourthly, both Soviet Russia and Chinese Governments have been consulted about, and informed of, the Allied plans. These four points, adds the correspondent, will give the German High Command cause for grave anxiety at a moment when troubles are gathering thick about their heads.

Anxiety and Fear of Axis Leaders

THIS anxiety, which is rapidly developing into fear of the fate in store for the Axis, is revealed in declarations of Nazi leaders made last Saturday (January 30), when the 10th anniversary of Hitler's accession to power was celebrated in Germany. There was, of course, the usual spate of speeches, but Hitler spoke *in absentia*—his proclamation was read by Goebbels; Goering addressed the German Armed Forces, but his speech was delayed by an hour by the first daylight-raid on Berlin by the R.A.F.,—the perfect timing of the raid has evoked admiration—and Goebbels spoke at a meeting of the Nazi party in the Berlin Sports Palast.

HITLER who, according to Goebbels, was "detained at his Headquarters in the east by the hard necessities of war," conjured up a vision of fear in his proclamation. He told the German people: "Such individual blows of fate as may fall on us in this struggle are nothing compared with what we would suffer if the barbaric force from the East rolled across our continent." He emphasised his point stressed last year that "any weakling can take victories—only strong men can take the blows of fate."

Fate takes a Hand!

GOERING admitted in his speech that Providence which had hitherto smiled on German arms, had now left them to look after themselves. He said, "The German armies went from victory to victory until fate took a hand." He announced that Hitler had ordered the mobilization of all German men and women, because the fight had reached its peak and everyone at home and at the Front must regard himself as a fighter. Even in the speech of the Reich Minister of Propaganda, the note of anxiety and fear could not be suppressed. Goebbels said: "It is fitting that the 10th anniversary of our coming to power should be celebrated at a time of hardship and military and political stress. We are fighting a gigantic second winter war in the east. We must fight with almost superhuman efforts."

WHAT a contrast to their previous trumpet blasts and boasts of easy and certain victory!

THE note of fear and desperation has become still greater at the prospect of the future outcome of the Casablanca Conference. A Nazi broadcaster said: "We are aware, and presume, that the conference at Casablanca discussed plans for an attack on Europe. We know, however, that Europe is unassailable. Germany is marshalling her forces as they have never been mobilised before. She is determined to use her trump cards to marshal the forces of the whole of Europe and to use U-boats with ever increasing energy against Allied shipping."

FESTUNG EUROPA will be defended and the U-boat warfare will be intensified—that is the reply of the Nazis to the Casablanca Conference. This is a further admission by the enemy that he has lost the initiative and that it has definitely passed into Allied hands. The recent speeches of the Nazi leaders and their radio propaganda make it further clear that in Europe the Axis is relegated to a position of defence and an attitude of desperation. The Nazis may mobilise German manpower and material power to the fullest extent. They may, a Swiss report says, recruit all boys of 15 and over for work of secondary importance so as to release more men for the Front. They may shorten their fighting line in Russia and their retreating line in North Africa. They may even put out peace-feelers—Goering said, "An arrangement might be possible with gentlemen, but not possible with the Bolshevists," a hint for Britain and America! —But nothing will happen—nothing except the "total elimination of German and Japanese power, and this means "unconditional surrender by Germany, Italy and Japan," to use the words of President Roosevelt.

Demand for Unconditional Surrender

THE Casablanca Conference has demanded unconditional surrender and decided upon all-out effort and strategy which would bring about that surrender. Mr. Churchill felt sure that "the most excellent results would be forthcoming." Everything points to the fact that the Premier's optimism would be justified before the year is out.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

"Guerilla Warfare" in China: Success in a large measure.

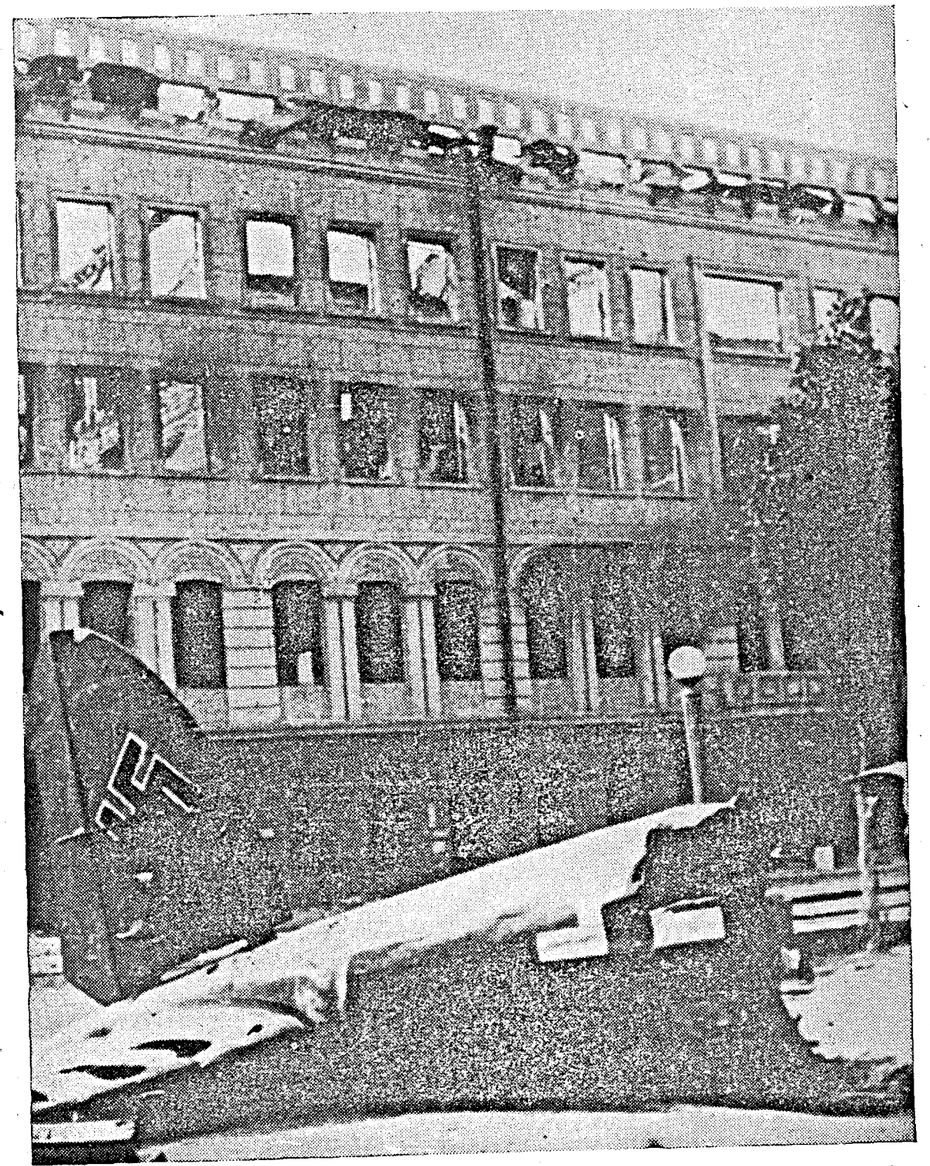
In the course of a comment on the Casablanca Conference **The China Times** refers to the tremendous successes achieved by the Soviet Union against Hitler and the heavy defeats sustained by him in North Africa, and says, "It is only in the South-west Pacific and in the China theatre that we and our enemy are still struggling for the initiative. China has held the enemy in check from any significant offensive." China has been holding up the enemy's advance against great odds for quite a considerable time. One of the ways in which she has been able to achieve this is by Guerilla warfare.

The name "Guerilla" came from Spain, which is historically the home of this type of warfare. It was because of the Spaniards' fierce hatred of the invader that Spain became an "ulcer" to Napoleon. Guerilla warfare must have two factors for success, viz., the co-operation of the civil population and the existence of a "National Army," which can offer some threat to the invading enemy. Guerilla warfare in South Africa was a failure, in spite of the great courage and resistance of the Boers, because there was no national army. In Manchuria, Guerilla warfare is ineffective, because of this same reason. The Chinese people in Manchuria intensely hate Japanese conquerors, but there is no national army to give the popular hatred the stiffening it requires. It is only in North China that Guerilla activity has achieved the greatest successes, in spite of the fact that the Japanese are active in harassing operations which have laid waste large stretches of the countryside. The successes of the Chinese Guerillas in the north was mostly due to the fact that they are the remains of the old "Communist" Eighth Route Army, which is operating from the mountainous country along the Hopei-Shansi border. The Guerillas are not bandits, but a uniformed and properly organized body led by General Nieh Jung-Chieng. In Central China there is a Guerilla army under the leadership of General Yuan. It is fighting the enemy under very difficult conditions, because the Japanese reign of terror does not give the civil population any chance for active co-operation with the Guerillas. But it may be stated that the Chinese Guerillas have succeeded in a large measure in tying down a very considerable proportion of the half million or more of the Japanese in China.

* * *

Great Advance in North Africa: importance of capture of Tripoli.

The Eighth Army is progressing from success to success. It has occupied Zuara and the campaign will very shortly be carried right into Tunisia. It is no longer a question of the defence of Egypt, or the conquest of Libya. A new task is facing General Montgomery's Army. It is to attack the east flank of the German-Italian forces who have been ordered to hold Tunisia, the last Axis stronghold in North Africa, at all costs. The loss of Tripoli has already cast a gloom over Italy. The Fascist Press however, seek to minimize this important victory. They say that Tripoli's fall is neither an Italian defeat nor an English victory. Mussolini's *Popolo d'Italia* states that Tripoli was merely "evacuated" by the Axis forces who now continue their "advance towards the west." However much the enemy may belittle the capture of Tripoli, the fact remains that it is an invaluable base for the Eighth Army working in co-operation with the Anglo-American forces. Between Bizerta and Alexandria it is the best harbour for ocean-going vessels. It kept the Afrika Corps in Libya supplied for two years. Its possession in Allied hands will be of very great help in shortening the long overland haul for supplies from the Nile Delta. It may also be pointed out that Tripoli is only 200 miles from Malta, the "island aircraft-carrier", which was supposed to be doomed by the enemy, when Rommel broke into Tobruk for his short-lived triumph. Within 24 hours of its capture, the Royal Air Force has occupied a chain of first-rate air fields in Tripolitania. Outside Tripoli, the Castel Benito airfield has been captured. This brings about an interlocking of Allied airpower from east and west over North Tunisia. It is obvious that air supremacy over the Tunis-Bizerta front and over the sea-narrows is an essential condition for victory in the coming battle, which is certain to be even more decisive and far-reaching than the Battle of El Alamein. Hitler has realized the importance of this battle and that is why he is willing to sacrifice 50,000 of his best troops.



Reuter's Military Commentator says, "The gigantic Battle of Stalingrad—Stalin's City of Steel—has come to an end after 142 days of the grimmest and bloodiest siege fighting of the whole war." The above photo was taken soon after a Nazi plane was shot down in a street in Stalingrad.

The U-Boat Menace: Allies' Counter-measures.

In a press interview on Sunday (January 31) last, Colonel Frank Knox, the U.S. Secretary for the Navy, referred to an important problem facing the Allies. He said the submarine war situation in the Atlantic is still a tough problem and lots of losses are ahead there for us. It is clear from this statement that this year Hitler will stake everything on his U-boats and will try to sink Allied ships so fast that the opening date of the European offensive will have to be postponed. If this can be done indefinitely he will be in a position to make the stalemate peace offer, which, of course, would never be accepted. German U-boats, according to Mr. A.V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, are now operating in "echelons of packs"

which are supplied and repaired on the high seas by "U-tankers", according to the Berlin radio. *Reuter's* Naval Correspondent says that there are 150 U-boats (less than a third of the whole fleet) which are always operating in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the North Sea, and they are being built at the rate of 15 to 20 a month. The main U-boat base in France, Lorient, has been subjected to heavy bombing attacks by the R.A.F. recently. The Lorient workshops are large enough to carry out major repairs. Two heavily concreted pens have been built by the Germans to house 40 U-boats, and a third is being constructed which is capable of taking another 10. The overhaul picture of the war, said Mr. Stimson, the U.S. Secretary for War recently, is decidedly bright for the Allies, "with the exception of the sinkings by U-boats." U-boat warfare, it may be stated, is the instrument on which Hitler is banking to avert total defeat.

What are the counter measures that the Allies are taking to avert the U-boat menace? In the British Isles, air patrols have been intensified to a very great extent—to such an extent that Sir Archibald Sinclair, Britain's Air Minister, declared, "No U-boat dares show itself on the surface within three miles." The British Coastal Command Aircraft flew 1,250,000 miles to ensure safe passage of convoys which carried our expeditionary force to French North Africa last November. The success of Allied air patrols has driven the U-boats further afield. Now Britain and America are devoting a large part of the naval construction programmes to building anti-submarine craft—destroyers, corvettes, and sloops.

* * *

Tremendous Output of U.S. Merchant Shipping. There was a tremendous increase in the output of merchant shipping in America last year. In September 1941 America built nine ships (86,185 deadweight tons); in September 1942 she built 93 ships (1,009,800 deadweight tons). In March 1942 America was building new ships at the rate of one a day; in December 1942 the rate was four a day and, after three months from now, that is, by May 1943, the rate should be five a day—1,825 new ships in a year. There is no doubt that the Allies can outbuild the sinkings of the U-boats.

The importance of shipping as an essential factor for victory cannot be exaggerated. To have enough ships to transport enough supplies within a strictly limited period is, it may be stated, like holding the key to victory in our hands. This point was clearly brought out by a Japanese broadcaster on July 20, 1942. He said:

"It is not too much to say that the present war is a war of shipping space. The side which loses its power of transportation will eventually lose the war."

An idea of the extent of distances that Allied ships have to cover can be gathered from a few figures, which make it clear that the greater the distance between supply base and battle-front, the larger is the number of ships required to transport an equivalent volume of supplies. The following are roughly the distances between North America and important Allied bases:—

		MILES.
From U.S.A. to	London	4,000
	Moscow (*via* Basra).	14,000
	Chungking	13,000
	Calcutta	12,000
	Sydney	7,000
	Cairo	12,000

The average distance is 10,300 miles.

From Britain to	Moscow (*via* Arctic).	4,000
	Chungking	13,000
	Calcutta	12,000
	Sydney	12,000
	Cairo	12,000

The average distance is 10,600 miles.

To cover a distance of 10,000 miles, ships in convoy take about six weeks, and double that time to deliver their freight and return home. For instance, if 100 ships are available to transport 1,000,000 tons of supplies from England to India and each ship can carry 5,000 tons of cargo, the 100 ships will not be able to undertake any other task for at least six months. This means that, if 200 ships are available, this work can be done in half the time. It is all a simple, elementary question of mathematics. But it is this aspect of the war, the time-and-tonnage factor, which is easily overlooked.

* * *

The Linch-Pin of Victory. Shipping is the linch-pin of victory. An idea of the shipping strength of the United Nations can be had when it is realized that we have sufficient control of the U-boats to continue the aid to Russia and the supplies to North Africa, the Middle East, India, China and Australia. Field Marshal Wavell recently said that the requirements of the North African campaign did not adversely affect the supply of the forces in India. This clearly shows that there is a surplus of shipping strength which is holding the enemy.

Pincer Movement against High Prices

By C. H. MASTERMAN, I.C.S.

MOST of you know Napoleon's dictum 'An Army marches on its stomach' and many of you have heard or read the words of Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell "Of the elements which contribute to success in modern warfare the *spirit* of the people is the most important." In other words, in this war the people are part of the army—and a very important part. This is a total war. Everyone is in the fighting line. Let me put the point in the form of what the logicians call a syllogism. The efficiency of the Army depends on its getting a sufficient supply of food. The people is part of the Army in this war. Therefore the people's efficiency to fight our common enemy depends on everyone getting a sufficient supply of food. I need not further labour the point. I will only remind you that the National War Front has, I am sure rightly, now made this question of food supplies one of the main planks in its platform.

It is less obvious why this effort to see that everyone gets sufficient food at a fair price is a *common concern*—the business of *everyone*—a contribution which *everyone* can make to the war effort. People generally imagine that this is purely Government's business. It *is* Government's business, but I want to show you this evening that it is not *only* Government's responsibility, it is also yours and mine, and I want to explain to you how each one of us can help very materially indeed in this effort to ensure that every man, woman and child in this country gets sufficient to eat at a reasonable price.

Difficulties in the distribution of foodstuffs and other things, scarcity of some articles which we are accustomed to have, and the high price we have to pay for things now are clearly due primarily to the war, which Hitler forced upon an unwilling world in 1939. That is so for several obvious reasons. For example, our enemies are still in occupation of some of the countries which used to send us their products, so that we can't get these things now. Burma for instance used to send us oil, petrol and rice, and Malaya rubber. And again the transport of goods both to this country and within it is difficult, because Hitler has scattered his U-boats over the high seas and because transport of all kinds is wanted for moving troops and war material both *to* this country for purposes of its defence and inside it. It follows therefore, doesn't it?—that the sooner we drive our enemies out of those countries which he has occupied, a process which as you know has begun in Burma, the sooner we put every ounce of energy into winning this war, the sooner will our troubles be over and high prices cease.

I do not however mean to imply that Government or anyone else should *during* the war just sit back and do nothing about controlling prices. Far from it, I want to show you that Government should do—and as a matter of fact are doing a good deal to see that there is fair distribution of available food and to control its price and that everyone of us can and ought to do a great deal to help, as part of his contribution to the war effort.

THE POSITION IN A NUTSHELL

Now stated in the simplest terms possible the position in India seems to be something like this:—Owing to large payments by Government for war supplies and for wages to those doing war work, the total amount of money in circulation has enormously increased. At the same time owing mainly to lack of transport to bring things into India other than war material, most commodities are scarce. These two factors—an increase in the amount of money with which to purchase things and a decrease in the amount of goods available for purchase—will obviously lead to a general rise in prices.

How can this state of affairs be remedied? In two ways I think. By an effort to reduce the amount of money available for spending, and by an effort to control prices directly by fixing by law the prices at which things are to be sold and by rationing the quantity of things which people are allowed to buy. Both these lines of attack on high prices are necessary if prices are to be kept down. The one is complementary to the other. In the language of military strategy, with which we are all now familiar, I suggest that there should be a pincer movement against high prices.

How then first can the amount of money in circulation be reduced? The answer is by inducing people to save instead of spending their money on non-essentials or on a larger quantity of essentials than they really need. By saving I do not mean hoarding, because money which is hoarded is merely potential purchasing money which can become effective purchasing money at any moment. By saving I mean putting all the money which we do not need to buy essentials into defence and other war saving schemes. I am sure that many people are still spending in war time much more than is necessary on entertainments, feasts, festivals and the like. That

then is something which a great many of us can do to help keep prices down. If you put all the money you can spare over and above what you really require for the necessaries of life into war loans, you will not only be giving Government money with which to carry on the war but you will be doing a social service by diverting some of the surplus money in circulation into channels where it cannot be spent on non-essentials and you will thereby be helping to keep the price of essentials down.

PUT THE SURPLUS IN WAR SAVING SCHEMES

Let me hasten to add that I am not asking the *poor* to save nor to persuade them that they are paying more for their food, because they have more money in their pockets to pay the enhanced prices. I have every sympathy with the small boy who when asked who Lord Woolton, the Minister for Food in England, was, said "He's the bloke what tells us to eat less of what we aint got none of." My point is that if everyone, who *has* anything to save, puts the surplus into war saving schemes there would be more for the poor to eat and the price which they have to pay for their food would tend to go down.

Now when I said something like this a few weeks ago, I was told that I was drawing a red herring across the trail. I do not think this matter of saving is by any means a red herring. I think it is a main issue—a very important part of what I have called the pincer movement attack on high prices. If we do not employ this method of attack, we shall be trying to crack a nut—and this high price problem is a very hard nut to crack—with one arm of our nut-cracker missing.

I come now to the other arm of our pincer attack on high prices, the direct control of prices by Government and the rationing of the quantities which consumers are allowed to buy. And you should remember that rationing by itself without controlling the price at which the rationed quantity is to be sold cannot be completely effective in reducing prices. Government have by no means been idle in this matter. As you know many things—Kerosene oil and petrol for instance have been rationed and the prices of other things such as sugar and matches have been fixed. The staple food of the greater part of India, rice, has not been rationed. Short of rationing however Government have done, and are doing, a great deal to see that all parts of the country get adequate supplies of rice and to control its price. I must confine my remarks this evening to Madras City but what is being done here is an example of the sort of measures which are being taken to control prices in other parts of the country. Madras City depends on imports of rice from other districts and Government are now buying stocks for the city in those markets where stocks are largest at the cheapest price possible through their own grain purchasing officers. Governmet are also by arrangement with the railways seeing that the rice bought is brought into Madras in adequate quantities. Then when the rice is brought into Madras, steps are being taken to see that it is sold at a reasonable price to the consumer. To this end certain wholesalers have opened 12 depots in various parts of the city and Government themselves have opened 4 similar depots at which rice is sold to the public in small quantities at a fixed price of 2¾ measures for the rupee. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society is also selling rice at a fixed price at their shops and for those who prefer to buy by the bag, certain shops are selling not more than 2 bags at a time at a fixed price not exceeding Rs. 16-11-0 per bag. All these shops and depots are regularly inspected by Government officers and I think I can safely say that everyone can get rice now in the city, though not necessarily the particular kind they prefer, in reasonable quantities at a reasonable price.

CONTROLLING THE PRICE AT BOTH ENDS.

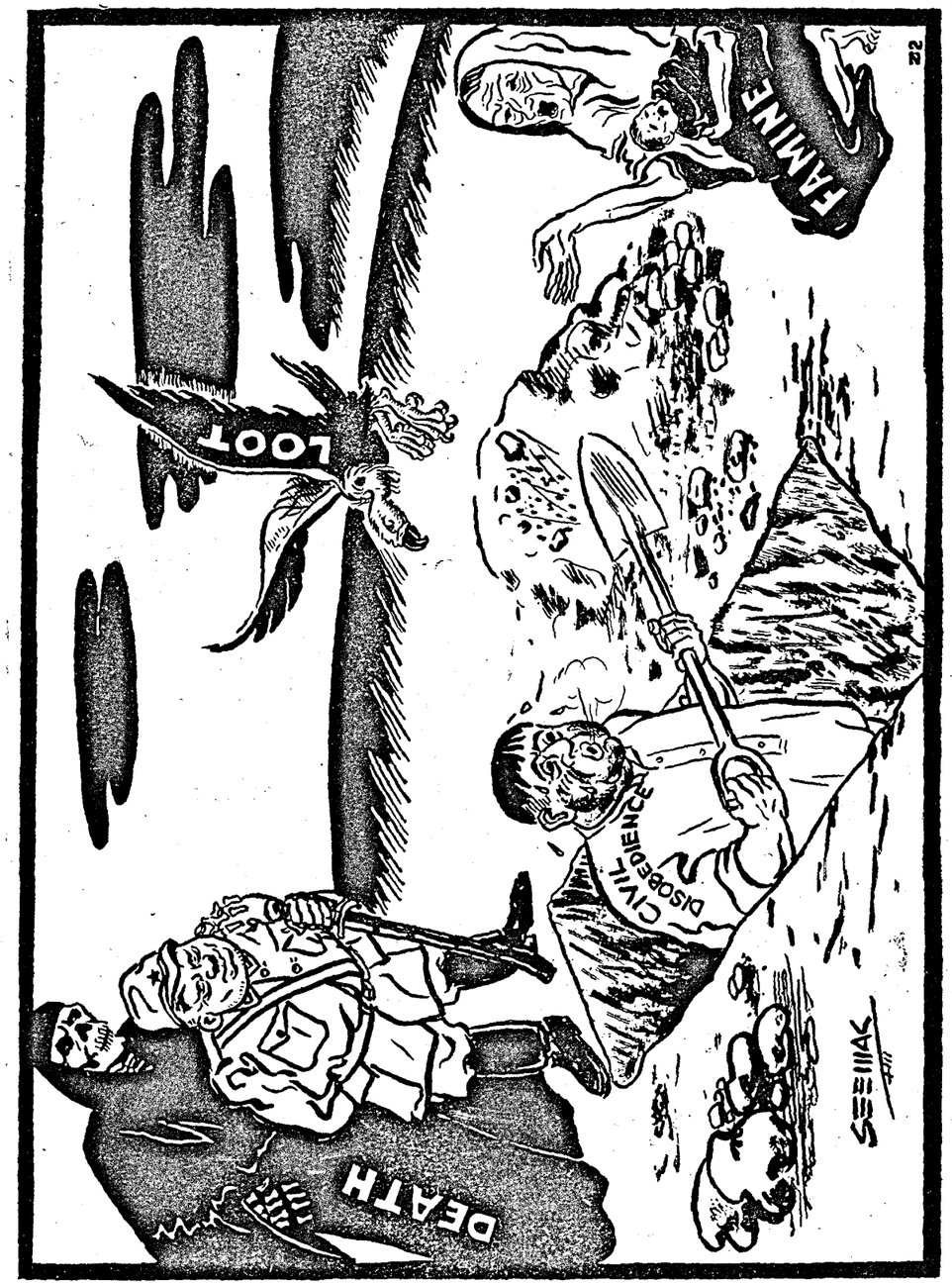
Many of you are, I expect, wanting to ask me what I mean by a reasonable price. That is a very reasonable question. Obviously 2¾ measures of rice for the rupee would not have been a reasonable price in 1938. I would define then a reasonable price as that price to the consumer which has given no-one from the producer to the retail seller more than a fair share of profit. That is exactly what Government are trying to do. They are controlling the price both at the producing end and the consuming end. They are taking steps to see that neither the producer, that is the agriculturist, nor the miller, who converts the paddy into rice, nor the merchant who distributes it, gets more than fair payment for the services which he renders to the community. Primarily the price depends on the amount which is paid to the producer for his paddy and it must be remembered in comparing the price of rice now with the price before the war, firstly that the agriculturist was not getting a very fair deal before the war and is

(Continued on page 12)

BRITAIN AND TURKEY

"Bonds of friendship and mutual good understanding between Turkey and the United Kingdom have been confirmed, and still further strengthened, by the frank conversations which ensued at this meeting."

—A *Communique* issued after the Churchill–Inonu meeting.



(DEATH TO JAPAN): "I trust you appreciate what he is doing for you."
—Special to *Madras War Review*.

PINCER MOVEMENT AGAINST HIGH PRICES

(*Continued from page* 10)

entitled to get some advantage from the general rise in prices and secondly that his costs of production—the cost of agricultural instruments for instance—has risen enormously. That sounds very much like a vicious circle. It costs the agriculturist more to produce his paddy; therefore he has to pay more for it when he consumes it as rice. It is a vicious circle, but that circle has to be broken somewhere and I maintain that if we can ensure that in the case of rice no one from producer to retail seller makes an undue profit we are helping to keep the price of the staple food of the country down and consequently helping to retard a general rise in price including the prices which the agriculturists have to pay for producing paddy.

RATION YOURSELVES VOLUNTARILY

Briefly those are the measures which Government are taking to control prices. What can the public—everyone of us—do to help? I have already said that everyone can help by economical spending and wise saving. We can also help by refraining from buying more, even of the necessaries of life, than we actually need at the time. Do not buy more than you actually need. In other words ration yourselves voluntarily.

Then finally everyone can discourage profiteering, hoarding and black-marketing by refusing to patronize the black-market and by giving reliable information to the authorities of the existence of these enemies of society. Government are determined to expose and punish with the full rigour of the law, hoarders, profiteers and the like. It is up to you, as part of your war effort, to help to destroy these enemies within our gates as much as it is to help to conquer and destroy the enemy without.

—A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on Monday, February 1.

Britain and the War

Karig, in "Liberty," replies to "Life"

[*Walter Karig, the political commentator of 'Liberty' and well-known correspondent, takes off the gloves properly to detractors of Great Britain.*]

"TO hear some people talk—or to read what they write—you would imagine the Atlantic Ocean to be a one-way street so far as war materials are concerned, and the British Isles a bottomless sack held open by helpless people for the output of America's farms and factories. That is because wholly for strategic purposes no publicity has been given to the contributions made by the British to the United States fighting forces. It is a fact that the Americans west coast down to tropical waters is as impregnable to air raids as it can be made because the British rushed anti-aircraft equipment over here almost before the smoke cleared away from Pearl Harbour. It is a fact, however, which cannot be made public in detail because that would let the enemy know what will be waiting for him when he tries to ram his big black-bristled head against our defences.

SECRECY IS NECESSARY

"It is also most widely forbidden to discuss the constant aid which the British have supplied us with for fighting submarines in American waters—to fight them on the sea and over it.

"Unfortunately this necessary secrecy serves to hamper the efficiency of the United Nations because it permits professional Anglophobes, those amateur belittlers of the British and Axis propagandists to spread the mouldy old lies that 'England will fight to the last American,' and 'that the United States is paying for England's war.'

"The time will come when it will be safe to relate in detail how, when the war came to United States the flow of fighting equipment across the Atlantic was suddenly reversed as American export of munitions was halted to arm our own forces.

WHAT BRITISH HAVE DONE

"Meanwhile, without indulging in any British propaganda, let's take a look at the job the English are doing and have done. If they had not done it so superlatively well, Hitler would be in Windsor Castle to-day—he might even be in Ottawa, Canada, heartening his troops invading the United States!

"Remember that for more than two years the concentrated Nazi might and power has been perched only 20 miles from Britain and that the island has been under almost continuous bombardment all that time. Old stuff may be, but remember it anyhow!

"What the British have done and are doing is tremendously important to each and everyone of us who are now their partners in this war and in the peace to come. It is also an object lesson in what all-out war means, which we are going to find out ourselves. The time is not far off when the petty inconveniences of sugar, gasoline, and tyre rationing are going to seem like fun. What we are going to do without will be not only silk stockings and trouser cuffs; before this war is very much older we are going to live almost as austerely as the British have been doing for a long, long time.

EVERYTHING MOBILISED

"Everything in Britain is mobilized for the winning of the war—everything and everybody. Two out of every three persons—not men alone, but women and children too—who are able-bodied and between the ages of 14 and 65 are working full time in the armed forces, civilian defence or war industries. Every single able-bodied male between 18½ and 51 has been drafted into the armed forces unless irreplaceable in an essential industry. In England you work in a munitions factory or you fight, unless you are bedridden or imbecile."

IMPRESSIVE LISTING

From this point onwards Karig's article categorically listed British industrial and military accomplishments, the damage suffered from the blitz, the civilians killed, and the whole regime of blood, sweat and tears.

He detailed that last year the United States sent Britain only one quarter of the aeroplanes that the British sent out to the battlefronts and to her allies. "They put 15 tanks into action for every one we exported to England."

"A pair of shoes has to last the average wearer in Britain—strictly rationed on clothing—two or three years. But that is because the British have sent four million pairs to Russia."

The article relates: "For every airplane England imports she exports four of her own manufacture to Russia. British railroad shop workers did a year's work in ten weeks for the trans-Persian line, which American Engineers completed, to carry supplies from the Persian Gulf to the Caucasus."

BRITAIN HELPS HER ALLIES

Walter Karig goes on to explain how Britain is equipping and supporting the military and naval units of the Free French, the Norwegian, the Polish and the Holland exiled Governments, and how much the war is costing the average Englishman in taxes compared with the American ratepayer.

"The Englishman is fundamentally an individualist and isolationist like ourselves. There is no more an average Englishman than there is an average American, but take the two peoples group by group—farmers, insurance men, machinists, lawyers, firemen, and so on—and it is astonishing how much alike we are, even though America is more European in its ancestry than Britain is.

WHY, INDEED?

"Why do we and the English have such cockeyed ideas about each other? Fossilized traditions are to blame in part no doubt, and so is Hollywood, and so are the fiction writers of both countries. At any rate, let's bear this in mind, that the 46 million Englishmen packed into an island not so large as our single State of Arizona have habits, ideas, and ideals pretty much like our own. They are more outraged and outspoken about the stupidities of their leaders than the most anti-British of Americans. Next time you think of an Englishman don't think of a tall drooping bloke with monocle. Think of a man or woman very much like yourself, only working twice as hard and living on less than half as much."

A Portrait of President Roosevelt

[*President Roosevelt was 61 on Saturday last (January 30.) "The birthday comes," says the* New York Times, *"at the close of one of the most brilliant episodes of his career—a journey which brought the breath of his democratic enthusiasm into three continents— a conference which dramatized the fact that, psychologically, this war has passed to the United Nations." In the following article, which appeared in the* New York Times magazine *of January 24, Mr. Woolf describes an informal chat with President Roosevelt, who was sitting for his birthday portrait.*]

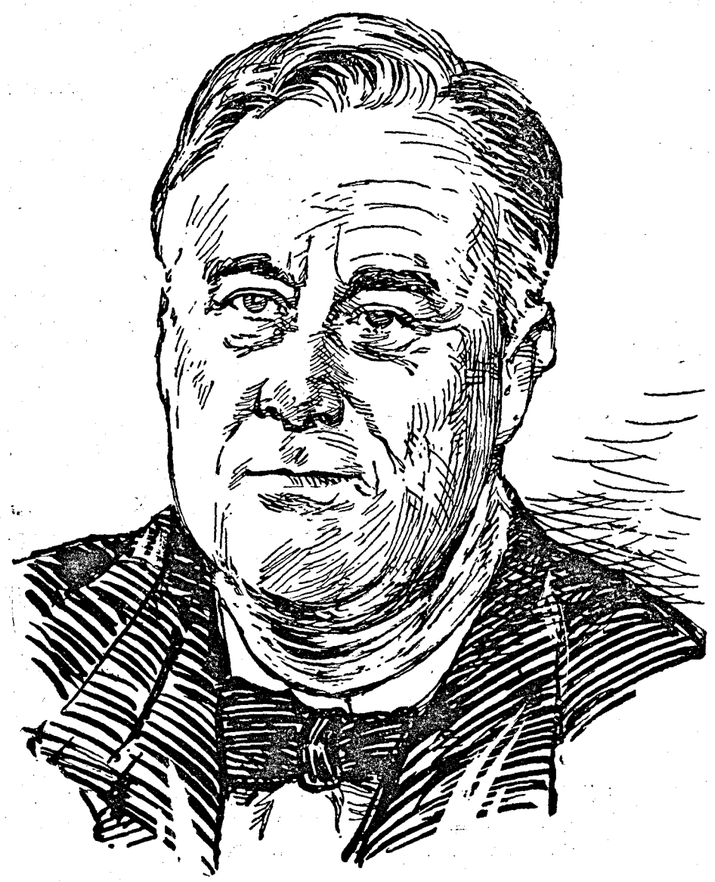
ON January 31, Franklin D. Roosevelt will be 61 years old. No man in the world has a harder job. No one is carrying a heavier burden or bearing greater responsibilities. Yet when I asked him the other day if he ever lay awake at night and worried, he smiled, shook his head, and replied: "Never."

As he sits at his large desk carrying on the affairs of a nation at war, he is much the same man whom I first met 18 years ago in the library of his New York home. There is the same indomitable will and unfailing optimism, the same heartiness of manner, the same ability to switch suddenly from one subject to another. And always the Roosevelt smile hovers, ready to break at the slightest provocation.

CHANGES OF EXPRESSION

The suddenness with which his expression changes is a barometer of his mental processes. Over and over again I have seen him turn from one problem to an entirely different one with no apparent effort. While he was posing, he asked me to leave the room for a few minutes while he carried on a long-distance telephone conversation. When it was over I returned, but he paid no attention as I opened the door. It was evident that he was pondering some serious matter and I hesitated to make my presence known.

Suddenly he looked up and laughingly said: "Come on back." He was an entirely different person from the one I saw as I stood in the doorway. The change was startling.



Having this type of mind, the President can interrupt his work, telephone a sick friend, arrange a practical joke on an intimate, then take up the point where he left off. I have the impression that he uses those interruptions for relaxation and, when he feels that his mind is becoming a little tired, turns to something for a few seconds so he can once more look at the problem from a new point of view.

If he is interested in what a visitor is saying, the President is a good listener, encouraging talk with a frequent nod and an interjected "yes" or "grand."

NEVER PERTURBED

In all the times I have drawn him in the White House, I cannot remember one occasion on which he seemed either perturbed or hurried. While I was with him the other day he read fully a hundred typewritten letters, signing each one. He saw three or four visitors, talked on subjects as far apart as Podunk and Shangri-la, and made five telephone calls.

No one who has not seen the President at work can picture the apparent ease with which he performs his duties. The magnitude of the job does not seem to appall him. He makes decisions quickly and with finality. Once made, they are dismissed and another subject taken up.

Nor has the Presidency quenched Mr. Roosevelt's insatiable curiosity about people. In making the drawing, I decided to concentrate on his head and leave out his coat, tie and collar. I jokingly said that I hoped he wouldn't object to this, although I had done the same thing when I drew Mussolini. At the mention of Mussolini's name he turned quickly towards me and asked a number of questions. When I had finished giving him all the details of the sitting, he remarked, "Well, I guess he's an actor after all."

In looking after his health, one thing of which Mr. Roosevelt is careful is the amount of sleep he gets. He said: "One difference between Teddy Roosevelt and me is that he could get along on six hours sleep and I need eight. So I see I get it."

The only way the President can rest now is to go off quietly to Hyde Park. He can no longer use the Presidential yacht for a week-end trip because the Navy feels that it would be unsafe. He says jokingly that he must obey the orders of the Navy. He gets away to Hyde Park about three days a month. He says that is all the rest he needs.

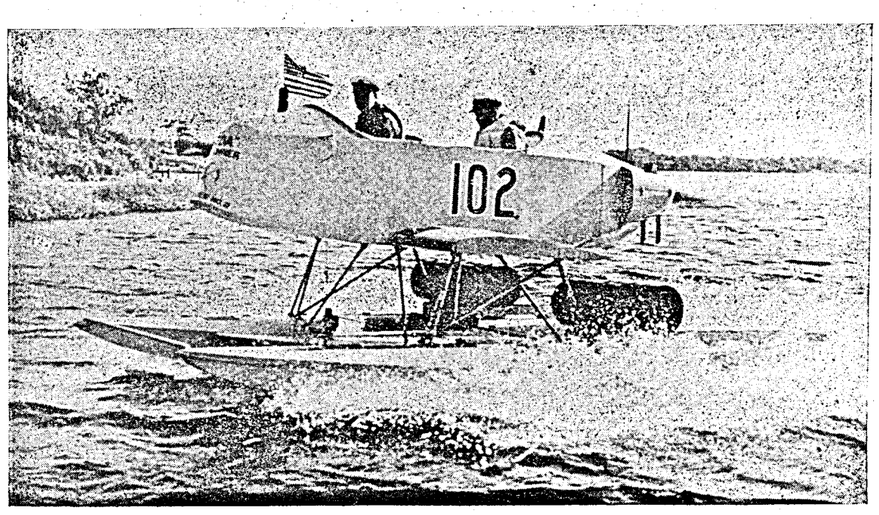
LESS TIME FOR HOBBIES

Perhaps one deprivation he suffers is that he cannot give as much time to his hobbies as he once did. He can no longer sit undisturbed, studying the rigging or lines of an old ship model. Nor can he devote much time to stamps. He once spent at least one night a week with them. This has been cut down to about one night in two weeks. But he told me with a smile: "I always have them about."

He can still find time for general reading. He can skim a book and get the meat out of it. Many authors and publishers send him copies of new publications and he usually takes three or four to bed. He spends about an hour a night running through them and picking out parts for more carfeul study.

It was almost seven o'clock and the President was ready to leave, but his work for the day had not ended. He had made arrangements with one of his secretaries to take dictation that evening. I had a glance at his calendar for the day and wondered how, having done what he had done, he could do more. I stopped for a minute and asked one more question: "How in the world, Mr. President, can you do all the things you do?"

He looked up in surprise and in the most matter of fact way answered: "By living a perfectly normal life."



NEW ANTI-SUBMARINE WEAPON.—A new kind of American vessel, designed for anti-submarine patrol, is put through tests on the U.S. East Coast. Powered by an Aerial engine, the craft skims along the water's surface at 50 miles an hour, and according to its inventor, Antoine Gazda, it cannot be detected by undersea listening devices. The boat is armed with four depth charges, a light cannon, and a machine-gun. It can be hoisted and carried on any vessel as easily as a lifeboat.

Frontiers of Deliverance within Reach

By WICKHAM STEED

A comprehensive survey of the war as a whole warrants the belief that Allied progress to victory is swifter than developments on any single front may suggest. Of striking episodes there is no lack. But so keen is public interest in these episodes that their cumulative significance is often overlooked.

The sustained and impressive Russian advance captures imagination and tends to monopolize world attention. Yet the heavy defeat of the Japanese convoy off Lae, New Guinea, is hardly less significant in another sphere of operations especially in comparison with the successful passage of a huge Allied convoy to Northern Russia and the failure of

mass attacks by German U-boats to prevent another huge trans-Atlantic convoy from reaching British ports. The Russian armies, as the military spokesman of Hitler's High Command, General Dietmar, now admits, have the upper hand, numerically and strategically, of Hitler's armies on land.

SEA AND AIR SUPERIORITY

On sea and in the air Allied forces have equally the upper hand of the Axis. Nor is there any sign that this double superiority is likely to be lost. Rather the contrary.

General Dietmar has also told German people that the Russian offensive is "more concentrated, more exhausting and more dangerous" than it was last winter, when, as Hitler confessed, it brought Germany to the verge of disaster. Dietmar announces more severe measures for the reinforcement of Hitler's troops. But attempts to obtain fresh divisions from Rumania and Hungary for the Russian front are causing disturbances in those countries, while dwindling faith in German victory is increasing their reluctance to make further sacrifices in support of the Axis.

HITLER'S PROBLEMS

If Germany herself possessed large reserves of men, she would not have compelled millions of disaffected foreign slaves to work in German fields and factories. So the conclusion appears justified that Hitler is confronted with serious problems both of manpower and war production.

On the Allied side manpower and war production are steadily increasing. While British production rolls on in a mighty stream, the totals of United States production are higher than the whole output of the Axis. Hitler knows, as Japan knows, that the Axis will be hit hard and relentlessly this year in every theatre of war. What they do not know is exactly where and how they will be hit or what strength they can muster to withstand Allied blows.

Behind the comparative lull of the North African front, preparations are going on steadily for complete ejection of the Axis from the southern shores of the Mediterranean. Italy will be obliged to choose between surrender and progressive devastation. The Balkans, where strong centres of resistance remain uncrushed, will hail Italian discomfiture with delight. Nor will Hitler find France, the Low Countries, Denmark and Norway easy to control when he is manifestly fighting rearguard actions on every front. Then he may be faced with the most serious problem of all.

FEAR OF INTERNAL REVOLT

This problem is more internal than external. Hitler and Himmler have been building up a strong force of picked Black Guards or "Waffen SS" to defend themselves and the Nazi Party in case the German people or sections of the army should attempt to overthrow the Third Reich.

If these highly trained ruffians, who number 600,000 men, should be used mainly or exclusively to terrorise Germans in Germany and to hold down subjugated nations, lack of manpower in the field might become catastrophic. Should they be used as fighting formations on various fronts, the German home front might be endangered. More than once differences have arisen between Hitler and leading German generals upon the employment of these SS divisions. I see no reason to doubt that such differences will grow more acute in future.

BERLIN, ROME AND TOKYO

President Roosevelt's statement, in his recent address to Congress, that "this year 1943 will give the United Nations very substantial advance along the roads that lead to Berlin, Rome and Tokyo" is, in my view, entirely justified by a comprehensive survey of the war as a whole. The only questions are how swift the advance will be and how far it will go. I believe that it is already swifter than many think who limit their attention to isolated episodes of fighting. Temporarily it may be checked by unforeseen impediments. But, just as Russian commanders have surmounted formidable hedgehog positions and swept on to wider victory, so I feel assured that the cause of the United Nations will flow around stubborn obstacles until it submerges effective resistance in an irresistible tide of triumph.

The present year should bring the frontiers of deliverance within reach and perhaps see them garrisoned by forces of freedom.

CORPORAL HITLER'S BLUNDERS

In Russia the enemy has lost about 800,000 men in killed and prisoners (exclusive of wounded) in rather less than three months. Corporal Hitler's blunders have been as costly as General Ludendorff's.

Vigour of the Russian Offensive

By MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES GWYNN

IN their hasty withdrawal from the Terek Valley salient in the East Caucasus, the Germans no doubt to some extent fell back on a pre-arranged plan. There are, probably, also plans either to hold the Kuna line or withdraw from it, if circumstances dictated. A competent staff would certainly have to draw up such plans in view of the exposed position of the salient, the length of the front that is entailed and the obvious probability that the Russians would again undertake a winter offensive either on a small or a great scale.

What is not clear is why the decision to withdraw was postponed till winter increased the difficulties. It may have been that the Germans were not willing to relinquish the springboard for a renewed attack on Grozni in the spring and considered it safe to hold on under-estimating Russian offensive potentialities. They may have thought that, even should the withdrawal become necessary, the Russian pursuit would not be rapid and could easily be checked by a rearguard action. Hitler may have been responsible for the belated decision or it may have been taken in order, by shortening the front, to release reserves to meet the serious situation on the Don.

It seems certain that Von List was surprised by the Russian drive across the Kalmuck steppes threatening his line of retreat and by the speed, the vigour and the power of the Russian advance.

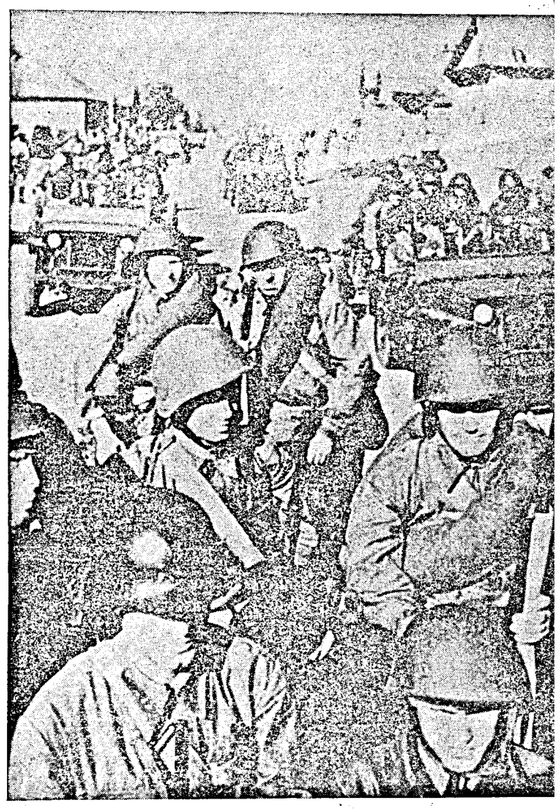
HASTY GERMAN WITHDRAWAL

The retreat must have been far more hurried than was ever anticipated involving immense sacrifices in material and very high losses in rearguard action. If it was hoped that the Kuma position might hold long enough to cover further withdrawals, the hope proved short lived and there seems little chance that the Russian pursuit can now be checked short of the Upper Kuban and the Voroshilevsk-Divnoe railway.

The distances to be covered are still very great but the Kamusk forces, possessing large numbers of cavalry as well as armour have developed an astonishing degree of mobility and a considerable striking power.

THE PROBLEM OF RAILWAYS

The Russians advancing along the Baku railway towards Armavir are not likely to have



SOVIET ANTI-TANK UNIT ADVANCES AT STALINGRAD—Moving up to the Stalingrad battlefront, a Soviet mobile anti-tank unit is seen riding in U.S.-made jeeps, light scout cars with four-wheel drive.

supply difficulties. They must in the first instance have captured great quantities of German supplies and they will have good railway communications while the line, which may not have been greatly damaged, is repaired.

It would be interesting to know whether the Germans have altered the gauge of the Caucasian railways or whether they have left them unchanged relying on the captured Russian rolling stock in view of the fact that a connection with the German system can only be maintained through the Rostov bottleneck.

The Caucasian front on account of the rapidity and the importance of the development is at the moment the most interesting

but the Russian drive along the Stalingrad-Gokhoretsk line is also making considerable, if a slower, progress.

North of the Don, the German resistance has stiffened as was to be expected since the network of railways, west of the Donetz facilitated the rapid deployment of German reserves and because the Donetz was obviously the position on which the approaches to Rostov could best be defended. The fighting has been very heavy, with the Germans as usual counter-attacking fiercely, though probably more with the object of preventing further Russian advances than initiating a large scale counter-offensive.

FLIGHT OF GERMAN SIXTH ARMY

Moreover, it is obviously important for them to retain the bridgehead across the Donetz in the hope that the German Sixth Army can survive till the spring, for only from the Donetz front could a relief offensive be contemplated. Whether the Sixth Army can survive the winter must mainly be a question of supplies for it should be strong enough otherwise to stand a prolonged siege. The progress the Russians are making in Stalingrad would, however, seem to indicate that something is undermining the enemy's morale.

On the central front, the Germans are evidently making desperate efforts to recover Velikie Luki. Their concealment of the capture of this town from the German people may be an extra reason for the efforts they are making. The counter-attacks must have entailed a great expenditure of reserves and even should they eventually prove successful, it seems doubtful whether a strong and well-supplied defensive could be re-established.

It may be concluded that on all fronts, whether progress is fast or slow, the vigour of the Russian offensive is not relaxing.

A Very Remarkable Campaign

By "A Student of War"

WHAT is the true inspiration of these massive strokes which fall on the German anvil with a sort of inevitable tattoo of the blacksmith?

The first destruction has fallen upon the unhappy dupes whom Hitler has pressed into his service. About Stalingrad it was the Rumanians who suffered the earliest and the most disastrous attacks, in the middle Don it was the Italians and now in the south of Voronezh it is the Hungarians. . .

Thus while selecting for attack a sector where Germany was strategically weakest, the Russians at the same time put their fingers on the spot where she is politically the most vulnerable. It is a strategy similar to that which urges Britain and the United States to concentrate their attacks upon Italy.

Yet we must look farther to discern what is driving Russia to an offensive so skilfully conceived and executed and so resolutely pressed. Clearly, the campaign is engaging very great forces and grave losses are being inflicted on the Sixth Army before Stalingrad. In the Caucasus, the position of General List's armies grows graver every day. The Russian thrust across the upper Manich points directly against their line of retreat. Grozny has long disappeared from even a distant prospect and now even Maikop seems precariously held.

The Russian armies which have maintained their hold on Tuapse and kept a footing in the neighbourhood of Novorossisk are said to be on the move again. Their immediate objective is to prevent the enemy from retiring across the Kerch Straits and to threaten their line of retreat through Velsk.

Farther north, the Russians have approached the point at which the Donetz joins the Don. But these are mere territorial gains. The true Russian objective is the destruction of the armies in the field and with every advance the enemy's position on a greater and greater front grows precarious.

Beyond disguise, too, the retreat is under compulsion and in some places far from orderly.

We are the spectators of a very remarkable campaign. Each step appears to increase its interest and the vital nature of its implications. So far the Russians have been able to break through wherever they wish below Voronezh and this suggests what was probable from the beginning, that this vast territory was easier to overrun than organized for defence. So in every direction great developments are afoot, though clearly the end is not yet.

—*The Daily Telegraph.*

CRACK SNIPER OF U.S. MARINES IN SOLOMONS.—Taking aim through his telescope sights is one of the crack snipers of the U.S. Marines in the Solomon Islands. Camouflaged to blend with jungle foliage, he and his comrades take pot shots at the enemy from front line outposts.

Japan Deprived of Initiative in Far East

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

I propose this week to focus attention on the South-West Pacific. A year ago the Japanese were pressing south in the first flush of their early victories. Soon they had progressed so far that they had occupied what I can best describe as an outpost line, 5,000 miles in length, stretching from Burma in the west by way of Sumatra, Java and New Guinea to the Solomons.

Behind this outpost screen, Japanese leaders commenced consolidation of what they had gained and planned further aggression. Fears were felt for the safety of Australia and India and the line of communication between America and Australia, by way of Pearl Harbour and the southern Pacific, was threatened.

An attitude of passive resistance by the United Nations at that time would have spelt disaster. But no such attitude was adopted. General MacArthur, who was appointed to the supreme command in that theatre, commenced nibbling at the Japanese outpost line.

WEAKNESS OF STRATEGIC POSITION

From the Japanese point of view, it was essential to establish and maintain advanced air bases right up in their forward positions, not only with a view to future aggression but in order to repel counter-offensive. Here it was that the weakness of the Japanese strategic position became apparent.

Not only was the outpost line from Burma to the Solomons 5,000 miles in length, but it formed the arc of a mighty circle whose centre was at Tokyo, 3,000 miles distant.

Communications from the centre of this circle to any point on the circumference were compelled to traverse the sea and pass through the air. The command of both was, therefore, essential to success. The battles of the Midway island and the Coral Sea were to shew that the command of the sea and the air was still very much in dispute and the recent three-day battle in the north of New Guinea has occasioned such heavy losses to the Japanese air and sea power that leaders of Japan must be beginning to take stock of their resources with a view to deciding whether they can hope to continue to hold so long and so distant an outpost line.

THE WOUND AND THE RATE OF RECOVERY

Already that line has been dented. The Australians, with the aid of American assistance in the air, after months of difficult fighting in tropical jungle, in one of the worst climates in the world, have now almost cleared the Japanese out of Papua and in the Solomons, the Americans have established air base from which they can reach Rabaul which appears to be the advanced base of the Japanese operations in the South-West Pacific.

The number of aircraft lost or ships sunk is of itself not the standard by which to judge a nation's wound. What matters most is the patient's probable rate of recovery. In the recent three-day fighting, north of Papua, the Japanese are reported to have lost 137 aircraft and 24 ships, including transports.

The yardstick of measurement must be how far these losses exceed the probable rate of replacement. This cannot, of course, be accurately estimated but we do know that replacements must come entirely from Japan's own resources. She has no contact with the arsenal of Germany—incidentally, Germany has no access to the raw materials which Japan now possesses in superfluity except through the voyage of a very occasional blockade runner.

It is safe to say, therefore, that Japan cannot afford losses at sea or in the air on this scale.

INITIATIVE

She must, therefore, either give up the advanced positions which are such a drain on her recources or she must live on her capital. We have a long way to go before Japan can be made to disgorge her conquests but dents made by General MacArthur in her outpost line in the South-West Pacific, combined with the penetration into Burma from India (although only so far on a small scale) are indications that the initiative is, at the moment changing hands in the Far East, as it has already done in the West.

A Gamble that Failed

By LORD STRABOLGI

PRESIDENT Roosevelt in his speech to the 78th Congress of the United States of America described how in 1942 the United Nations had been engaged in stopping the Japanese advance in the Pacific. The President went on to say that in 1943 the United Nations would advance against the Japanese.

It is now only a question of time before the new American construction and continued Japanese losses will tip the balance in favour of the United Nations. In the second week of January this year a new sea-borne expedition of large size and numerical strength was reported as assembling at Rabaul in New Britain, north-east of New Guinea. It was heavily attacked from the air by American and Australian bombing planes. The objective of this new venture might have been a renewed attempt to conquer Papua or to reinforce the strong points at Lae and Salamaua, in New Guinea, or to reoccupy the Guadalcanar and Tulagi islands, in the South Solomons, seized by the Americans.

DEFENSIVE MOVES

These would be defensive moves aimed at denying forward bases to the United Nations. The days for more ambitious projects in the South-West Pacific have passed. The necessary advantage of air supremacy is no longer with Japan. The growing air strength of her opponents robbed her of this asset. The heavy damage to the first convoy from Rabaul to Lae, in New Guinea, indicates that air ascendancy has passed from Japan. Other attempts will be made; for Japanese commanders cannot yet incur the loss of "face" that a confession of final defeat in the South-West Pacific would cause.

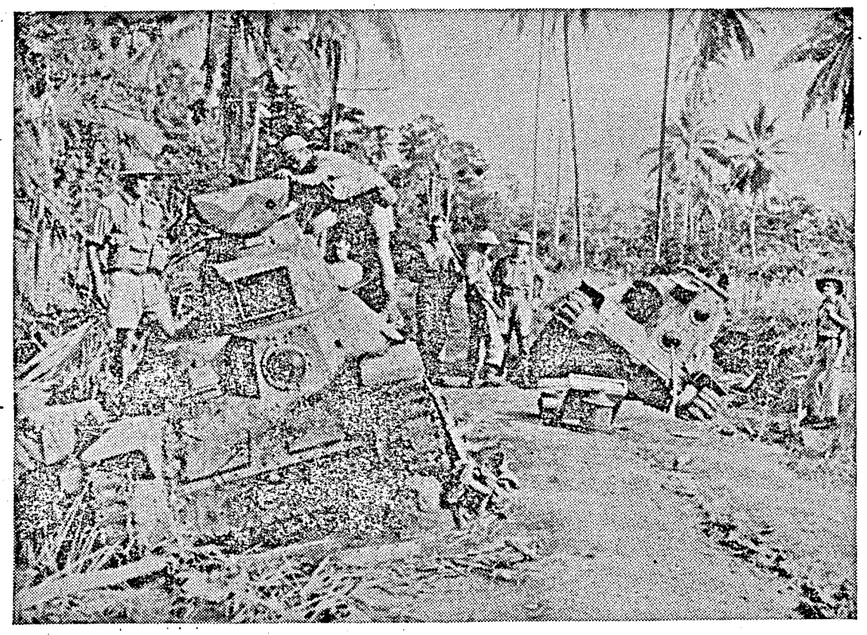
Whether, as their strength waxes, the United Nations will embark on the long and painful process of reconquering the islands one by one up to and including the Philippines, remains to be seen. These territories are in the tropics and most of the larger islands are mountains, covered with thick forest and lacking in roads. Tropical damp climate makes them a green hell in which to fight. Their loss to Japan would not be a mortal injury. The driving of the Japanese armies from the Chinese mainland would be far more damaging. The Chinese armies number 7,000,000 men of proved military value who have defeated the Japanese invaders again and again on occasions when they fought on equal terms. Chiang Kai-shek's troops only need aircraft and modern weapons to drive the Japanese out of the country altogether.

CARGO AEROPLANES

Munitions are being flown from India by cargo aeroplanes. Already more supplies, as President Roosevelt told the Congress, are being flown to Chungking than passed over the Burma Road. Before the Japanese overran Burma, 4,500 trucks carried 17,000 tons of war material a month over this long, twisting, difficult highway. Supplies by air can be greatly increased as large numbers of American transport planes roll off the conveyor belts and come into service. These large new transport planes can carry tanks, motor cars and fighter planes as well as artillery ammunition.

In China are aerodromes from which Japanese cities, dockyards, and arsenals can be bombed. In China are harbours on which can be based an Anglo-American fleet to cut off vital sea-borne supplies for Japan. Thus the war in the Pacific can be taken to the heart of Japan.

The weakness in the strategical situation of Japan in 1943 is an unconquered China. It would have been a sounder policy for Japanese leaders to liquidate the so-called "China Incident" before challenging the American and British democracies. They failed to do so despite 2,000,000 Japanese casualties in five years of warfare. The attack on the United States and Britain was, in these circumstances, a gigantic gamble. This gamble has already failed.



JAP TANKS KNOCKED OUT IN NEW GUINEA.—Australian and American soldiers inspect light Japanese tanks stopped by Allied guns during the United Nations drive to oust the Japanese from the South Pacific island of New Guinea. The tanks were found to be lightly armed and very vulnerable.

North Africa: British Navy's Magnificent Part

An Interview with Admiral Cunningham

By G. WARD PRICE

THIS North African campaign is a perfect demonstration of sea power.

The landing and the maintenance of Allied armies here has been made possible by the Royal Navy alone.

I have had the privilege of hearing from Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, Naval Commander of the expeditionary force, some details of the great task which has been carried out under his orders during the last three months.

He said: "Our losses at sea have been surprisingly small in proportion to the great scale of the operation. The whole way from the United Kingdom there has been a constant stream of convoys, some of great size. One of 66 vessels arrived recently. Yet out of close on 1,000 ships that have made the double journey out and back, the sinkings have been less than 3 per cent.

NO SHIP LOST

"Outside the Mediterranean, I believe, not a single loaded ship has been lost. Casualties have been mainly of empty vessels homeward bound."

There was no mistaking the satisfaction in Admiral Cunningham's keen blue eyes as he glanced at the maps representing the area of his responsibilities.

They hung all over the walls of his office in the building which houses the Allied Headquarters.

"The safety of sea communications of the Allied armies in North Africa," said the Admiral, "is largely due to the excellent arrangements made by the Admiralty for the escort of convoys and to the co-operation of the R.A.F. in harrying submarines.

"The ships, highly skilled in escort work, belonging to the western approaches of the Command, have given valuable aid. The dangers, facing our maritime communications, were great and concentrated.

"There have been 50 enemy submarines at a time, waiting inside and outside the straits of Gibraltar.

VIGOROUS OFFENSIVE

"These craft have had heavy losses. To Germany the last two months have probably been the most costly, in their whole submarine campaign. But the role of the navy is not confined to defence. We have all the time been carrying on a vigorous offensive against the enemy supply lines across the Sicilian narrows.

"These are harried by our cruisers and destroyers and especially by our submarines. They have also suffered a lot of damage by air attack in which the fleet air arm has taken a big part. Its machines are out every night looking for the enemy ships making a crossing in the dark or trying to slip along the coast.

"There will be heavy fighting here no doubt when the ground dries, but naval and air attack on the enemy's communications, combined with direct assault on his land positions will, I am convinced, drive him out of Tunisia.

"We are sending stores as far east as Bona. The enemy has made strenuous attempts to interfere with this operation. He delivered a heavy air attack on Bona last week but though some damage was done, the service of the port continues as before."

ITALIAN FLEET

I asked Admiral Cunningham, whether the Italian fleet causes him any anxiety. He replied: "Obviously it will not be possible to establish an Allied domination of the whole of the Mediterranean until the Italian fleet is disposed of.

"If the fleet come out, I have a very powerful force at my command, especially allotted to the task of dealing with it and I have no doubt about the issue.

"Yet we now have complete freedom of movement in both the eastern and the western parts of the Mediterranean. I always felt that our position here would be restored. In fact, I believe myself that the war may well be decided in the Mediterranean.

"One great advantage of the position is already secured. Malta is safe. Convoys are reaching the island frequently from Alexandria, protected by the R.A.F. machines, stationed on the coast of Libya.

"The splendid resistance of Malta has thus borne fruit. Now it is not only fully stocked again but equipped to take an active part in the African campaign by attacking enemy communications to Tunisia. This is being done with good effect by the R.A.F. and the fleet air arm, based on Malta."

BIZERTA FOR A START

I put a question to the Admiral whether there was ever a possibility of seizing Bizerta at the very start of these operations instead of making Algiers our main objective. He said: "I believe it would have been possible but the plan was rejected on the ground of its probable cost. We should have had to reckon on the loss of a battleship, several cruisers and very likely 25 per cent of the merchant vessels.

"It would clearly have been a great advantage if Bizerta could have been secured that way by direct attack but on consideration it was decided to take a less hazardous course."

Speaking of the political situation which complicates the Allied military and naval position here, Admiral Cunningham said that the death of Darlan had in no way simplified it. In fact, he declared that Darlan's co-operation had been of great practical value to the Allied forces.

But for his "cease fire" order, we should phobably for some time have held no more North Africa than small areas round Casablanca, Oran and Algiers.

We could not carry on the campaign in this country without co-operation from the French.

"Our lines of communication," the Admiral said, "would have been in great danger without the goodwill of the local inhabitants.

"It was Darlan's action in calling off resistance which made it possible to secure the co-operation in the first place and it is now developing automatically."

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

29th Jan.—Copenhagen was raided by the Royal Air Force.

American aircraft bombed objectives in Germany. Industrial objectives in Rhineland were attacked.

Reports were current that Germany was preparing to launch peace proposals through General Franco.

A large Axis supply ship was sunk by torpedo bombers off Norway.

Objectives in northern France, Holland and Belgium were attacked by the Royal Air Force.

30th Jan.—The Royal Air Force made the first daylight raid on Berlin and delayed Goering's speech for an hour.

In his speech Goering admitted that Germany was deceived by the Finnish war. "Russia's war against Finland was perhaps the cleverest and greatest camouflage in world history."

In his proclamation Hitler said: "To-day there are only two alternatives—victory for Germany and her Allies or the destruction and enslavement of everybody by Bolshevism. We must fight on doggedly."

The German Radio said that reports that Germany was sending a new peace offer to the Allies were "mean invention."

The Royal Air Force raided Berlin a second time before Dr. Goebbels began his speech.

31st Jan.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in western Germany and bombed Hamburg. Large fires were started.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

30th Jan.—Commenting on the anniversary of Hitler's rise to power, the *Herald Tribune* said: "Through ten years of toil, loot and destruction, Hitler has led his people to a point at which the destruction of his regime and all it stood for has become a certainty."

A joint statement issued by President Roosevelt and President Vargas stated that it was the aim of their countries to "make the Atlantic ocean safe for all."

31st Jan.—Col. Knox, Secretary for the Navy, declared: "I think there are darned good prospects of an air attack on Tokyo, but when or how it will be hit, I will not say. But they had better get ready."

2nd Feb.—Madame Wellington Koo, wife of the Chinese Ambassador in Britain, said in Philadelphia that China was on the verge of an economic collapse.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

29th Jan.—An encounter took place between a party of Chin levies and a Japanese patrol in a village in the Kale area.

30th Jan.—The Royal Air Force bombed objectives in Akyab.

31st Jan.—There was heavy fighting between the Chinese and Japanese troops near Mong Pan on the China-Burma border.

1st Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked and damaged Japanese water transport on the Mayu river.

2nd Feb.—United States planes raided Rangoon. Damage was caused in the dock area.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29th Jan.—Bizerta was again bombed.

30th Jan.—A conference of Japanese diplomats was held in Rome.

The harbour and railway yards at Sfax were bombed heavily.

The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Sicily.

31st Jan.—The Eighth Army's forward elements crossed the Tunisian border.

Seven Axis ships were hit by Allied planes. A position was captured in Kairovan.

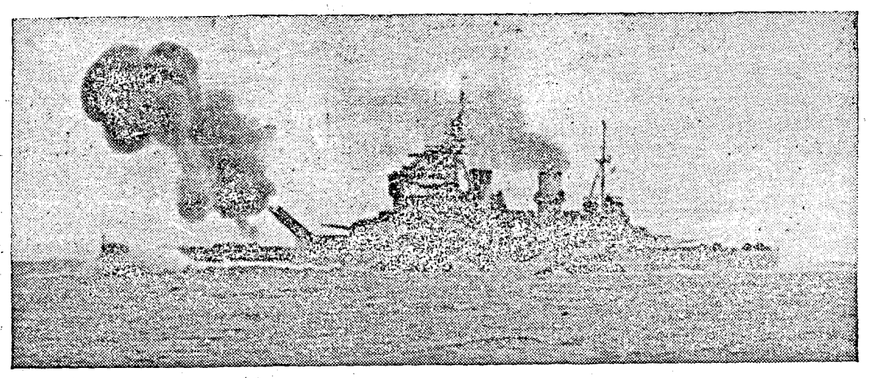
1st Feb.—The Royal Air Force raided Akyab.

2nd Feb.—Rommel was put under the orders of Rundstedt, commanding in France.

In Line with R.A.F.

The words "aeroplane" and "aerodrome" are to disappear from the military vocabulary, under an Indian Army Order. "Aircraft" and "airfield" are to take their place.

This will bring the Indian Army into line with the R.A.F. which has always confined itself to the latter titles.



Mr. A. V. Alexander, the First Lord of the Admiralty, recently announced that Britain has made up all her losses in capital ships in the past 2½ years. Thus the two additional battleships of the "King George V" class, the "Anson" and the "Howe," which are sister ships also of the "Duke of York," are now in Commission. They were laid down in 1937. Displacement 35,000 tons, complement 1,500, armed with ten 14-inch and sixteen 5·25-inch and various smaller guns. Speed over 30 knots. Photo shows H.M.S. "Anson" on trials.

Mussolini made a speech to Fascist Youth somewhere in Central Italy when he said: "Our reply to Casablanca—('unconditional surrender of the Axis.')—is that while we have the strength to grasp a weapon, we shall not give in."

The Eighth Army took Zuara, Axis harbour in Tripolitania.

General Giraud informed a press representative that he was raising a French army of 300,000 men whom President Roosevelt would equip for the Battle of Europe.

3rd Feb.—The Eighth Army reached the Mareth Line. Zilten was occupied. United States troops captured Sened.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29th Jan.—Soviet troops made a new advance on the Voronezh front. A wedge was driven in the Nazi lines near Rostov.

30th Jan.—Russian troops occupied Kropotkin in North Caucasus and captured Novo Oskol. Three German Generals fell into the Red Army's hands.

31st Jan.—Tikhoretsk and Maikop were recaptured by the Russians.

1st Feb.—The Red Army reached Ladozhokava, 50 miles north-east of Krasnodar. The Maikop oil fields were reconditioned.

2nd Feb.—Berlin admitted that the remnants of the German Southern group (Sixth Army) at Stalingrad, after having fired the last round of ammunition, were taken prisoner by the Soviet. Sixteen German Generals were captured. Hundreds of Russian women and children streamed back to Stalingrad. The epic struggle of Stalingrad drew to a close.

The Red Army closed in on Krasnodar. Svatovo was taken.

3rd Feb.—The Red Army was 30 miles from Rostov.

Russian troops entered the Finnish port of Petsamo.

The Russians captured Kupyansk.

The last of the German forces at Stalingrad surrendered.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1st Feb.—It was officially announced that Mr. Churchill visited Turkey as the guest of the Turkish Government.

* * * *

SHIPPING

1st Feb.—The Admiralty announced the loss of submarine "P-222."

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED FRANCE

1st Feb.—New measures for the persecution of Jews were adopted in France.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

29th Jan.—Japanese bases were hammered in New Guinea.

30th Jan.—Japanese ships were bombed in South Pacific. American troops launched an offensive in Guadalcanar.

31st Jan.—Lieut.-General Tomitaro Hori, Commander of the Japanese army in Papua, was drowned in the Kumusi river.

1st Feb.—The Japanese were pushed back in New Guinea. An enemy attack in Mubo was repulsed.

The United States submarines sank six Japanese ships.

2nd Feb.—Allied aircraft attacked Rabaul.

3rd Feb.—There were air and sea battles in the Solomons. Both United States and Japan suffered losses.

The Premier of Australia said that the Japanese were concentrating in the outer fringes of the islands around Australia.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1943 No. 22

MR. CHURCHILL

Altered the Face of THE WAR

YOU have altered the face of the war in a most remarkable way. When I was with the Chief of the Imperial General Staff and the President of the United States at Casablanca, the arrival of the Desert Army in Tripoli was a new factor which influenced the course of our discussions and opened up hopeful vistas for the future.

HARD struggles lie ahead. Rommel, a fugitive from Egypt and Tripolitania in a non-stop race of 1,400 miles, is now trying to present himself as the deliverer of Tunisia.

THE days of your victories are by no means at an end, and with the forces which march from different quarters, we may hope to achieve the final destruction or expulsion from the shores of Africa of every armed German or Italian.

MR. CHURCHILL, *in a speech to the Eighth Army in Tripoli, last week*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Battle of Encirclement in Russia	4–5
The Mareth Line	9
Planning supplies to the Middle East: An outline of Britain's great responsibility	10
The Adana Conference	14
Far-Reaching Reforms in Turkey	14
The Man with the Big Idea	16
Turkey's place among the nations	18
The Persia-Iraq Army	19
Feeding the guns of the Red Army	21
Diary of the War	22

THE DICE ARE IN OUR FAVOUR

"The North African front has now become one big battle-field with Rommel going back to join with his brothers-in-arms in Tunis. He will hold on to the Mareth Line as long as possible—as long as there is no danger of being cut off and losing his forces . . . Our task of driving the Axis right out of the continent is not going to be easy, but the dice are in our favour. The enemy is making every effort to increase his supplies, but he has only a few ports at his disposal."

GENERAL ALEXANDER, the Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East, addressing war correspondents in Cairo on February 10.

◆ ◆ ◆

RED ARMY VICTORIES

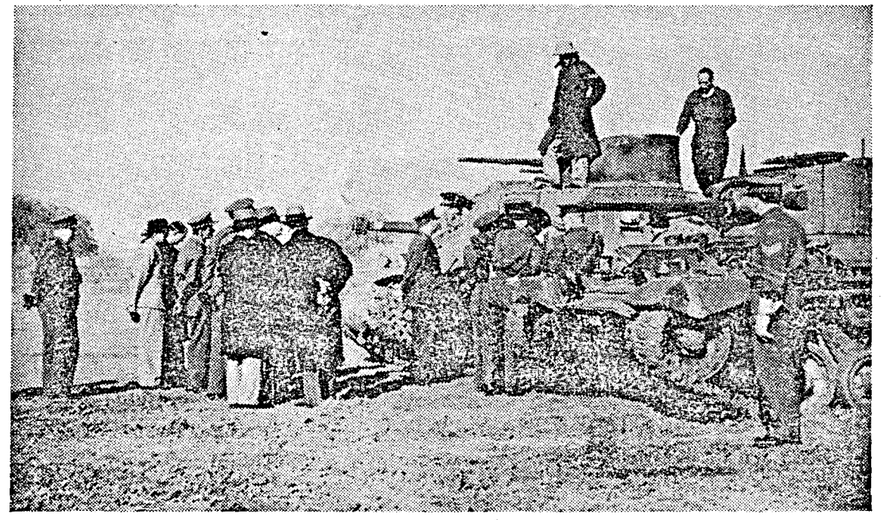
The Red Army victories at Stalingrad and in the Caucasus have been decisive battles of the present war and have definitely settled the defeat of the Nazis and Fascists who fell upon the Soviet Union.

—Dr. BENES in a telegram to M. Stalin, on February 6.

◆ ◆ ◆

To the Troops!

You want to be amused?
You want some light music?
Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras,*
211 or 60·98 metres,
Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.



The Turkish delegation of journalists inspected tanks somewhere in India during their recent tour of this country.

Running Commentary

Australia: Base for Allied Counter-Attack in South-west Pacific.

Commenting on Australia's appeal that more help should be sent as speedily as possible to the South-west Pacific, the London *Times* says, "Among the United Nations, the importance and urgency of the struggle in this area is understood. Every effort will be made to roll back the Japanese and to carry the fight nearer to the vital sources of Japanese strength." The urgency of the need for speedy help was emphasised by **Mr. JOHN CURTIN,** Prime Minister of the Australian Commonwealth, in a recent statement. "To-day," he said, "this country stands in as great a danger from Japan as it ever did. As a result of her conquests, Japan is in possession of vast resources of war. We live in a fool's paradise if we assume that because of our efforts in the Coral Sea, the Solomons and New Guinea, they will not, at some future time, perhaps this year, succeed in one or more enterprises." To meet the Japanese menace, he pointed out that the Commonwealth Government had, since December 1941, increased the Navy personnel by 28 per cent, the army by 250 per cent, the Air Force by 200 per cent, and the munitions and war industry personnel by 27 per cent. And two weeks ago, the House of Representatives passed a resolution declaring Australia's unswerving loyalty to the cause of the United Nations and her determination to use all the manpower and material resources of the nation to ensure the maximum war effort necessary to bring victory.

* * *

The importance of Australia in the Allied counter-attack in the South-west Pacific has been generally well recognized both by the Allies and the Axis Powers. In June last year Shiratori, former Japanese Ambassador to Rome, declared, "Without the capture of Australia, it might be impossible to terminate the war." **Japan knows only too well that the Australian Commonwealth is the stronghold of the Democracies in the South-west Pacific, and that it can be used as a base from which war can eventually be carried to Japan itself.** She realises that she cannot retain her ill-gotten gains unless she somehow gets the control of Australia and India. In March last the Japanese paper *Tariko Shunpo* said, "The conquest of India and Australia is an indispensable condition for the setting up of the New Order in Asia." Japan tried its usual methods of cajolery and threat.

(*Continued on page* 6.)

Battle of Encirclement in Russia

" THE Germans made no tactical errors—but one big strategic error. That was when they made Hitler the Supreme Commander. Hitler was beaten by M. Stalin who, personally, conducted the offensive operations." So said General Chuikov, Commander of the 60th Soviet Army which was mainly responsible for the defeat of the German 6th Army led by Field-Marshal von Paulus. A similar tribute to the great Soviet leader's vision and foresight was paid by Lieut.-General Malinin, Chief of Staff. Referring to the successful Red Army break-out from Stalingrad, he told *Reuter's* Special Correspondent on Tuesday, " M. Stalin foresaw long ago exactly what the Germans would try to do and provided accordingly. He expected that General von Manstein would try to break through from Kotelnikovo with a large relief force. General Manstein did this and sustained a decisive defeat, thanks to M. Stalin's foresight. His army never got through."

Nazi Hopes on Manstein's Counter-Attack

THE story of this great epic victory can be briefly told. When the two Russian claws suddenly curved out north-west and south-west of Stalingrad and enclosed the German 6th Army between the Don and the Volga, the Nazis were not unduly perturbed, for they thought that the fall of Stalingrad had only been postponed. Even when the Soviet forces rushed southward from Kletskaya on the Middle Don and northward to Kalach, they did not realize the seriousness of the danger to the fullest extent. They knew that the Red Army had created a belt of territory about 50 miles wide between the encircled army and the main Axis forces, but they were feeling confident that a strong counter-attack would set right everything. The counter-attack was duly launched against the left flank of the Russian advance by General Manstein, who had six German divisions in his charge. It made considerable headway at first, but was suddenly brought to a halt by heavy concentrations of Soviet artillery fire. This was the move which was foreseen and provided for by M. Stalin. The Russians then passed from the defensive to the offensive, and pushed General Manstein's relief forces southward along the railway to Kotelnikovo.

WHAT General Manstein failed to do on the southside of the Don was attempted by the Axis forces in the centre of the Don elbow. The German Command was evidently planning a much more powerful counter-attack here, and this had no doubt given high hopes to the trapped army in front of Stalingrad. But M. Stalin had provided against this contingency also. Russian forces swept across the Central Don southwards on a 50-mile front and captured a long stretch of the Voronezh-Rostov railway.

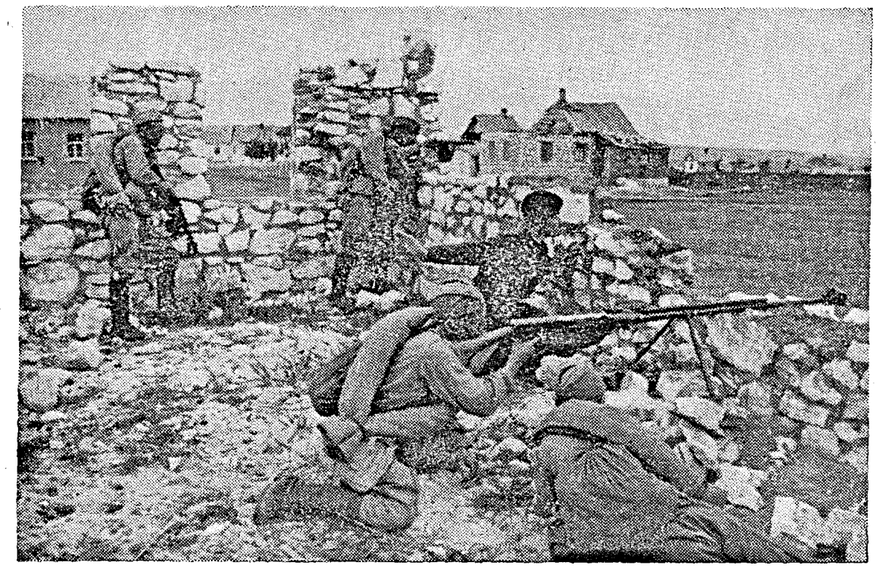
Abandoned to its Fate!

THERE was only one course open to the Germans, namely, an eastern drive to the Don elbow, but that would be suicide. Therefore the 6th Army was abandoned by Hitler to its inevitable fate. During the 65 days when this army was encircled, its strength was reduced from 200,000 to 12,000. The destruction of the German Sixth Army in the battle for Stalingrad released Soviet troops to other fronts which stretch from Voronezh in the north to the Caucasus in the south.

IN the Caucasus front, when there was a chance of the relief of the Sixth Army, the Germans must have felt that their basic position was safe and sound, for the German line of the Donetz from Kharkov to Rostov was very strongly fortified and there were fortress towns and a network of connecting railways behind this line. In the north-east, Millerovo was strongly held by the Germans and this protected the upper reaches of the Donetz. On the Caucasian side of the Don, the Germans had the line of the River Sal and Manych which, it was considered, was strong enough to hold the Russian forces pushing south along the railway from Kotelnikovo.

Sudden Change in Situation

BUT suddenly the situation for the Germans began to deteriorate in a serious manner. One Russian force pushed on straight towards the Donetz on a 40-mile front north of the Don, but the Soviet army from Kotelnikovo instead of driving straight towards the Sal-Manych line, carried out a wide turning movement pivoting on Orlovka, which was already captured, and pushed down the railway past Zimovniki and captured Salsk. The left wing of this force captured Voroshilovsk which is south-west of Lake Manych.



THE SOUTHERN FRONT.—Red Army men have captured a part of the village and are dislodging the Germans from some houses.

The capture of Armavir and Tikhoretsk enables the Russians to strike at the rear of the retreating German Army in the Eastern Caucasus, the army which once dreamed of capturing the Grozni oil fields.

An Indecisive Retreat

THE German retreat in the Caucasus, it may be said, is an indecisive retreat. It seems to be the result of a wavering on the part of Hitler between a clear stand and a definite withdrawal. It has therefore neither the advantage of the decisive rapidity of Rommel's retreat in saving as many of the forces as possible, nor that of a deliberate withdrawal which would allow transport and equipment to be saved. If the retreating forces do not receive powerful reinforcements shortly, their end is sure to be disastrous.

DURING the last few days, spectacular successes have been scored by the Red Army in its fresh offensive on a 100-mile front south of Voronezh. Valuiki, an important railway junction near Kharkov, was captured. On Sunday last Kursk, Hitler's great base on the Voronezh front, was occupied by the Red Army and the German line connecting Kharkov with Orel in the north was broken. The capture of Kursk is also likely to cut another lateral railway between Bryansk and Kharkov. The capture of Bielgorod which is only 50 miles from Hitler's Ukranian base of Kharkov was announced on Tuesday.

Fight for Rostov

LOWER down in the south, the battle of encirclement in the Donetz bend seems to be assuming such seriousness for the Germans that it is stated that they may even abandon Rostov without a fight. The fight for Rostov is overshadowed by this new gigantic development of Soviet strategy by which a quarter of a million Germans are facing disaster in the Donetz region. The astonishing feature of the whole situation is that the Russians have been able to undertake various offensive operations with so little railroad assistance. But the recent successes in capturing important railway junctions are bound to add to their own mobility and restrict that of the Germans.

Marvel of Modern Warfare

TAKING the aggressive battle front in the south as a whole, it may be stated that one of the most remarkable and impressive operations of modern warfare is being witnessed in the Voronezh and Caucasus mountains. The co-ordinated movements of envelopment, the perfect timing of blows, the placing of alternating strokes in an effective manner, the co-operation of the supply organization, the remarkable momentum with which the Soviet drives are being maintained—all these evoke unstinted admiration and marvel at M. Stalin's masterly strategy.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

A Japanese spokesman said in the same month, "The Australians have no reason for apprehension seeing that Nippon is waging a sacred war." Three months later, another Japanese spokesman declared, "If Australia dares to fight, Japan is ready to crush her, and if she chooses to make peace and offer co-operation, the Japanese will welcome her as a good neighbour." But Australia has thrown herself fully and wholeheartedly, as other members of the British Commonwealth, on the side of the United Nations, and she is mobilising all her resources and manpower to resist Japan.

* * *

Long Coastline—Difficulty of Defence: Importance of New Guinea.

Australians know that any attack on their country must be launched against the key towns on the vast northern coastline of Australia, namely, ***Townsville*** and ***Cairns*** on the east coast; ***Thursday Island*** which is at the tip of Cape York; ***Darwin*** which is about 400 miles across the east from Timor, the Dutch Island south-east of Celebes; and ***Wyndham*** and ***Broome*** on the north-west coast. The difficulty of defending the area arises from the fact that between Cairns and Broome there are 400,000 square miles which are very sparsely populated. Further, for more than 20 years, the Japanese have explored the coast line between Cairns and Broome —3,000 miles of it—in their pearl-fishing sampans. Therefore, the Australians are keenly aware of the danger that faces them, and their strenuous defence of New Guinea proves it beyond doubt.

* * *

It is gratifying to note that, on Sunday last, 41 Japanese planes were shot down at Wau in New Guinea. Not a single Allied plane was lost. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent at an advanced Allied base in this battle area describes this as the greatest air battle over New Guinea since a Japanese convoy was battered near Lae a month ago. **GENERAL MacARTHUR'S** communique issued after this air battle says, "In the series of air battles lasting throughout the day, the enemy was completely defeated and swept from the skies."

Before the attack on Pearl Harbour Australians were contributing towards the Allied victory by sending troops to different theatres of war. It is stated that about 450,000 Australians were serving in the army forces abroad. After the entry of Japan into the war, the situation changed. The danger to Australia was intensified and the Australian troops had to return home. In a statement made on February 3, **Mr. CURTIN,** the Australian Premier, said, "Mr. Churchill showed his breadth of vision and understanding when he informed Australia that no obstacle would be raised to the return of the members of the Australian Imperial Forces to defend their homeland." Knowing that Britain's commitments were very great, Australia sought America's aid, and America readily came to her rescue and sent enormous men and material. **The extent of the help given by America to Australia can be judged from the victories which the Allies gained in the Solomons and the New Guinea area.**

* * *

"Orphan of the Pacific": Japan's Object.

Japan wants to isolate Australia because, so long as Australia can be used as a colossal springboard, Japan's whole position in the South-west Pacific is threatened. Japan assigned to her last summer the position of "Orphan of the Pacific," and she wanted to cut off all her sea routes, but **the Allied victories of the Coral Sea and Midway Islands, the defence of Ceylon and the occupation of Madagascar were all vital counters to the Japanese attempt to isolate Australia.** The ring of islands in the hands of the Japanese, which are scattered off the north coast of Australia, has been dented in the Solomons, and the recent Allied victories in New Guinea have upset the Japanese plan for using that large island as a base of attack.

Now Japan is faced with two alternatives: either she must consolidate her conquests or resign herself to a withdrawal. The object of the activities of the Allies in the South-west Pacific is to force the second alternative on Japan. The immediate object of the Japanese seems to be to divert Allied strength, particularly air strength, from the Solomons area, and they hope that an attack on some part of Australia may offer hopes of achieving this end. Such a move will expose fresh quantities of shipping to Allied attack, but Japan may take the risk and Australia is preparing herself for that eventuality.

Implications of Global Strategy: Opinion in China.

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, Britain's Minister of Aircraft Production, addressed an "Aid-to-China" meeting on February 4. Paying a tribute to the achievements of "this young old country", which, in spite of internal difficulties and ill-equipped, ill-trained and ill-provisioned forces, was the first country in the world to challenge Fascist aggression, he said, "How easy it would have been to have appeased Japan, when much mightier powers were on the road of appeasement. But the Chinese leaders realized fully all that was at stake, and they risked with open eyes years and years of suffering and agony to fight for what was right and decent in the world and preserve unsullied their own freedom." Opinion in China in recent weeks has still further *strengthened the determination of the* Chinese to preserve their freedom and resist aggression at all costs. And this is due, among others, to Allied victories in North Africa. The importance of the Eighth Army's capture of Tripoli and its repercussions far away on the Chinese theatre of war are well recognized in China. In a comment on the Tripoli victory, *Ta Kung Pao*, a leading Chinese newspaper, says,

> **"So much the worse for Tojo's influenza. The Allied victory not only seals Hitler's doom, but also deals a heavy blow to Japan."**

Hsin Min Pao, another Chinese journal, declares, "The change of situation in the Mediterranean is evidence of the fact that the Axis powers are doomed." The fact that the implications of global *strategy are well recognized in China* is further brought out in a comment made by another Chinese journal, *Chungyang—Sao Tang Jih Pao*. Writing before the results of the Casablanca Conference were made known, this journal says: "To win final victory, the Allies should have unified strategy and unified plans in regard to transfer of troops, exploitation of natural resources, use of manpower and free use of technical knowledge." Yet another Chinese Journal, *Hsinh—Wa Jih Pao*, has welcomed reports of Anglo-American discussions on the creation of a "second front" in Europe, because events in the European theatre of war are bound to have repercussions in the Far East in China's favour.

Trouble in the Balkans: Anti-Nazi activities.

According to information received by the Yugoslavia Government in London, the Yugoslavia War Minister and Leader of the Patriot Forces, General Mihailovitch, has ordered a general civil disobedience campaign throughout the whole of Central and Southern Yugoslavia. It is stated that the campaign had been launched to spread confusion among the occupying Axis troops. Not only in Yugoslavia, but also in other Balkan states, grave disaffection against the Axis is growing in volume and strength.

In Rumania, the news of the very heavy losses of Rumanian troops in the Don campaign has spread like wild fire in spite of Government attempts to keep matters secret. People have come to know that over 50,000 Rumanians have been killed or taken prisoners, that the Rumanian army has collapsed in Russia, and that famous generals have committed suicide. A section of the Iron Guard and the National Peasant Party have demanded the withdrawal of Rumanian soldiers from the Russian Front. A feeling is gaining ground that the Rumanian army should be preserved

DYING SOLDIER'S WISH FULFILLED

An Indian soldier was dying. On the field of battle he had fought for India, and soon now, in a quiet hospital ward, he would die for India, unwimpering, uncomplaining, rich in the knowledge that the gifts he was making his country exceeded all riches.

But, for all his unselfish courage, he was not untroubled. There was disappointment in his eyes, disappointment in the whispers he used for words—disappointment, and great yearning.

At last he confessed his secret, a halting, shy confession, into the ear of an English nurse. He was to have become a havildar, he said, but now death was coming to rob him of his promotion.

The nurse told the hospital M.O., and the M.O. told the appropriate department of the Indian Army. Official routine was accelerated. Formalities which ordinarily would have taken hours were completed in minutes.

for wresting Transylvania from Hungary rather than be employed in securing "Transdniestria"—the Russian territories around the Dniester which were given to Rumania by the Germans. Rumanians have now begun to wonder whether Germany will ever be in a position to guarantee "Transdniestria" to their country.

* * * *

Such feelings are no doubt responsible for a change in the subservient attitude of Marshal Antonescu who seems to have realized, too late, that his policy of conciliation of the Nazis was responsible for the slaughter of thousands of Rumanian soldiers on the Russian Front. This change in attitude seems to have provoked Hitler into leting loose the section of the Iron Guard which fled from Rumania to Germany in March 1941. Hitler does not want a recalcitrant satellite in his camp at this critical juncture. He has, therefore, brought Antonescue's rival, Horea-Sima, from obscurity. It may be recalled that Sima fled with the section of the Iron Guard to Germany two years ago. The recent disturbances in Rumania are due to the activities of Sima and his followers and are intended to be a warning to Antonescu. If Antonescu follows a policy of complete submission to the will of Hitler, the Iron Guards will not be allowed to cause disturbances in future. But if Antonescu proves stubborn, Hitler can instal Sima in power.

* * *

In Hungary, things have not been too quiet. As a result of the destruction of the Hungarian army in Russia, and particularly on the Voronezh front, there have been widespread anti-Nazi activities. People are beginning to doubt the wisdom of the Government's policy as regards Russia, and there is a popular clamour for calling off the war against Russia and settling the old score with Rumania. But Hitler cannot afford to have Hungary and Rumania fight each other at the present time. Therefore, he has revived the Nazi Arrow Cross Party. If the Horthy Regime proves subservient to Nazi wishes, this party will help it; otherwise it will coerce it into submission. A recent report from Ankara states that several Hungarian Army Officers including General Fogarassy, the escaped Commander of the captured forces at Voronezh, were arrested in Budapest for openly declaring that Hungary has nothing to fight for. This is a clear indication that disaffection against the Nazis is rife in Hungary.

* * * *

And what of Bulgaria? The general feeling here is that the Government have backed the wrong horse again. King Boris seems to be feeling that the time has come when he should attempt a decent retreat, whereby he may hope to save his throne and get for Bulgaria comparatively mild conditions at the conclusion of the war. An Istanbul report says that King Boris is searching for a scapegoat on whom he can throw the blame for Bulgaria's past pro-Nazi policy and has found one in M. Gabrovskis, Minister of the Interior, who is entirely devoted to the Axis.

★

NAZI AIM

"What Nazi Germany is aiming at is not a restoration of the frontiers of 1914, but a total revision; a completely different order, or, in Goebbel's candid phrase, a redistribution of the whole world."

—HERMANN RAUSCHNIG
in *The Revolution of Nihilism.*

No More X-ray Photographs!

A new method for accurate localisation of foreign bodies in wounded persons by means of X-rays has been developed by an Australian and is being used in X-ray machines built in Australia for military hospitals. This method does away with the delay in taking X-ray photographs

WESTERN DESERT CAMPAIGN.—A British Tommy, following up the tanks, stands more than somewhat perplexed by the multiplicity of German and Italian signs at the entrance to Mersa Matruh.

The Mareth Line

EVERYTHING in this war hinges on shipping. The Axis must keep the Sicilian narrows closed to our convoys; that is part—a fundamental part—of Hitler's U-boat campaign. Therefore the Germans will fight—and fight hard—to maintain their hold on Tunis and Bizerta. Passive defence is no part of German military doctrine. Rommel and Von Arnim are surely well aware that to await the marshalling of Allied forces against them would be fatal. Therefore they must hope to strike before concerted action by the Allied converging columns is possible.

Thanks to the short sea and air passage of only 60 miles behind him, Von Arnim has already concentrated in Tunisia a force estimated to include 75,000 German troops, evidently of good quality. To join forces must be the first step in Rommel's and Von Arnim's plans. It is here that we see the importance of the Mareth Line, which covers Gabes, some 180 miles from Tripoli. Clearly Von Arnim should try to hold this line with the necessary minimum of force while Rommel withdraws his sorely harried troops through it and so gains for them a respite to reorganize.

In Tunisia mud indescribable persists till the end of February. For some time yet, therefore, operations there may well be limited to jockeying for positions. When the mud begins to dry, then will come the crisis of the campaign and much will depend on who gets off to a flying start. The Axis position is so critical that it can be retrieved only by something dramatic. At the same time, Axis commanders will try to profit by certain obvious advantages of their position. Their bombers are based on ample airfields in Sicily and Sardinia, not to mention their advanced bases in Lampedusa and Pantellaria; their fighters are based on permanent French airfields of the Tunisian plain, whereas our air forces must operate largely from landing grounds improvised amidst mud and hills. Moreover Axis lines of communication, however much we may harry them by air and submarine, are so short and are tucked away so snugly under their air umbrella that we cannot intercept them altogether, whereas those of our First and Eighth Armies are long indeed, for we may expect Rommel to have done his best to leave Tripoli harbour unusable for some time to come.

These are factors on which Rommel and Von Arnim may perhaps be counting to give them a flying start. Let us, then, suppose that, given this start, Axis commanders decide to carry on their counter-offensive in the

orthodox manner. Their plan may be something as follows: suddenly and powerfully to reinforce the Luftwaffe on the North African Front from air reserves which have been accumulated for the Axis spring offensive, and thereupon to strike at the First Army and the Americans in the hope of dealing with them while holding off the Eighth Army on the Mareth Line. This plan would not be complete without a subsequent blow at the Eighth Army, so it might perhaps include a paratroop and airborne landing somewhere on the 1,000-mile coast which constitutes the Eighth Army's lines of communication, accompanied by a sortie by the Italian fleet in a bid for command of the Eastern Mediterranean.

The antidote to any such plan is obvious. It is of course to maintain strong pressure on the enemy. The Eighth Army which broke the Alamein position will not be easily held on the Mareth Line, so it is most unlikely that Rommel and Von Arnim will have that secure back door which is the prerequisite for a concentrated attack on our First Army.

—*The Daily Telegraph.*

Planning Supplies to the Middle East

An outline of Britain's great responsibility

By T. G. JENKINS

I WANT to tell you why, in the middle of a great war, we have to concern ourselves with, say, the making of jute bags in Egypt, the starting of a points-rationing scheme in Palestine—and an advanced one at that—and the fighting of locusts in the Middle East generally.

For reasons which you know, the Middle East has become an area of great military importance, and by the Middle East I mean the countries in the Eastern Mediterranean, through Syria, Palestine and Egypt southwards to Aden and Abyssinia, and across to Iraq and Persia in the East. These countries in the early part of 1941 found themselves three times as far from their sources of supply as they were in normal times. Why? Europe was cut off by the war and the Mediterranean could no longer be used for ordinary commercial traffic. All goods from Britain and from the United States had to take the long route round the Cape, and that is much the same thing as going halfway round the world. You will, of course, see at once that to carry goods all that way requires many more ships than on a shorter voyage, since the quantity of cargo a ship can deliver depends not only on the size of the ship but on the length of the voyage.

We had then this large area, with practically no shipping resources of its own, situated 12,000 or 13,000 route miles from its sources of supply. Sources of supply—a bit of our jargon, but it just means where people get things from. This great shipping problem then explains why the Ministry of Shipping or, as it now is, the Ministry of War Transport, had to set about planning the job of supplying the Middle East.

MIDDLE EAST SUPPLY CENTRE

Why, you may well ask, should we, the British people, feel obliged to supply this area with all the necessities of life? The answer is that the countries concerned are all helping the Allies and we in turn are helping them. Also, we have armies in the area. The people round them need feeding and supplying and we do that as a matter of course. Our enemies drain their neighbours of everything they possess and reduce them to a state of misery and starvation. That is not our way.

So we set to work to plan supplies for more than a dozen countries with varying needs, varying degrees of self-sufficiency, and varying forms of Government. Much of the planning in the early days had to be done from London, but we soon saw that an organization on the spot was necessary if the work was to be properly done. We therefore created it, and bestowed on the infant the unromantic, uninspiring, but not inappropriate name of Middle East Supply Centre.

Its home is Cairo, and it has two main jobs. First, to make the area as nearly as possible self-sufficient; and second to make sure that when goods have to be imported from outside they are the right goods and only the goods really needed; what's more, to make sure that they are brought from the sources most convenient from the point of view of shipping. You might think that the best source from which to draw supplies from a shipping point of view is the one nearest the point of consumption. This is usually true but not always. Take a simple example: suppose lorries have to be brought from the United States, and steel is also needed from some source or other. Steel is heavy, with little

ROYAL NAVY TAKES WATER TO EIGHTH ARMY.—The Royal Navy is playing a most important part in guarding the shores of Africa, and, even more important, they are carrying fresh-water supplies to the Eighth Army as they advance westwards. Photo shows: Unloading water barrels by the Army, and loading on to lorries by Indian troops for transport towards the advancing Eighth Army.

bulk, and lorries are bulky with little weight. The ship has to bring lorries anyway—so it may as well bring the steel too, even though the steel has to come 12,000 miles from the United States. Some nearer source, even perhaps only 1,000 miles away, would require the use of an extra ship. This is a simple illustration—much more simple, I'm sorry to say, than the problems that confront us in real life—but it shows that we cannot rely on rule of thumb.

AGRICULTURAL POLICY

But I must get back to our first aim; that is, to produce as much as we can within the area. This has meant producing wheat, barley and other foodcrops instead of, for example, cotton. To change the direction of agricultural policy isn't easy in any country, as we ourselves know, and it is particularly difficult in countries whose farmers are mainly peasant cultivators. In Egypt the average farmer cultivates less than an acre of land, and there the cotton acreage has been reduced to one-third of its pre-war size and the country has increased its production of cereals: a great achievement.

But crops have to be protected as well as grown. In that area, as we remember from the Old Testament, the locust is an enemy which has devastated vast areas and led to the starvation of great populations. Locusts are no respecters of man-made boundaries. They may breed in the summer in North-West India; may move into Persia following the rains; and may spread from there into Arabia, Egypt and East Africa. So plans for their destruction have to be centralized, and the Middle East Supply Centre has, as one of its sections, an Anti-Locust organization which can follow the pests round from country to country, or plan a warm reception for them at their next stopping place—spray them with poison from airplanes or drive them into trenches and burn them, and generally make their life as burdensome and precarious as possible wherever they may be found. Incidentally, Russian, Indian, Persian, Arab and other experts are working with us as part of one team to beat the locusts. This is only one example of the highly developed scientific and technical work of the Centre.

All these activities are aimed at increasing the production of each country, but supply has to be planned for the area as one unit, so exchanges have to be arranged—barley from one country against wheat from another, and so on. This means changing the normal channels of trade, and that is not so easy as it sounds. In some of the more backward places the job of the inspector who arrives to

ask the local farmer what his stocks are is not one to be sought after. He needs not only quickness of mind, but often fleetness of foot if he is to return bearing his information with him. In spite of all the difficulties, however, the Middle East Supply Centre does manage to get a pretty good idea of the needs and of the production of all the countries in its care.

PROGRAMME OF IMPORTS

The Centre when it has totted these up, and has struck the balance which remains to be found from outside the area, has next to produce a comprehensive programme of imports months in advance, because it will be months after the goods are ordered before they arrive. Over the last twelve months, imports into the area have been counted not in hundreds or thousands, but in hundreds of thousands of tons. This is partly because of the serious crop failure in this area in 1941—a failure which threw a great strain on the resources of the Centre and on our shipping. It was not only that we had to find and move great quantities of cereals, we had to contend with the fact that the confidence of the people had been shaken, and this increased the tendency to hoard and to conceal foodstuffs which is always present in unsettled times. One area was short of wheat and could not export its currants: it had to resort to compulsory currant bread—another kind of national loaf.

This reminds me of a still greater problem with which we are all familiar enough—the restriction of consumption of unnecessary goods and the fair distribution of those goods that are necessary. Rationing is possible in Palestine, for example, but that solution cannot be applied to a nomadic population such as the Bedouin Arabs who may be here to-day and a hundred miles away next month. So each case must be dealt with on its merits.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Recently we have been greatly heartened and helped by the action of the United States Government in sending out to join the Centre Mr. Frederick Winant, the brother of the United States Ambassador in Britain. The American Army is also represented by General Maxwell. Many of the supplies to the Middle East come from the United States, and it is therefore appropriate, as well as helpful, that our Allies should be closely associated with us in this great work.

Since its establishment, a War Cabinet Minister has arrived in the Middle East—the Minister of State. First we had Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, now Mr. R. G. Casey. As you can imagine, it makes all the difference to have a Minister on the spot to guide day-to-day policy and to give authoritative advice whenever required.

But I'd almost forgotten to say that the Middle East Supply Centre does not cater exclusively for the civil population: it deals also with some of the supplies for our Army, particularly bulk foodstuffs, and on its staff are soldiers as well as civilians. I have not said, either, that the Centre is a policy-making body and does planning only; it does not buy or sell, store or otherwise handle the goods. These commercial functions are performed by other organizations, the bulk being done by the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation.

VITAL IMPORTANCE OF THE CENTRE

This, then, is a very rapid and incomplete sketch of what has grown to be a great undertaking. On its success hangs the well-being of a vast area and many millions of people: on its efficiency hangs the extent to which we can save ships for use in the direct task of hastening our victory. The countries concerned are all helping the Allies and we in our turn are helping them.

But, left to themselves, these countries would be unable, in a world of shortages, to obtain the wherewithal to live. The Middle East Supply Centre, so to speak, champions their needs and sifts their requirements. It is the instrument through which we do what we regard as our duty to people—eighty millions of them—who, through force of circumstances, have come to need our help. Its success means that our sons and brothers in the Forces can carry on with clear consciences and safe from the hatred and contempt which, because our enemies loot and destroy instead of supplying, follow their armies wherever they may go—*Broadcast in the BBC's Home Service.*

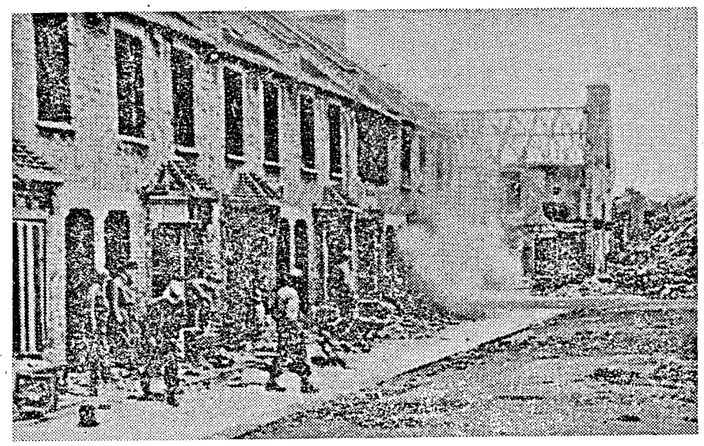
THE HOPEFUL!

The harassed attache of the American Consulate at Lisbon told this story: A shy little man leaned across his desk and said: "Please, could you tell me if there is any possibility that I could get entrance to your wonderful country?"

The attache, pressed by thousands of such requests and haggard from sleepless nights, roughly replied, "Impossible now. Come back in another ten years!"

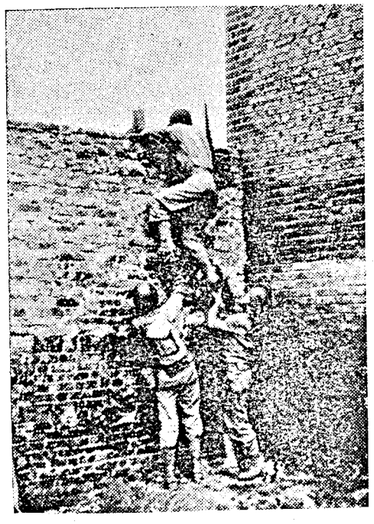
The little refugee moved towards the door, stopped, turned and with a wan smile asked, "Would morning or afternoon be better?"

U.S. Rangers practise street-fighting in London

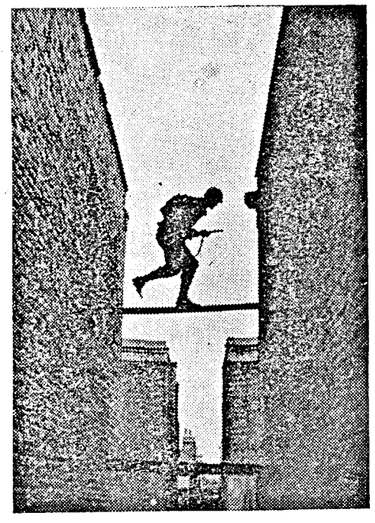


The U.S. Rangers, American counterparts of British Commandos, are undergoing intensive training. On manœuvre grounds that resemble battlefields, in the bombed areas of London, the Rangers are learning all the skills of street-fighting—advancing under cover, scaling walls, hopping from building to building, and setting off explosives in enemy hideouts.

Rangers learn one of the most effective means of cleaning out enemy pockets of resistance. They plant high explosives in an "enemy" shelter, run for cover, and then return to inspect the damage.



A speedyhoist by two comrades sends a Ranger over a wall. With intense practise, Rangers learn to perform this manœuvre in a few seconds.



On a narrow plank, a lone Ranger flits from one building to another. He puts down the plank and crosses so speedily that his silhouette presents a target to the enemy only for an instant.

The Adana Conference

By VERNON BARTLETT

THERE has never been any doubt as to Turkey's sympathies, but especially since the fall of France these sympathies have had to be expressed with certain caution, for Turkey was terribly short of modern armaments.

Even if Britain had had arms to spare—and in 1940 she obviously had none—many of them would have been useless, since, in accordance with the Anglo-Franco-Turkish alliance, the Government in Ankara was to look rather to Paris than to London for supplies.

It is for this reason that the Prime Minister was able to assure the Turkish President that the British Government had followed Turkish policy since the war with sympathy and understanding. It would certainly not have been in the Allied interests if Turkey in common with so many other countries had been overrun by Hitler's armies.

CONTROLS THE ENTRANCE

It has been to the Allied interest that Turkey has kept the Germans guessing by emphasising her determination to resist aggression from any quarter while we have recovered our strength.

Throughout January 30 and 31 political and military discussions of great importance have taken place in Adana.

If Stalin was interested in the Casablanca meeting, he was much more interested in the Adana one, since Turkey controls the entrance to the Black Sea.

One satisfactory political development of the last few months has been the improvement in Russo-Turkish relations and the new trend in Turkish policy towards the Axis should add to this improvement—*News Chronicle*.

TURKEY AND THE UNITED NATIONS GREATER FREEDOM OF ACTION

All sorts of interesting thoughts will arise from the news of the Prime Minister's visit to Turkey, for it must be a big wind to have floated so substantial and unexpected a straw, writes the *Daily Telegraph*.

It is hardly speculation to say that the Prime Minister and the military chiefs who accompanied him were at least able to assure Turkey that the promise to help her if she were attacked, contained in the Anglo-Turkish Treaty, was now more than an aspiration. Her difficulties during the past three years have been well understood in this country, not the least the difficulty of obtaining the means of defence elsewhere than from the countries from whom alone attack was to be feared. We have supplied what we could and the amount has not been unsubstantial, but it will now be more and easier to send.

Both in the military and the commercial sense, the victories of the United Nations have given Turkey far greater freedom of action and attitude. We have never doubted her loyalty to the Anglo-Turkish Treaty which survived a very dark period in our fortunes; and we rejoice that its conclusion should now have proved to have been as wise as it seemed at the time but may not have seemed so during the interval.

TURKEY AND RUSSIA

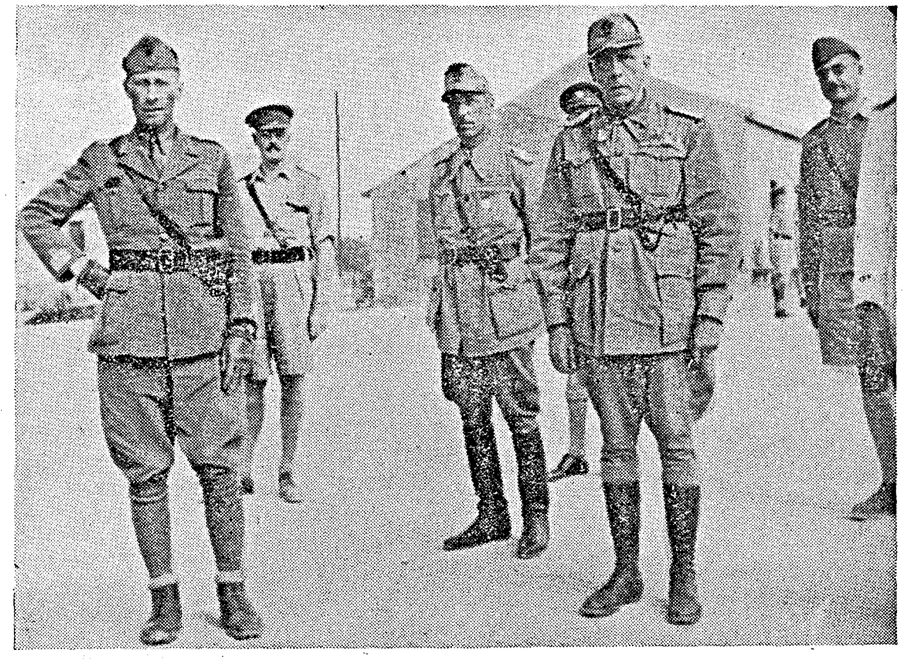
By her help to the starving Greeks, Turkey has already shown both her will and capacity to help in restoring the devastation wrought by the Axis in the Balkans. Again, evil tongues have insinuated occasionally that there might some day be friction between Turkey and Russia. It is perhaps enough to recall that Russia, though then very differently circumstanced, raised no objection when the treaty was made and throughout the war has been considerably helped by being able to rely absolutely upon Turkish neutrality. The results of the present conference will, therefore, certainly be most welcome to Premier Stalin to whom, it is understood, they have been fully imparted.

It would be superfluous to elaborate the advantages to the Allied cause of this reaffirmation that the whole of the Near East is taboo to the Axis intrigues . . . The Adana Conference is one more proof of how dark are the shadows which have fallen on the fortunes of Germany and of those of Italy which once aspired to be Turkey's rival.

Far-Reaching Reforms in Turkey

By BRIGADIER-GENERAL SIR WYNDHAM DEEDES

THE position of Turkey in the Middle East to-day, and yet farther afield, whether judged from a military or political point of view, is unique. Turkey remains neutral in the midst of war. None the less, she has succeeded in the extremely difficult task of maintaining correct relations with both groups of belligerents.



CAPTURED ITALIAN GENERALS.—Photo shows three Italian Generals captured in the Western desert. They are, left to right: Brigadier-General Masina, Commander of the Trento Division; Major-General Brunetti; Brigadier-General Bignani, Second in Command of the Trento Division.

But together with correctly observing the conditions which neutrality imposes, she has not failed to assert her intention to resist with force any attempt to violate it, and the resistance that she would offer would be formidable. Her army, world famous for its fighting qualities under the old regime, has to-day, under the regime of the republic, been carried to a much higher state of efficiency and preparedness.

GREAT CHANGES

It would not be an exaggeration to say that there is no example in history—at all events I know of none—in which a country has carried out such radical reforms in so short a space of time—a bare 20 years—with so little domestic disturbance.

For five years from 1909 to 1914 I served as an official under, as it was then called, the Ottoman Government. First in Tripoli in Africa, organizing a gendarmerie in those regions where Allied troops are now fighting, and later as an Inspector in the Ministry of Interior.

When I returned to Turkey for a short visit two years ago, I could hardly believe my eyes, so great were the changes both on the surface and in the spirit of the administration and its people. No, the old day has gone and the new day has dawned.

Constantinople is no longer the capital. Ankara reigns in its stead. From that most beautiful of cities, with its picturesque scenery, its mosques and numerous palaces, from that somewhat turgid and cosmopolitan atmosphere; from the sublime port on the Bosphorus, synonymous as it was to Turk and foreigner alike, with corruption, inefficiency and procrastination, the move has been made to a little known upcountry village on the central plateau.

BREAK WITH THE PAST

Here has been erected the modern, well-secured, and well-equipped capital which bids fair, before many years are over, to hold its own with the capital of any other country. The change is symbolic. It indicates a break with the past on the part of those who hold the reins of Government, and the influence of the new capital is now being felt in the remotest area.

Next, the change of dress. Gone is the fez and the sweeping garment. The hat and Western clothes have taken their place. Coupled with this is the adoption by every family of what in English we call a surname. The old difficulty of distinguishing by name one man from another has disappeared. These were changes which, no doubt, Ataturk felt in keeping with the tempo and direction with which and in which he wished to proceed.

EMANCIPATION OF WOMEN

This brings me to a third, and in some ways I am disposed to think the greatest of all its reforms—the emancipation of women. Gone

are the veiled and mysterious figures, peering from latticed windows, about whom Pierre Loti wrote in his novels. Their place has been taken by public-spirited, business-like women, who are playing a foremost part in national life in the home, in the school, in the hospital, the village, and to whom the administration in Turkey is now open. There is a considerably larger number of women members in the Grand National Assembly than in Parliament at Westminster.

Next take the substitution of the Latin for the Arabic script. Think what this means for a foreigner. His difficulty in learning the language is hard, but the Turkish school children also must be saying "Thank you." And think what was involved. Overnight, so to speak, the nation lost its speech, but led by the President who himself went round the villages with chalk and with blackboard, it soon again found its tongue, which has been considerably simplified by the elimination of many non-Turkish words of expression.

ALONG THE ROAD TO DEMOCRACY

The country enjoys a first-class press. What struck me most when in Turkey the other day was the relatively small amount of space devoted to trivialities and personalities, and the high quality of the articles on questions of the day and reports from the battlefront and military appreciations. The Turkish press seeks to educate its public.

The great constitutional change from Sultan or Caliph to the Republic—the introduction of manhood suffrage at the age of 33, the setting-up of the Grand National Assembly, the reform of provincial and municipal government—all are steps along the road to democracy. The machinery of popular government is there, as is also the will to make use of it.

Now a word about the part played in national life by religion. Religion is there, divorced from the State. It is a matter for the individual. The mosques are open, all are free to worship who will. Turkey is still a Muslim country, but the State as such is secular.

In old days travelling in Turkey was tedious, tiring, and sometimes terrifying. Roads were bad, bridges unsafe and brigands abounded. Railways were few and trains unreliable. To-day, the railway and road system has been greatly improved and extended, and as to brigands, why, they are a thing of the past. In old days, travelling was attended by yet other dangers, from typhus, cholera, smallpox and malaria. The present regime has been waging a war with these depopulating and decimating scourges and is winning all along the line.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

Industries have been started. Turkey aims at producing much that once she imported, and what gave me special pleasure was to see the admirable welfare schemes for workers. Towns are being planned, water is being laid on. Government buildings, hospitals and schools are being built. Great attention is being paid to Turkey's basic industry, for 75 per cent of the population live and work on the land.

How has all this been done, in so short a time? And will it endure?

My answer must be brief. It is in large part the work, or at all events, the conception of one man, a most remarkable man, who combined great energy with deep understanding of his people. Ataturk knew that what had been rotten in Turkey was its regime, but that underneath the superficial rottenness there were people of sterling worth, dogged, industrious and intelligent, who only needed to be released from the shackles of the past to leap forward into the future, and to put to good use all that is best in our modern world.

Lastly, while its reforms were indeed far-reaching and radical, he knew that they were not beyond attainment by his people, and given time they may be capable of realizing them. Are they doing so? My answer is yes, and this is not just a personal opinion, but it is that of persons more competent than I to judge—*From a recent B.B.C. talk.*

The Man with the Big Idea

A man with a big idea but little capital called at the Admiralty one day. Now the Admiralty are mass producing in 44 British shipyards a motor patrol boat of secret design and fire power.

The idea works.

This man, whose identity the Admiralty are guarding as closely as the boat's unusual construction features, evolved a scheme for producing bits and pieces of the boat at a large number of factories and then sending them to the yards for assembly by "the smallest possible quantity of labour." To-day he is controller of an Admiralty-run company at a £5,000-a year salary. He was paid £20,000 down for the goodwill of his business and has since handled £4,000,000 worth of Admiralty orders.

Each of these mass-made patrol boats costs £16,000. The hull costs £4,600 and the engines are made in America. The boats are 110 feet long, though speed and armament are a secret. They are believed to be the deadliest for their size yet put into operation. All wooden parts are made separately, as are other materials and fittings.

Admiralty experts pointed out that had the man with the big idea taken his drawings and designs into the City, he could have got all the finance he needed. He could have formed his company, and even for only 2½ per cent on orders he could have made a huge profit. It is understood that the £4,000,000 mark was passed some time ago and the patrol boats are being turned out more rapidly than ever.
—*Geoffery Simpson in "The Daily Mail."*

THE MOVING HAND HAVING WRITTEN—MOVES ON
— Special to *Madras War Review.*

Turkey's Place among the Nations

By H. C. YALCIN

THANKS to the Empire they had built, our forbears had established their domination over a great part of three continents, but at that time the whole world was their enemy. To-day the Turkish Republic remains a factor of peace and of equilibrium within its national frontiers, and has conquered the heart of the Old World and the New. That is the impression which I have gathered during a recent voyage, which lasted three months, to Britain and to the United States. In every country you can declare with pride that you are a Turk, and on every side you will find deep affection and admiration.

What is the secret of this popularity? It should be looked for in the greatness of the Turkish revolution, in the straightforwardness of Turkish politics and in the stability of Turkish administration. Turkey has inspired confidence everywhere. The whole world is convinced that a sincere struggle is taking place in Turkey for an elevated human and ethical ideal. No one any longer doubts that the Turks are striving for the highest form of peace and tranquillity. The Turks have finally succeeded in forming a stable Government and in proving to the world that immune to shocks and to confusion they are able to administer their country.

These principles which have assured us success and which have inspired respect and affection for the very name of Turk in all civilised countries should in the future light our political path.

DIFFICULTIES OF WAR

Since the outbreak of the present war every people is going through a great test. Turkey is included among the peoples which have known how to silence all other feelings and to think only of their Fatherland. Officially, we are not at war, but for the past three years our country has lived as if it were at war. This is a point which we have particularly endeavoured to emphasize in our talks with our British and American friends. We also are faced with the difficulties and the sufferings of this war. Those who fail to understand why Turkey should have troubles and difficulties of her own are those who do not grasp this point.

The only aspect of war which Turkey has not known up to now is the shedding of blood, and our present situation is a situation of war. From the very first days our country realised this fact and respected and pinned its faith upon its leaders who prevented the Fatherland from being dragged into the war. We said: "We are ready to endure all privations and sacrifices provided we do not enter the war."

BRITAIN'S AND AMERICA'S SACRIFICES

Both Britain and the United States are in the war and are beset with privations and sacrifices. Britain, which is involved to a greater extent in the war, is bearing its weight earnestly and with dignity. A great part of London is in ruins, but the efforts and the sacrifices of the people have not flagged.

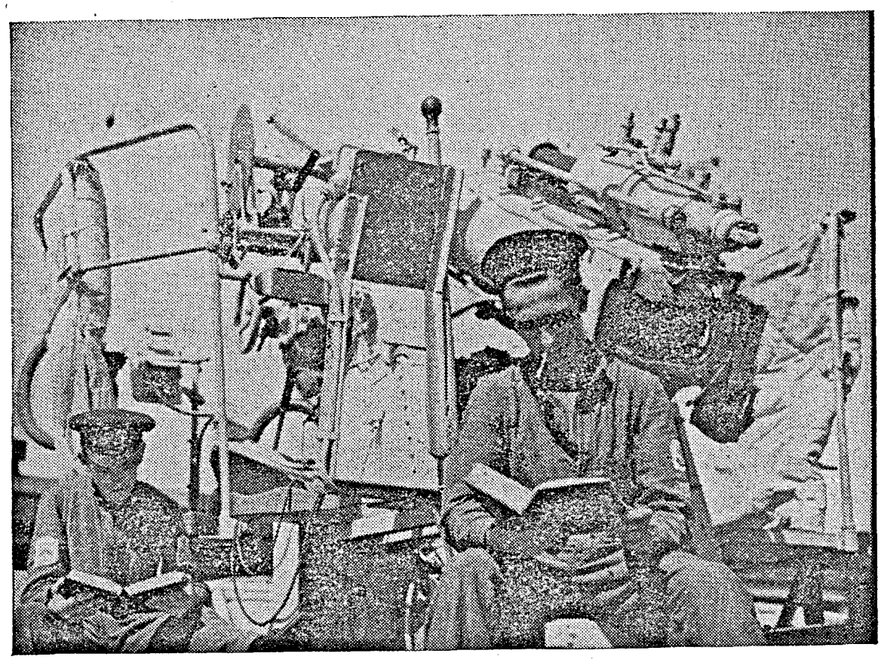
Britain is courageously enduring all privations. The people give up all their earnings to the Government. Prices have not greatly increased in Britain, for no one has surplus money to buy things with. All the money belongs to the Government. The income-tax rate is surprisingly high. In the United States certain industrialists who have been entrusted with duties so that the country should benefit from their experience work without profit and for a token salary of one dollar.

Goods considered luxuries have disappeared in Britain. The servants of the Royal Household have been called up for military service. The richest women sometimes ride from their country houses to London on the steps of buses. Nevertheless, not the slightest murmur of complaint is to be heard either in Britain or in the United States. The people all know that these privations and sacrifices are necessary for success and are proud to endure them.

There are demagogues in every country. But demagogues who wish to serve their own ends and to achieve popularity by exploiting the sufferings of the people are to be met with neither in Britain nor in the United States. When millions are suffering it is very easy to take pity and to parade as the champion of a cause, but nothing more base and disgusting can be imagined in war time.

To those of my friends who ask me for my impressions of our voyage, I shall first of all say: "To retain their place among the Great Powers the Turks must retain their noble qualities and must have the firmness, the endurance, and the patience of these powers. More often than not the enemy is within, not without. Great peoples have in all earnestness and firmness silenced the enemies within the country. They have not countenanced them, they have turned a deaf ear to their deceitful and base words. If we wish to retain the respect, affection, and confidence we have gained, it is necessary that we should do the same thing.

—*Yeni Sabah.*



BOOKS FOR THE NAVY.—The Royal Navy War Libraries are doing invaluable work in organizing the supply of books for the Navy. Sacks of books of a general nature are sent to sea-going ships, and libraries are organized in naval shore commands. Technical books are issued on loan to men studying special subjects. Photo shows: Men on board a warship enjoying their books during a spell of off duty.

The Persia-Iraq Army

WITH the Eighth Army pressing on to Tripoli and the main attention focussed on the western flank of the Middle East, there has been a tendency to forget that there is also an impressive British army on the eastern side of this widespread theatre of war, cables *The Times* Cairo correspondent.

Under the command of General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, the Persia and Iraq Command—P.I. Force to be irrelevent—has been gradually built up since its formation in the critical days last August. At that time, Rommel's army was pressing on the Alamein line, threatening Egypt; so it was necessary to denude the Ninth Army in Syria and the Tenth in Palestine of the greater part of their personnel and equipment to reinforce General Auchinleck's army. As at the same time the Germans were driving down through the Caucasus, there was also a grave threat to the important oilfields of southern Persia. To meet this and also to relieve the Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East of the necessity of giving his attention to two widely separate fronts, the P.I. Force came into being as a separate Command.

TWO TASKS

Progress since those days has been immense, according to Major-General Baillon, Chief of the General Staff, P.I. Force. In addition to the reinforced Tenth Army there is now a large and powerful Polish Army and the complicated administrative problem which the assembly and the maintenance of this force produced has been successfully solved.

The tasks of the P.I. Force fall in two sections: first, to assure the defence of the Persian oilfields from land or air attack; secondly, to develop to the maximum the use of routes for the delivery of aid to Russia.

For some time, while the German threat from the Caucasus remained, priority had to be given to the job of building up the force and the construction with very limited facilities, of necessary lines of communication, and this embraced the construction or the extension of roads, docks, railways, depots and so forth.

The advance of the Germans slowed down and every week that they failed to reach Baku gave General Wilson more time to build up his force until now, with the Germans in retreat, not only is the P.I. Force strong but the ground work has been successfully accomplished and priority is now given to aid to Russia.

LONG-TERM PLAN

"The brilliant Russian successes," said General Baillon, "have put back the enemy's immediate threat by some months and may

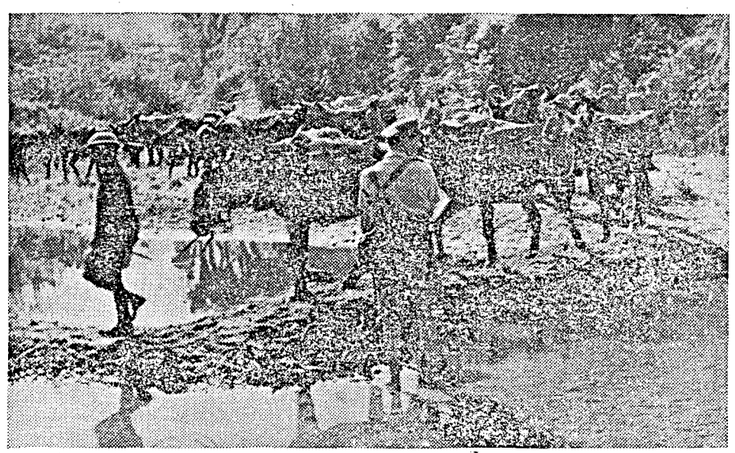
have finally dispelled it, but, in any case, the breathing space has enabled a long-term comprehensive plan to be perfected in place of the compromise improvisation which at first appeared necessary.

"There is also wholehearted co-operation from the Iraqis, which has now reached the extent of formal declaration of war against the Axis. A small but efficient Iraqi Army is training with the P.I. Force and is proving itself well-fitted for operations in the hills and mountains of Iraq.

"We have in the P.I. Force a first-class fighting army," added General Baillon. "It is now required to defend Persia and Iraq and it will be available to fight somewhere else."

Training for Jungle Warfare

MULE TRANSPORTS IN JUNGLE-COVERED BURMA.—Through jungle, rivers and leech-infested swamps, the R.I.A.S.C. with the aid of many tough mule companies do their job. Tracks have to be cut through virgin country; riverbeds are sometimes the only paths; retreating enemy forces lie in wait for stragglers, but our supplies are kept going. Photo shows the mules before the start.



A mule transport company on a river bank preparing to cross.

Jungle warfare will play an important part in future operations in Burma, Malaya and the Pacific Islands. British and Indian troops in India are training for this special type of warfare. It is very tough going, but they know they are preparing for a very tough job.

Blood and Tears

By LAURENCE BINYON

The winds of all the world bring agonies,
Day by day, hour by hour, into our ears;
Not only desolation, blood and tears,
But cloud on cloud of suffocating lies.

The human strives with the inhuman there,
Enduring things beyond belief, and still
Because of one unconquerable will
Confronts, clear-eyed, what it has to bear.

Before the sunrise, under naked trees,
On grass that sparkled in the dew, I paced;
I thought of all the torment, all the waste;
I thought of beauty, justice, mercy, peace.

Beyond the raging of the powers of night
What from of old stood, still was clear, was true.
Far in the East the sky to glory grew,
And slowly Earth rolled onward into light.

Feeding the Guns of the Red Army

"ONE of the war's most cheering sights" is how the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent on the Caspian Sea describes the lengthening lines of convoys now on Persian roads carrying British and American supplies to Russia.

Pahlevi, where Russian ships are loaded, is only one terminus for the great fleet of trucks going to the Soviet. Now the fog of war that hangs over Persia is the dust from thousands of truck convoys rolling along the rough stony roads.

Road supplements rail, river and air traffic. Owing to partial closure of the northern route during the winter, the Persian Gulf is now important.

Big truck assembly plants are now working, whence issue processions of grey six-wheelers. On the Tigris and the Euphrates paddle steamers from Indian rivers tow strings of barges past the traditional site of the Garden of Eden, while fast "eureka" invasion craft acting as police cars chase up and down.

BOOM TOWN

The town of Andimeskh, 90 miles north of Ahwaz, consisted only of three mud huts 18 months ago. Now it is a boom town. Hundreds of tents and huts made of packing cases have sprung up, and there is a large cosmopolitan population including—besides Americans, British and Russians—Chinese, Negroes, Indians, Persians and Arabs, all working together to feed the guns of the Red Army.

Trucks follow four main road routes to Russia, but the most important is the one direct from India going approximately over the road by which conquering Alexander invaded.

This direct link with India's expanding war industries is now being developed rapidly. The railway from Quetta, in Baluchistan, to Zahedan, 50 miles inside the eastern Persian border, links up with a lorry service to Uskabad, on the railway running through Turkestan from Merv to the Caspian.

ACROSS DUSTY DESERT

The road passes chiefly across dusty desert, with a brief stretch of tortuous mountain road. Vehicles take six days to cover its 750 miles.

Most of the truck drivers are Persian, while Russians drive many trucks from the Persian Gulf themselves. The journey from the Gulf to Tabriz or Pahlevi usually takes eight to ten days.

From Kazvin, 100 miles to the North-west of Teheran, the road climbs over the Elburz range. Constantly on hairpin bends there are tricky negotiations with trucks.

The greatest inconvenience, however, is the blinding dust, which constantly obscures vision. In Pahlevi, where dozens of lorries arrive laden chiefly with rubber strips, steel bars and leather, the Russians closely guard the docks.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

4th Feb.—The Royal Air Force raided Hamburg. Railway objectives at Abbeville were bombed. American bombers made a second daylight raid on Germany.

5th Feb.—It was reported in Ankara that the Finnish Government threatened Germany that Finland will make separate peace if Germany did not increase food supplies to Finland.

New German decrees stated that all non-essential trade enterprises should close down for a "total mobilization of national strength."

6th Feb.—There was a little Axis air activity over south-east England.

It was announced that between 100,000 and 120,000 shops were to close in Germany to save fuel and labour.

7th Feb.—British torpedo carrying planes attacked a German destroyer off the Norwegian coast.

8th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Rhineland. Hitler addressed Nazi Party leaders.

9th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked Lorient. Objectives in the Ruhr were also bombed.

Copenhagen was raided three times.

Mr. Churchill returned to England after his tour of the Middle East.

There was a cross-Channel artillery duel for half-an-hour.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

5th Feb.—Dr. Hu Shih in a speech in New York said: "Asia's need for an effective offensive to improve the present situation is urgent and necessary. Such an offensive, if begun now, will mean even more than the opening of China's supply lines or preparation for total operations against Japan."

6th Feb.—Lieut.-General Frank Maxwell Andrews took over command of the United States Forces in the European theatre of operations.

10th Feb.—Admiral Emory Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission, said that the United States naval building programme would reach five ships daily by May.

11th Feb.—Mr. James Byrnes, Economic Director in the United States, said in Washington that the war plans for 1943 contemplated invasion of Europe.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

4th Feb.—The Royal Air Force raided Rathedaung. United States Army Air Forces attacked Kengtung in Eastern Burma.

5th Feb.—In the Donbaik area two fresh Japanese counter-attacks were repulsed.

9th Feb.—The Royal Air Force dropped nearly 30 tons of heavy bombs on enemy objectives in Rangoon.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5th Feb.—Nine enemy ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

U.S. planes attacked Palermo.

6th Feb.—Twenty-six German planes were shot down in Tunisia. Rommel's troops were forced to retire behind the Mareth line.

Turin was heavily bombed.

7th Feb.—It was officially announced that a North Africa Theatre of Operations had been established with General Eisenhower in command.

The Axis troops took Djebel Mansour.

General Giraud was appointed supreme head of the French African Government.

Mussolini dismissed Count Ciano (his son-in-law), the Italian Foreign Minister, and took over the post himself.

8th Feb.—General Montgomery concentrated the bulk of his forces on the Tunisian border for a final thrust on Tunisia.

9th Feb.—The Royal Air Force dropped numerous bombs on Naples.

General Montgomery's army crossed into Tunisia on the coastal sector.

Crown Prince Umberto was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Italian forces on the Eastern Front.

10th Feb.—The Royal Air Force raided Tunisian ports and Axis ships in Sousse harbour were hit.

11th Feb.—It was revealed that the British troops narrowly missed capturing Rommel in El Alamein by a few minutes.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5th Feb.—The German army was split into two by a wedge driven by the Russians at Kushchevskaya. Hitler's Caucasian forces of 300,000 men faced an attempted "Dunkirk" across the Kerch Straits to Crimea.

Forty-nine Hungarian officers who attempted to surrender at Kochetovka were shot by the order of the German commander.

German troops were encircled and mopped up west of Voronezh.

Russian troops landed in Taman Peninsula.

6th Feb.—The Russians took Stary Oskol and Izyum.

Hitler ordered two-days' mourning for the German Sixth Army that perished before Stalingrad.

President Roosevelt congratulated M. Stalin on the "brilliant victory at Stalingrad."

7th Feb.—The Russians captured Bataisk, Lisichansk, Barvenkovo, Yeisk and Balaklya and reached the shores of the Sea of Azov. They also landed a number of tanks on the Taman Peninsula in the rear of the German army in the Caucasus.

9th Feb.—The Red Army retook Kursk, the key town north of Kharkov. The Germans retreated from Rostov to Taganrog.

10th Feb.—The Russians captured Bielgorod, an important railway junction 50 miles from Kharkov.

11th Feb.—The Red Army closed on Orel.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

7th Feb.—Ten of the 15 members of the new Persian Cabinet resigned.

10th Feb.—There was an air raid alert at Berne.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

7th Feb.—The Yugoslav War Minister, General Mihailovitch ordered a civil disobedience campaign throughout the country.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

5th Feb.—Allied bombers attacked Rabaul. United States troops advanced in Guadalcanar.

6th Feb.—Allied aircraft made a three-hour air raid on Buin in Bougainvilla Island in the Solomons.

It was revealed that since January 16, small groups of Japanese have been surrendering to Americans.

Explaining the "global strategy" as agreed between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, Mr. Curtin, the Australian Prime Minister, said: "Defeat Germany first then deal with Japan."

7th Feb.—Three Japanese merchantmen were destroyed by United States bombers off Ambon.

In air battles over New Guinea, 41 Japanese planes were shot down at Wan by American aircraft.

10th Feb.—The Japanese evacuated Guadalcanar; they also evacuated the Buna area in New Guinea. They retreated in Yunnan.

11th Feb.—A major battle raged on the Yunnan-Burma border.

Japanese Raiders destroyed over Calcutta

FOUGHT ON IN BLAZING PLANE.—Flying Officer Charles Basil Crombie, of Warwick, New Zealand, who, although his own fighter plane was in flames, shot down two Japanese bombers and possibly a third in the Calcutta area on the night of January 19/20. He is being congratulated by Wing Commander J. A. O'Neill, D.F.C., another fighter pilot who destroyed a raider over Calcutta on December 24 last, the first Japanese aircraft to be shot down over the city.

A BOMBER THAT WAS.—Twisted remains of one of the three Japanese bombers shot down by Flight Sergent Pring over the Calcutta area recently.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, " VICTORY HOUSE ", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

Southern Army Special Supplement

REGISTERED No. M 4345

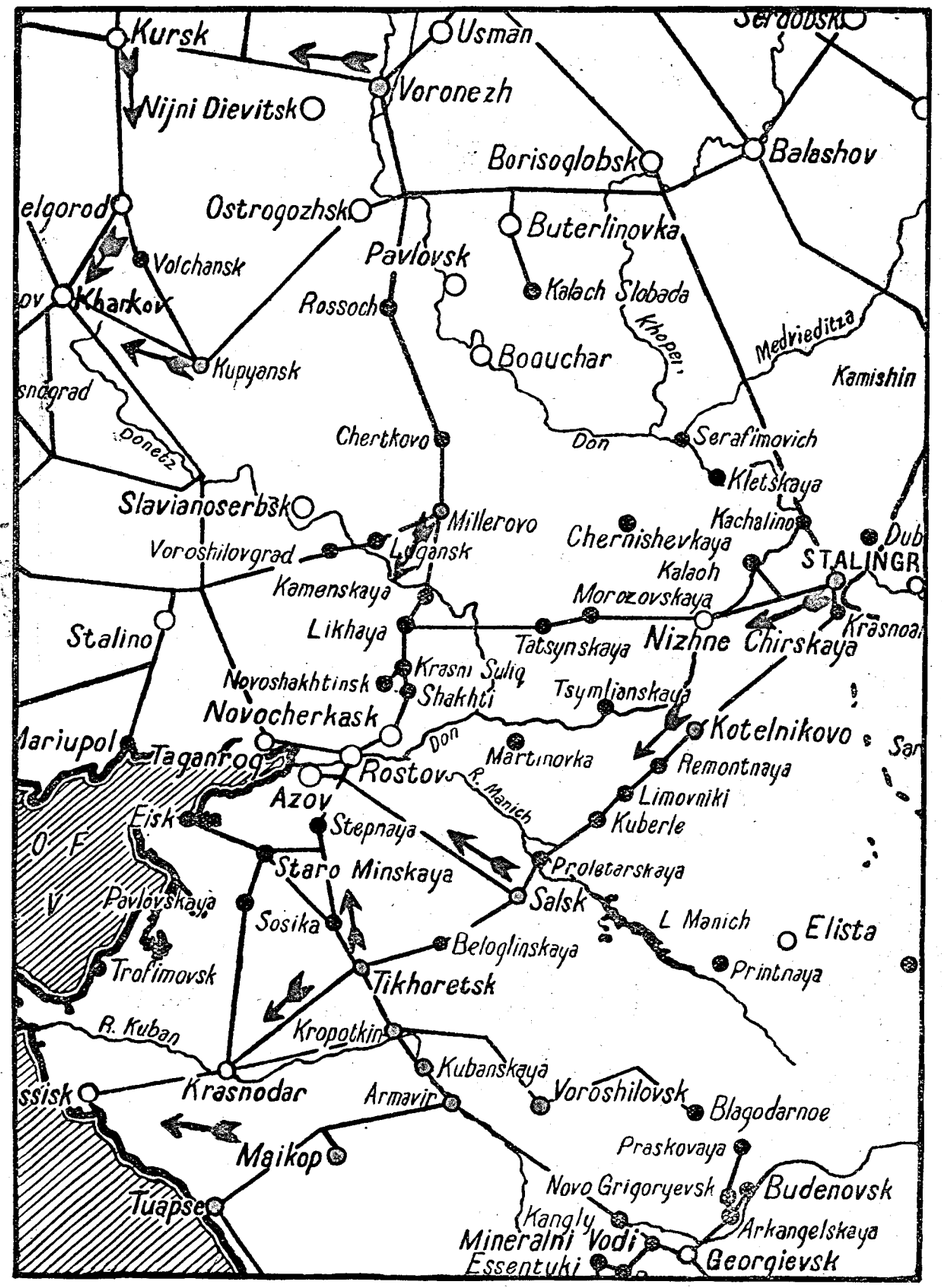
MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1943 No. 23

The Happy Warrior

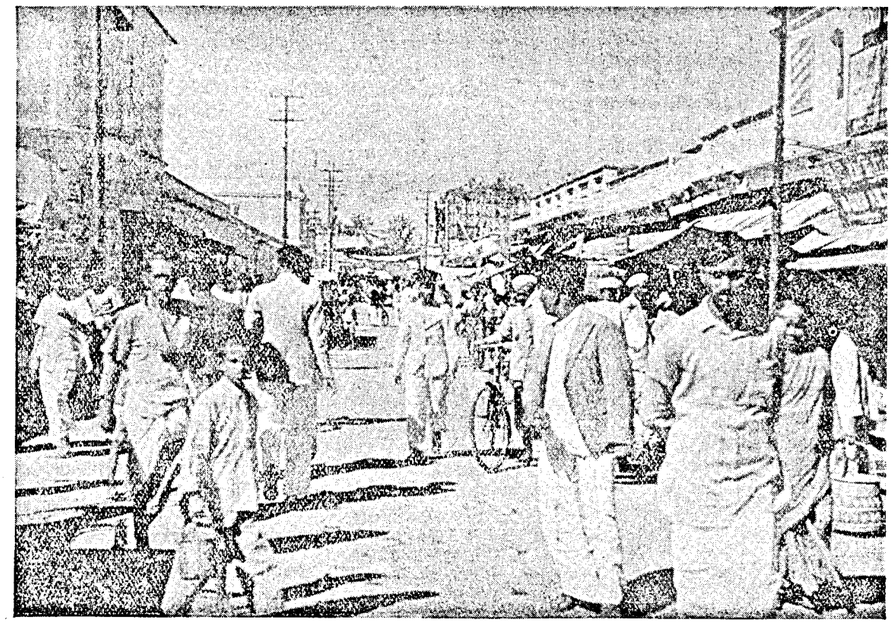
The Red Army's Advance



Since the above map was drawn, the Red Army has captured Rostov, Kharkov and other important places

CONTENTS

	PAGE.
Introduction to South India	3
These Madrassis—they never wavered!	6
Indian Sepoy's Libyan Adventure	7
Peacetime Soccer Stars give R.A.F. no advantage	8
A Straight (?) Story	10
Going on leave (?) Entertainments	13
Letter from Lahore from a British Officer Commanding an Indian Auxiliary Pioneer Battalion	14
The Feasts of Kerala	17
Places worth a visit	19
Making the Best of it	21



Introduction to South India

WHEN first you see an important street in a South Indian city, you are struck not by the resemblance it bears to a street in London or Birmingham, but by the strangeness of it all. If that strangeness is attractive to you and contains a pleasing element of mystery, well and good. But it may not. It may be bewildering, and the only way to get rid of the feeling of bewilderment is to get to know the human background.

It is easy enough in England to speak of 'the man in the street' and to be understood to refer to the ordinary man with ordinary habits and normal tastes. That is not so easy in India. Classes here are more numerous than they are in England, and certain 'caste' differences, reaching back many centuries, persist and complicate the social picture.

Look at your crowded street in any part of the Madras Presidency. The first thing that you will notice is that there are staggering differences of wealth or of poverty, and that the great majority of the people are poor. They use cars only very occasionally, jutkas often, carriages sometimes and their legs usually. Your South Indian city-dweller is anything from a high government official or advocate to a 'coolie'. And in between these is an infinite gradation of doctors, merchants, professors, students, brokers, and clerks.

Are South Indians educated? The coolie is not. The clerk is moderately well educated in most cases, and is sometimes very highly educated. South Indian doctors are respected for their undoubted skill and energy. The South Indian lawyer is notoriously subtle and

can always be counted on to see two steps ahead of everybody else. The clerk sometimes knows everything about his own job and a good deal about everybody else's job. Professors and students are a class apart, and a class of absorbing interest. In South India scholarship is of a high standard and the dignity of letters and science is an undisputed fact. In Madras the University is a centre of first-rate importance and has the prestige and the self-contained life of its opposite in an English University town.

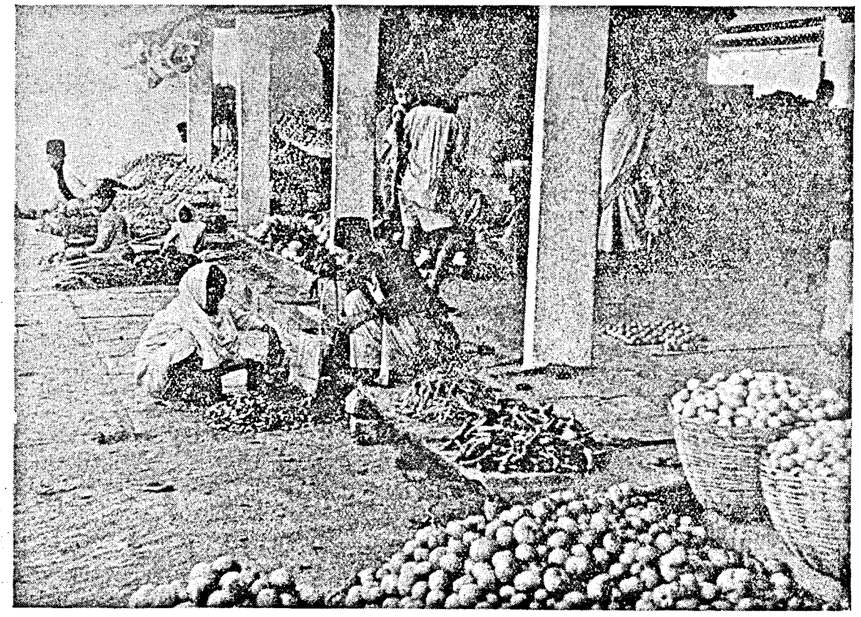
CASTE DIFFERENCES

What is caste and where does it enter into the social picture? The great mass of the inhabitants of a South Indian city are Hindus, and Hindu society has for centuries, been divided into four big orders and into innumerable smaller orders. The four big 'castes' ('caste' derived from the Portuguese 'Casta' meaning race or kind) are the priestly caste—the Brahman, the ruling or military caste—the Kshatriya, the trading or artisan class—the Vaisya and the menial class—the Sudras. These four castes have been said to be distinguished by their colour, viz., Brahman, white; Kshatriya, red; Vaisya, yellow or turmeric colour; Sudra, black. Within each of these orders are innumerable castes and sub-castes.

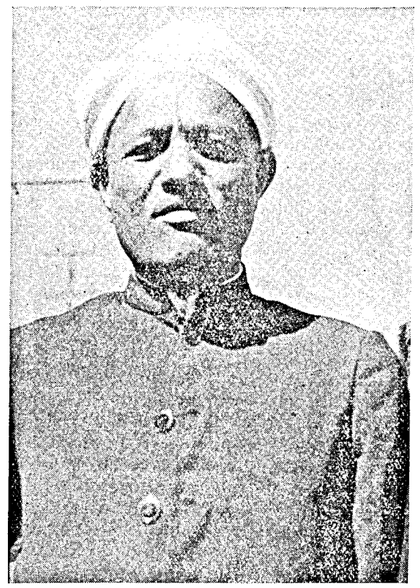
How important is caste in South India to-day? Still quite important enough to justify the existence of Brahman and Non-Brahman political parties and keen animosities in social and political life. A Brahman clerk may be of humble economic status. He may not earn more than Rs. 50 a month, but if he be orthodox, which he often is, he will 'feel' superior to a Non-Brahman Government official earning Rs. 1,000 a month. Caste is on the decline because of the terrific onslaught of economic change and of modern industrializing forces. But caste in South India will die hard.

LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES

One more factor of interest and some practical importance to you—the languages of South India. You are fortunate in being with people who, however defective their English, can yet speak it fluently and in some cases read, and write it tolerably well. And this is the more to be admired when you realize that nothing could be further removed from Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam, their mother tongues, than an evenly spoken and unemotional language like English. Both Tamil and Telugu are gesture languages, with a rich idiom and a richer intonation. Spoken with relish, there is little to beat them for expressiveness. They resemble French more closely, perhaps, than any other European language. The mind of the educated Tamilian is as quick as his speech. He is always responsive to new ideas, has quick and skilful turns of phrase, is an able debater and frequently a powerful public speaker. He cannot be judged on his faulty English for his English is often faulty. Give him his head, get to know his language and him, and you will find him as rich in ideas as he is in expression, an intelligent and attractive human being.



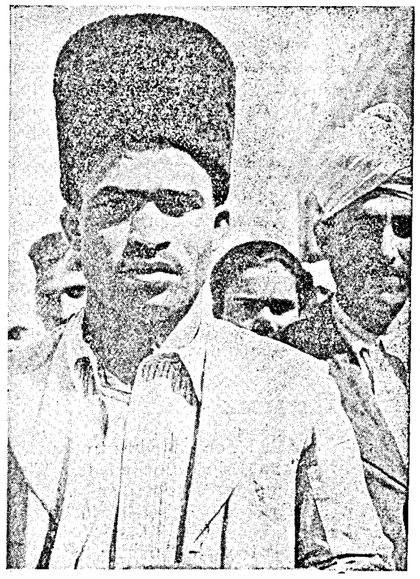
SOME SOUTH INDIAN TYPES



A BRAHMAN PANDIT

A VILLAGE HEADMAN (HINDU)

A DEPRESSED CLASS LABOURER



A MUSLIM TRADER

These Madrassis— they never wavered!

IN 1746, the bands of small smiling, dark faced men who had been helping Clive and Stringer Lawrence in campaigns in Southern India for many years, were formed into what was called the Coast Army.

They have fought with astonishingly unvaried success for the last two centuries and to-day, while they constitute the Queen Victoria's Own Madras Sappers and Miners, and the recently formed First Madras Field Battery Indian Artillery, you will find them, the same type of men, in almost any Indian Army Battalion in Southern India now.

As fighters, the Duke of Wellington, who was not given to praising soldiers, said they astonished him, and Frederick the Great of Prussia offered bets that with soldiers like them he could have conquered Europe—a feat he never achieved with Germans.

FIRST BATTLE HONOUR

As the Madras Army, they won their first battle honour "Ambur" in 1767, at the fort of that name in the North Arcot district. In 1781, the 20th Madras Infantry beat off an attack of Hyder Ali, a local strong arm dictator of the day at Sholinghur, broke his cavalry and captured a standard which now hangs in Whitehall. They were thanked in General Orders, and the same regiment in modern days known as the 80th Carnatic Infantry saw service in Mesopotamia and in one day won an M.C., and four Indian Distinguished Medals.

"Kemendine" where they defended the town against the whole Burmese Army in 1826, and "Cochin" where they did something similar against the Nairs in 1809, are two battle honours which Madrassis alone can claim. The Burmese and Nairs of those days were quite tough propositions, and these honours were not lightly won.

THE COAST ARMY

At Assaye in 1803, only Madras troops were present with two British Regiments. They suffered 25 per cent casualties and got the Elephant crest as well as the battle honour.

In 1928 the last of the infantry battalions was disbanded, but it can be said truthfully that the Coast Army was mainly responsible for conquering India for the British.

The loyalty of the Madrassis has always been a byword. French, Portuguese, and Indian despots have tried to lure them with promises of increased pay and better food; surely a temptation, especially on the classic occasion when they were 16 months in arrears of pay, and with the enemy at the gates of Madras their chances of seeing it might have seemed small. But they never wavered.

FINE QUALITIES

These same fine qualities of the Madras sepoy persist to-day. He was the original of that true story of the Indian sepoys who, when the army was hard pressed for rations, gave the rice to his more hard feeding British allies, and subsisted on the water which cooked it. And although one's personal idea of rice as a food may be something in the line o the pudding as mother makes it, there have been plenty of occasions in this war when a few handfuls of rice have seemed like a banquet.

THE NEVER-CHANGING SONG

Whene'er I travel by the train,
In cold, or heat or pelting rain,
I always hear that sweet refrain—
Pan-Biri-Cig'rette—
Hot tea—Gharrum cha.

It never varies, there's no choice,
No change to make one's heart rejoice;
It's rendered by some rasping voice—
Pan-Biri-Cig'rette—
Hot tea—Gharrum cha.

Sealdah, Howrah, Kalimpong,
Puri, Bangalore, Shillong—
I hear the never-changing song—
Pan-Biri-Cig'rette—
Hot tea—Gharrum cha.

Perhaps (one never knows) some day
I'll get a shock upon the way
To hear an inspired genius say—
Gharrum cha—Hot tea—
Cig'rette-Biri-Pan.

—P. G.—in *The Statesman*.

Indian Sepoy's Libyan Adventure

A 21-year old Mahratta sepoy who was captured in the desert, escaped, and was rescued from a sinking ship tells of his experiences last year. In the middle of June 1942 a Battalion of the Mahratta Light Infantry, was with a brigade holding a position in the Libyan desert some miles south of Tobruk. There was heavy enemy pressure, the force was completely surrounded, and eventually it was decided to execute a withdrawal. "A" Company withdrew on foot, leaving sepoy Newarti Khabale and his platoon as rearguard. They finished their job, and at about 03-30 hours they crossed a minefield and wire towards the south, and found the whole area covered with fire because the enemy had discovered the carriers, vehicles, artillery and main body of the brigade moving out. "I could see three or four burning vehicles," said Khabale, "and tracer was everywhere. Outside the wire we joined forces with some men from Brigade Headquarters and a Punjab battalion. However by dawn we were surrounded, and forced to surrender."

"We totalled about 100, our arms and ammunition were removed, and we were loaded into 12 lorries each with a guard of about four Germans. The lorries set off in the direction of Tobruk and I was in one of the leading trucks."

SEVEN MILES FROM TOBRUK

About 7 miles from Tobruk itself we were fired on by a British forward post. The four leading trucks were brought to a halt, and the German drivers and guards were either killed or disabled, and the other eight vehicles turned about and disappeared. Four Mahrattas were killed and others wounded as the post naturally could not distinguish friend from foe, but we all shouted "friend" and waved our hats and the firing ceased. We were sent on to Tobruk.

Jem Shankar Chavan was now in charge, and on arrival reported to the Headquarters of an Indian Infantry Brigade, where we were given some food, rifles and ammunition and allotted a post to occupy behind (a sister battalion of the Regiment).

For the next three days we were bombed continuously and on the third day it grew heavier, both from the ground and air. I also saw some enemy tanks quite close.

At 16-00 hours I was by myself, when I saw some British Troops running down to the beach. They waved to me to come on with them, and as I did not know what had happened and thinking we were all going back, I followed them.

At the beach were some small steamers on board which these troops (about 300, including 5-6 officers) went. I followed and found three Indian medical orderlies there. We immediately sailed eastwards; there was neither food nor water on board.

ENEMY VESSELS OPEN FIRE

Early next morning enemy vessels, bigger than ours and white in colour, opened fire on us. Our guns replied, but within an hour most of our ships had been damaged, and about 100 men killed or wounded, and so we were forced to surrender.

The enemy took all the British troops away, smashed all the engines, guns and valuable parts on our boats, and then sailed away leaving the three Indian medical orderlies and myself in a slowly sinking ship with no food or water.

Soon two of the derelict ships sank and we all drifted apart. However, at about 10-00 hours an aeroplane spotted us waving and shouting, and flew off eastwards.

Some four hours later a British boat approached and took us on board. We then set off for Matruh, arriving at midnight in the Indian Reinforcement Camp there.

About three days later I rejoined the battalion in its new position and felt none the worse for all my adventures.

FIFTH COLUMN IN GERMANY

Reports from Germany say that in a big industrial town, walls are covered nightly with anti-Hitler and pro-Stalin posters—the work of some of the 5,000,000 Communists, people who have been driven underground but not wiped out.

Raging Nazis, furious at having to rub off the inscriptions every day wrote on the same places: "Why don't you do it in broad daylight, you cowards?" Got the answer the next night, "Sorry, but in the daytime, we are too busy parading with you fellows!"

Peacetime Soccer Stars give R.A.F. No Advantage

Army Draws 2—2

TEAMS representing an army side of Bangalore area and the Royal Air Force met and drew at two goals each in a New Year's Eve attraction at Bangalore.

Players were—The Army: C. S. M. Higgins; 2/Lt. Devany and Sergt. Tanner; Sergt. Jones, Sergt. Henderson and S/C. Rowe; Cadet Brownley, L/Bdr. Langton, Sergt. Kempson, Sergt. Cunningham and Pte. Johnstone.

R.A.F. A/C. Page, Cpl. Brooks, A/C. Clunie, Cpl. Hobson, A/C. Davies, L.A.C. Jones, A/C. Middleton, A/C. Samuels, Cpl Chaney, A/C. Surtees, Cpl. Clarke.

The Royal Air Force fielded two stars in Davies, one time of Arsenal, and Surtees, late of Sheffield Wednesday, but the Army turned out a strong all-round side. Nevertheless the game opened in disappointing fashion and succeeded only in being deadly dull during the first half. A hot sun was no doubt responsible for some of the lack of spirit to begin with, and a glassy pitch and dusty goalmouth gave forwards and defence of both sides plenty of trouble. The ball was swung almost idly from end to end, the Royal Air Force doing by far the majority of the pressing, but quite unable to finish off their efforts. Devany and Tanner did the work of four men during the first half hour and Jones, who played consistently well throughout the game was everywhere at once. The Army forwards seemed to be able to do nothing with the ball at all, and Davies had the Royal Air Force defence well organized. The Army penalty area was the battle ground continuously but the bigger, heavier Army backs managed to hold a fast but small Air Force forward line.

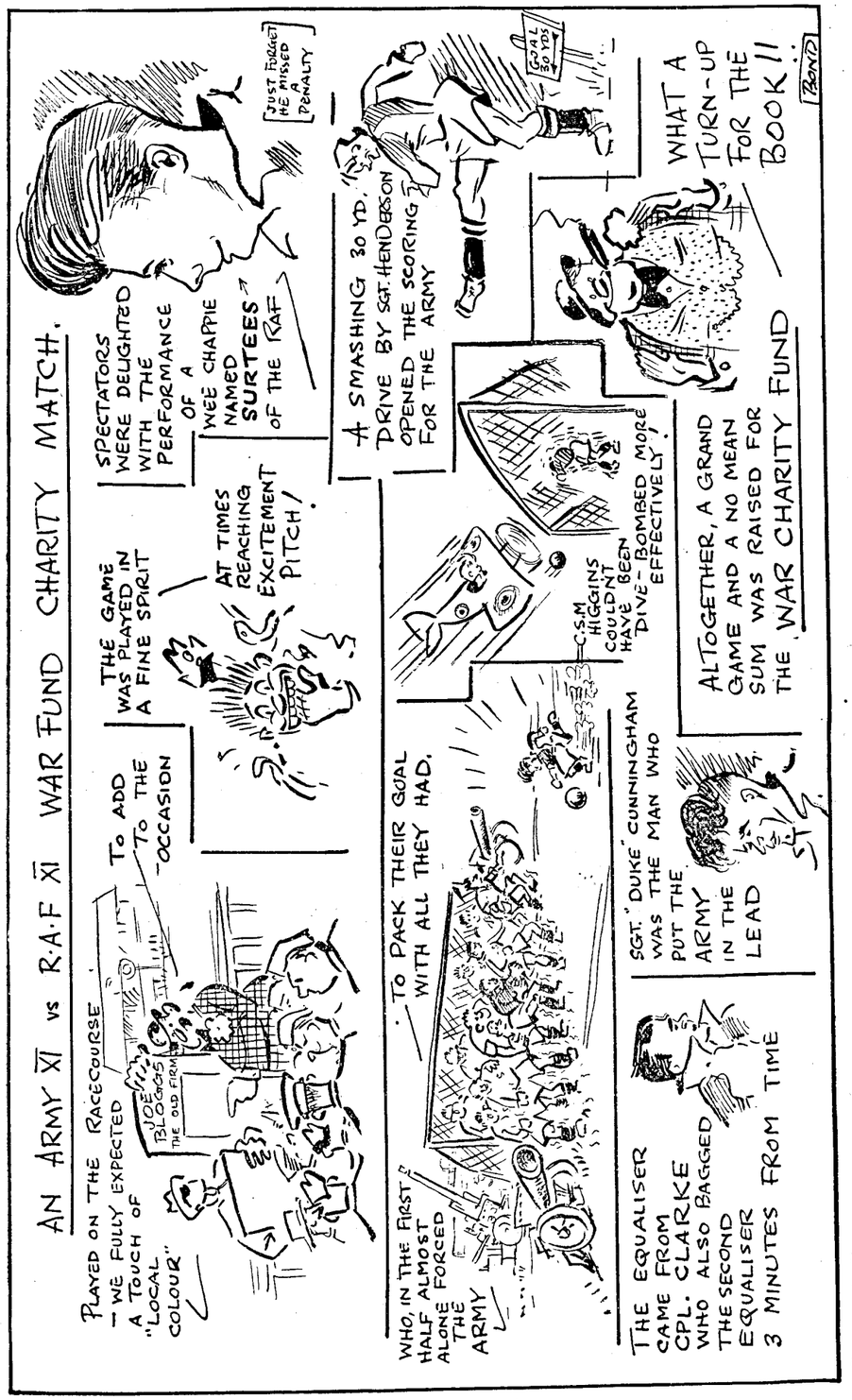
A WIZARD SHOT

Cpl. Clarke, Royal Air Force, outside left opened the second half with a magnificent run down the touch line and a wizard shot that put the airmen one up. The goal brightened up the whole game, the Army forwards discovered the ball, and both sides began to get tough.

The Army equalized in somewhat unexpected fashion following a very long pass from the right half to Johnstone on the left wing who passed to Cunningham at centre forward. The centre made no mistake. The Royal Air Force were back immediately and got a penalty when Higgins picked up outside the penalty area. The penalty kick went over the bar, a fine chance missed. Army improved immensely, and the bulk of North country spectators behind the goal began to take heart.

Army kept on attacking but the nippy little Royal Air Force forwards still managed to make trouble when the ball came their way. They laid another siege to the army goal and gave Tanner and Devany another hard time. Surtees was once actually on the goal line with the ball between his feet, but so awkwardly placed, with Higgins working desperately to retrieve it that he could only pass it back. He did so, and Chaney put in a lovely shot. But the valiant Higgins scrambled to his feet and stopped it.

(*Continued on page* 10)



PEACETIME SOCCER STARS GIVE R.A.F. NO ADVANTAGE.

(*Continued from page* 8)

Henderson, Army centre half, put his side ahead in a swoop on the Royal Air Force goal that never looked like developing and suddenly did.

A HOPELESS GAGGLE

No one worked harder in front of goal than Cpl. Clarke, the Royal Air Force outside left, and he finally got his reward, not long before time, when he ran the Army defence into a hopeless gaggle and scored with a shot that came out of a tangle of arms and legs.

In review it might be as well if both the Army and the Royal Air Force pay some more attention to team work. There was too much individualism, and while the Royal Air Force admittedly need some taller forwards, one felt that both arms of the British forces could have produced something better in the way of a match from the spectators viewpoint. A little more drive is needed.

A Straight (?) Story

IN the crowded dance hall, the band was doing things to "Indian Summer." It had been someone's favourite tune at home, and, having come through India they wanted to hear what it sounded like in the light of experience. Fell thought it sounded pretty awful. He explained it over the wet glass topped table to Hobson and Marjorie.

"Indian Summer, y'see, it's always summer in India, that's the catch, see? ".

Nobody saw. The three of them had been working up to a climax, and a poor joke had the wrong effect. Hobson, big, dark, and not good at talking could see nothing but Marge. Marge was thinking of Fell. Fell was drunk, the Lord knew what he saw. "Drink—gets more confessions than a priest—and gives more consolation too," someone had said that, thought Hobson, or may be he had read it somewhere, but it was true enough to-night.

He cared so much for Marge who was stuck on that blasted corporal Fell, a man who would never do anything but one thing for any girl. Not for Marge though, he thought. Even out here, in the sweat and muck you sometimes met 'em like her, Indian Summer, she looked like spring.

Hobson guffawed into his beer at the thought of Spring, with the sweat soaking his collar band. He was not a regular like Fell, though he was a C.S.M. He had worked at a model factory outside a city and he knew what spring looked like. Fell he reckoned, had been East so long he didn't know what anything looked like. But he had the crazy don't-care-a-damn attraction that only a man who had no ties and no sense could afford to have. And did the women go for it! Why, God knew, all they really wanted was the chance of a good home and a steady job.

You couldn't go mad all your life, and any way what was so damned attractive about it? Drink, trouble, getting out of trouble, drink, women, heat, trouble and nothing at the end of it.

But he had, Hobson had. He had a job to go back to. No, he didn't want the war to last for ever. But he wanted it to finish properly, for him, and he didn't want it to finish until everything was proper.

He tried to define to himself what he meant by "proper," and failed.

He smiled and spilt some of his beer as he drank.

Marjorie was an evacuee from somewhere. It sort of depended who she was with—where she was from. If it had been the last war she would have been a Russian princess, or countess, but the racket didn't go any more. Anyway all the titles were in the ranks, and you never got anything out of the ranks,—except Fell.

The two men were for her, and with a peculiar lack of judgment she set down Hobson as drunk, and Fell almost sober. She didn't know Hobson had thoughts. All she knew was that he was stuck on her, and was too quiet, and big, and wouldn't let go easily. If it hadn't been for all "this" she might have liked him.

But Fell, he was always on top of the world. He had a face like that, and his eyes were so blue that you looked at them twice, and then didn't believe it. It would be life with Fell, and he had prospects.

"The Liar" she thought, but she didn't want to think that, and to-night he'd sure to make it definite.

"Let's dance" she told him. She thought that if she danced with him, somehow it might help to clinch matters. She switched on all the personality she could, and Fell steered her into the middle of the floor. They had made a third circuit, and she was congratulating herself when she noticed that Hobson was standing, and talking to a cop. As she watched she saw that he pointed her out to the redcap, then turned and disappeared in the crowd.

The band left "Indian Summer" and went into something South American. In South America apparently all the instruments in a band don't necessarily have to play together. It was easier for the band, but hotter for the dancers.

"Let's sit honey" suggested Fell, and Marjorie let him lead her off the floor. She was uneasy, though at any other time this might have meant an invitation outside. They walked holding hands, Fell steadying himself with a painful pressure on her fingers.

The Redcap was waiting. "You corporal Fell" he accused.

"Yes" said Fell, "so what".

"There's a company sergeant major outside, name of Hobson. He wants you, it's urgent."

Fell was puzzled, was even about to argue, then with a muttered invective changed his mind and pushed through the throng.

He turned to wave to Marge.

"Don't let the red get in your eye" he called.

The cop stayed to look at Marge, and Marge pretended he wasn't. "Be off at eleven, see you then if the boy friend isn't back" he said, as he moved heavily away.

Hobson was waiting for Fell: "Come on it's a job" he wrenched at Fell's arm "Back to the lines, there's a truck here for us."

"Hi, what's the game, what job—."

"Come on you bloody fool, d'you think I'd pick you if there was any one else, anyway it was the Captain's orders, he said you—come on."

There was enough fear and excitement in Hobson's voice to carry Fell along, and the truck had taken one sickening corner before he thought of Marjorie.

He laughted at that. Didn't he have the luck. What a let off. And a night raid: he'd do well, he was getting somewhere. He began to sing.

The landings went all right. The mortars were the trouble as usual. They had to be carried, there was nothing else for it. Fell led the way, and although he was only supposed to lay the position he did the job thoroughly, and helped with the carry.

Cursing, under machine gun fire which seemed to be aimed right at them and yet couldn't be, the team got the guns in the hollow and Fell laid them. The third bomb hit some sort of a signal box arrangement, a wooden affair, and planks shot into the air. It was the first time that Fell had fired his guns and got such a good view of the show. He watched the advance, switched right and left as he saw the boys were held, and it was marvellous work. The base plates gripped well, and the error was then on training.

An anti-personnel burst somewhere on Fell's left. It turned him clean over, and flung him from his Observation Post into the gun position. His hand hit the hot barrel. One man was out for good and Fell took his place. Now he had to help with the gun, run up the O.P., have a look see, and dodge back. It was hell work and getting hotter. The bastards seemed to have got a bead on them. Naturally they would, hadn't he been giving to them. They were only doing what he would have done himself.

A burst came in enfilade, crossed the dip where they were, and that about finished it.

Fell went down with the rest of them. He knew it was his leg, but there was something else too. He began to cough.

The fire slackened and became intermittent.

It was obvious to the wounded man that his crowd was taking off. He looked over his team. They had been kneeling at the job of course, and the burst had come head high to them, and knee high to him.

That gun must have had a hell of a beaten zone. Funny what you think. The barrel must've been worn. "Yes" Fell told himself

seriously, " the barrel of that M.G. must've been worn like hell, couldn't have hit him else." He felt a sudden rage against the enemy gunner for not looking after his weapon better.

The company was passing them, getting out. Somebody was trying to pick him up, but he screamed with pain.

" Can't do anything with this one " said a platoon corporal to Hobson.

Hobson, blood across his face looked down at Fell. " He'll have to put up with it " he answered, slung him in a fireman's lift, and ran for the beach.

Fell screamed all the way to the landing boat, and Hobson thought that every damn rifle and gun in the place must have come down on them. But nothing happened and he got Fell into the boat.

There was none of that cigarette smoking, and Fell clung to Hobson as they sat on the wet, slippery floor, the floor where not so long ago they had crouched ready for the take off. Fell wanted to talk.

" Never knew him when he didn't " thought Hobson. But Fell was talking about Marjorie.

" It'll be a suck in for Marge " he said. " It would've been anyhow. She was all steamed up for the proposal to-night, but it wasn't coming off. Not me. Marry? I'd had what I wanted off Marge. You want to get stuck on her Hobby." He tried to grin into Hobson's face. " She's one of the worse, and everyone knows how you feel about her. I never meant it that way anyhow."

Hobson held Fell tighter and the wounded man yelled. He yelled so that he forgot about Marge, and how Hobson could have her, even forgot the pity of himself, the pity that he was done for and wouldn't dance again, may be wouldn't do anything again. He just yelled because it hurt, hurt in a tearing agony he didn't know could exist.

So he just opened his mouth and shouted to God Almighty to drown the pain.

Hobson tried to hold the man's arms still. He couldn't.

The blood came out of Fell's wide open mouth like a stream, ran down the front of his shirt, and on to Hobson's arm. Fell gave up shouting.

They did not go straight back. They stayed put and rested a day or two and the intelligence people went through them, though heaven knew it seemed to be little that anyone could tell.

Hobson, being senior, and recommended, went hospital visiting.

He met her in the little park in the hospital gates. Marjorie was going to do her morning war effort. They ray of sunshine for our poor brave boys.

And Fell had had her.

As they neared, Hobson was almost sure she was going to cut him. But she wavered, then faced him. She was in one temper.

" I hadn't meant to speak to you at all " she burst out " Even if I wanted I couldn't tell you what I think of you. You must think you're clever in some way, and you know Harry and I were going to be engaged that night. You knew "—Hobson thought she was going to spit at him, and tried to imagine what was coming.

" You invented some special duty, I know you did. I suppose you think you can keep him on it for ever."

Hobson saw she was nearly mad, he saw what was the matter now all right.

She just had to have Fell.

Well she couldn't.

" Yes " he said, and didn't recognize his voice " Yes, Fell will be on that duty for ever."

FIFTH COLUMN MONKEYS IN CEYLON!

Two playful monkeys of Ceylon who followed British signallers as they laid telephone cable, set up great excitement in German intelligence circles.

The monkeys thought the signaller had devised a new game for them, swung on the wire, which snapped.

All the Army in Ceylon enjoyed the signallers' rage, and the Germans heard the story.

Berlin Radio loudly commended the work of the splendid Fifth Column in Ceylon!

Going on Leave (?) Entertainments

ENTERTAINMENT on leave depends very much on the pocket. Those people who always had money any way, and there are not so many about nowadays, will spread themselves, but the majority of us, private soldiers

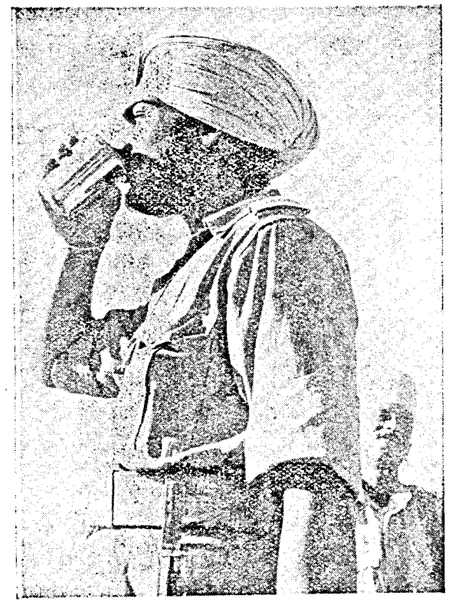
and Non-Commissioned Officers, who have to live on our pay, must think while we spend, and make it go a long way.

With the one exception that a soldier does not actually go home, to find sister earning more money than he is and to be told to wash up the tea things, he can have just as good a time on leave in India as in England, if he gives it a little thought.

MAKE IT NORMAL

Keep down silly ideas. If you are not the kind of person who normally lunches at an expensive restaurant, has an afternoon at the races, and finishes off with dinner at the Ritz and a taxi to a night club, don't expect to do it in India. Try to make your entertainment normal, you will enjoy it far more and it will save a lot of irritation and bad temper.

In any of the towns where you spend leave, cinemas, dances, cafes, restaurants are reasonably cheap, if you pick the right one. The Y.M.C.A., the Red Shield Canteens, Toc. H. the Womens' Voluntary Service canteens, will all help a soldier to find his feet. If a man will think, organize his day, and use his tongue to ask for what he wants, as he would at home, he will have no difficulty in finding good places where he can eat and drink and have amusing entertainment.



The following letter is from Lahore from a British Officer Commanding an Indian Auxiliary Pioneer Battalion :

No. , INDIAN AUXILIARY PIONEER BATTALION,
LAHORE, NORTH INDIA.

DEAR—,

The Chief Recruiting Officer at Bangalore was kind enough to tell us that the name of this unit had been submitted to you, and that your organization would perhaps look after us a little from the Comforts point of view.

We are a new unit, formed so recently as 28th August, and then chiefly on paper.

It is only within the last few weeks that our big numbers have begun to come in. Now we are some 1,400 strong.

Our men are from all parts of the Presidency, and even so far away as the Malabar coast, whence we have had some fine Malayalee young men, exceptionally clean smart, fellows.

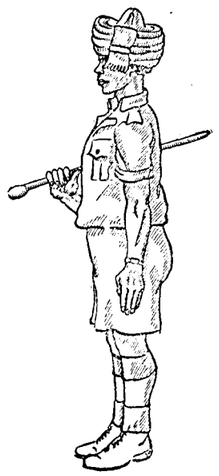
We have six or seven languages, and I don't know how many castes, classes and sub-classes, but one thing is common to all, and that is the immense keenness of them all. They try very hard and do really learn and adapt themselves most remarkably quickly.

We should indeed be quite willing to take on the Punjabis in the camp next door, class for class and service for service, at any thing they liked despite their superior airs.

Personally, I have had to do with Cypriots, Libyan Arabs, German Palestinians, Mauritians, Sikhs, Garwalis, P.M's, 'Aliens' as well as British in this war, but the South Indian is new to me. He would seem to be at least as good material as any of the others however and I have no doubt we shall give good service wherever it is we are sent.

FIRST-RATE SOLDIERS FROM MADRAS.

We have been lucky in having a number of first-rate old soldiers, from the Carnatic Infantry, Madras Sappers and Miners, the Madras Infantry and so forth. Many have strings of medal ribbons and years and years of service. They have taken in hand new recruits, shepherded them here and there done police work, and in general been a tower of strength to us in the difficult task of raising this new unit.



COMPANY HAVILDAR-MAJOR.

Very soon we are expecting to be sent to one or other of the 'Operational Areas'.

Meanwhile, training of the latest batch of recruits goes forward. The air outside resounds to the orders of the squad instructors teaching the new men the elements of drill. A motor car in which learner drivers are practising careers round the parade ground. The sepoys (who are armed) are practising with the Bren gun in a corner, while at the "QM" store, a party of newly arrived sit round while the storeman issues them with their kits.

(At the moment there is a very temporary shortage of 'shorts' so that the latest arrivals have had to go on parade in grey shirts and their own Dhoties. They look a bit odd, but that is doubtless more than they would be wearing at home.)

The weather up here is very cold of a night now, and our men from the warmer climate of South India feel it keenly, so that what they want would be chiefly warm clothing to supplement the official issue.

I have asked my Company Commanders to let me know just what would be most acceptable, and I will enclose the list in this letter.

RECRUITS ON ARRIVAL.

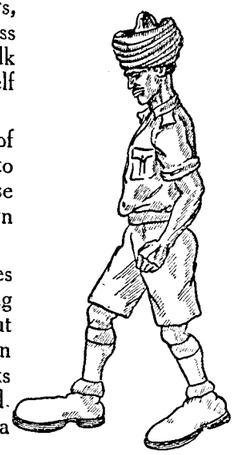
The recruits on arrival are often so poor that they have not even a little bundle of possessions wrapped in a bit of cloth. Until just recently, when I pointed out to the Chief Recruiting Officer the necessity of warm clothing and or blankets for the five-day journey up here, the men were arriving with literally nothing but a dhotie.

As a check on their development after arrival here, we took the measurements of a random-selected batch of 24 recruits.

They must have been living very poorly, for many of them weighed *no more than seven stone*. We are giving one batch of 12, extra rations, and checking their development against men getting no more than the normal good food issued to all.

The experiment is not yet complete, but it is quite evident that, apart from likes and dislikes, the men would benefit very much from some of those sugary sweetmeats that are to be found in every bazaar, or indeed from any kind of extra nourishment.

We are very busy at this time, having received certain orders, but just as luck would have it, I personally as C.O. am more or less laid up with a septic ankle which the Doctor forbids me to walk about on, in consequence of which I am having to devote myself to typing a few letters on my own portable machine.



WHAT THOSE NEW BOOTS FEEL LIKE!

It seemed to me that you would like to have some sort of explanation as to the kind of people we have in this unit, and to know a little about them, so that in addition to giving you these few details about our men, I am sending a few of my own coloured sketches which your Committee might like to see.

We are lucky in having four officers who speak the languages —or some of them—of South India. I personally do not, being a British Service Officer sent here from the Middle East, but my second in command speaks Tamil and Telugu fluently, being in civil life a Madras Policeman. Another is from Burma and speaks not only Tamil and Telugu, but all the Burmese languages as well. He is a Prison Service Officer and did the retreat out of Burma with the Army, all the way on his feet.

Another is a tea planter from Travancore, while another is a Madras businessman. The others know Hindi but not South Indian languages, one being a Darjeeling Tea planter, another a mill-manager from Bihar.

SOUTH INDIANS, VERY SMART AND INTELLIGENT.

Our Subadar-Major is a distinguished old soldier with, I believe, 36 years service. He is a Dogra, but speaks Tamil.

SEPOY (TYPE).

Our other V.C.Os. are South Indians, and a very smart, intelligent lot, too.

The N.C.Os. are nearly all old soldiers, some with 30 years service grand fellows.

Our job, when we go on service will be to provide men for the less skilled parts of the engineers' jobs, to handle shells, stores, unload ships, make fortifications—in general to be the Army's handymen. Not showy, but very necessary work.

We shall be changing our address very soon, no doubt, but I will see that you are kept informed of it.

Any 'comforts' you should send along for our men will be carefully acknowledged, and I will see to it that you are kept informed about our welfare.

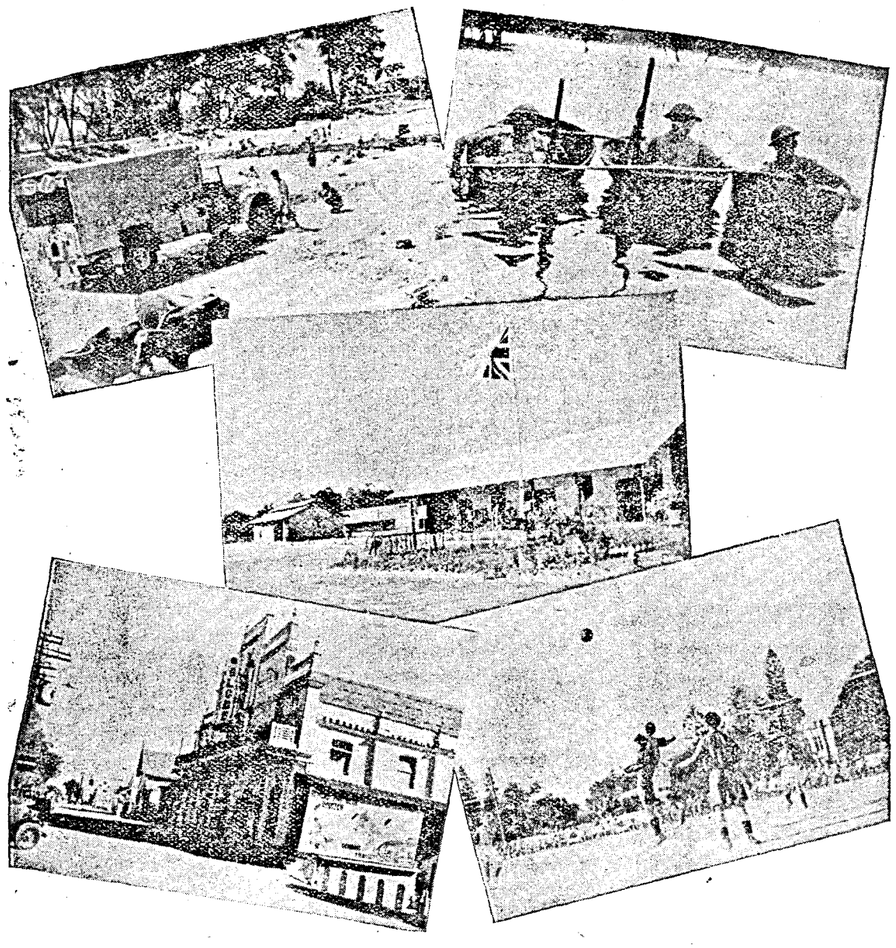
To this letter, when I receive it from the Company Commanders, I will just add the list of the kind of things which would be acceptable to our men.

With thanks,

Yours faithfully,

..... Major,
Commanding No. , Indian Auxiliary Pioneer Battalion.

HOW TO BE HAPPY ON LEAVE



ONAM FESTIVAL

The Feasts of Kerala

KERALA, the land of the cocoanut palms, is the name given to Travancore, Cochin and British Malabar on the south-west coast of India. It is the home of the Malayalees, Malayalam in the language of the country meaning—' The Land of Hills '.

Generally hot and sticky, Kerala nevertheless has rarely failed to attract lovers of beauty. One is never far from the sea, and one lives among hills. The effect of ' the two voices ' on the natives of Kerala is to make them a sort of Indian version of the Welsh, steeped in legendry, with a turn for the eerie and with that wholesome gift of naiveté, doubly wholesome in war-time of flinging themselves heart and soul, into the spirit of their national festivals.

The chief of these are Vishu, Onam and Thiruvathira.

Vishu falls in April, is the first day of the first Malayalam month " Medam." It is the Malayalee Divali, the feast of lights and crackers. On the eve of the feast, rice and fruits, a bell-metal looking-glass, gold ornaments, a gold bordered mundu and flowers of the Konka tree are placed before the picture of Mahalakshmi as Vishu-kani. Lamps are kept burning through the night. Early in the morning the eldest member of the house sees the Kani first. He leads the others in, their eyes tightly shut. Small gifts of money are made to children and servants. Crackers go off at all hours and the house rings with merriment. Tenants come in with offerings to the master of the house. By midday—the feast is over . . . and Kerala returns to its fields and palms.

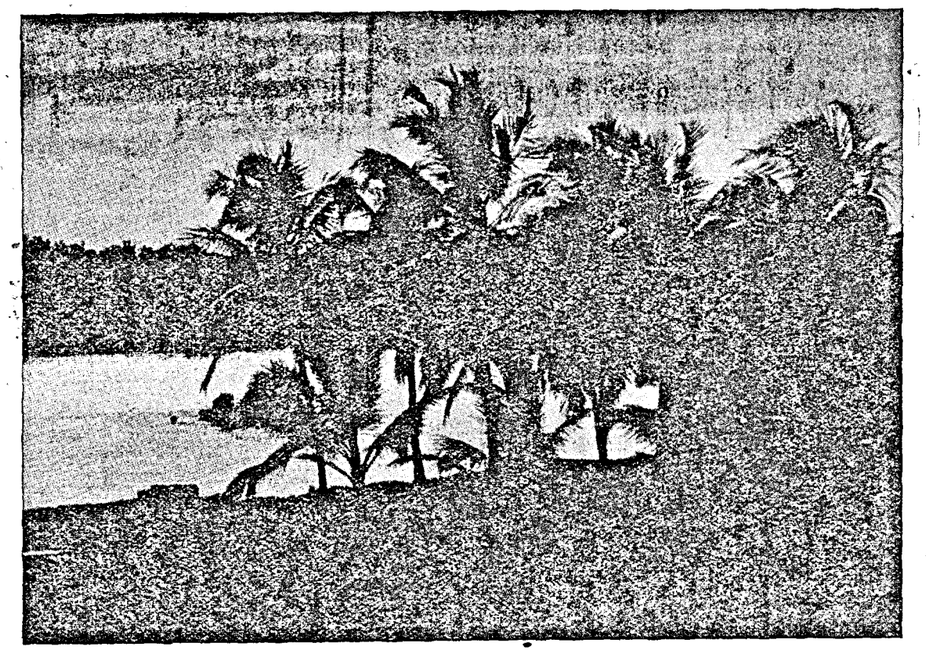
HARVEST FESTIVAL

Onam, the harvest festival, occurs in September or sometimes late in August. Legend says that in the golden age of Mahabali, the Gods angered by the worship paid the king by his people, descended upon him and destroyed him. Vishnu, in his incarnation as Vamana, appeared before Mahabali, as a most beautiful boy. Enchanted by his youthful loveliness, Mahabali asked the boy to name his wish, and it would be granted. Vamana is said to have asked for just three feet of earth, a request gladly granted by the King. Then to Mahabali's amazement, Vamana assumed the proportions of a monster and his three feet of earth covered more than the whole extent of the kingdom. The deficiency was made up by the God's placing his foot on Mahabali's head and crushing him down to the nether world. But the story does not end there. Mahabali's people wept for their king, and the Gods in pity or justice, or fear at the clamour of mortals permitted him to return to earth once a year. Mahabali's return is earth's season of prosperity.

On the day of the feast, children go out to gather flowers for the front of the house. Intricate patterns in flour are traced on the floor. Clay figures of Mahabali are made and honoured, and all goes happy as a marriage bell. Bananas, symbol of plenty, appear in profusion. There are games and folk-songs and country dances. The feast is not restricted to the Hindu population. Malayalee Christians and Muslims join in with great glee.

FEAST OF THE INDIAN CUPID

Thiruvathira is celebrated in the month of Dhanu, between December and January, and is the feast of the common people. According to Malayalee belief, Kamadeva, the Indian Cupid, shrivelled into nothing when the God Siva, disturbed from his ' tapasya ', fixed his terrible third eye on the God of Love. On Thiruvathira, Malayalee women mourn the death of Kamadeva. They rise early, go to the tank and bathe. There, they sing the Love God's dirge, and then take their turns at the swing, swinging higher and higher to dizzy heights. The rest of the day is spent in merriment in which, presumably, Kamadeva's death is forgotten with a capriciousness that, perhaps, only he would rightly understand.

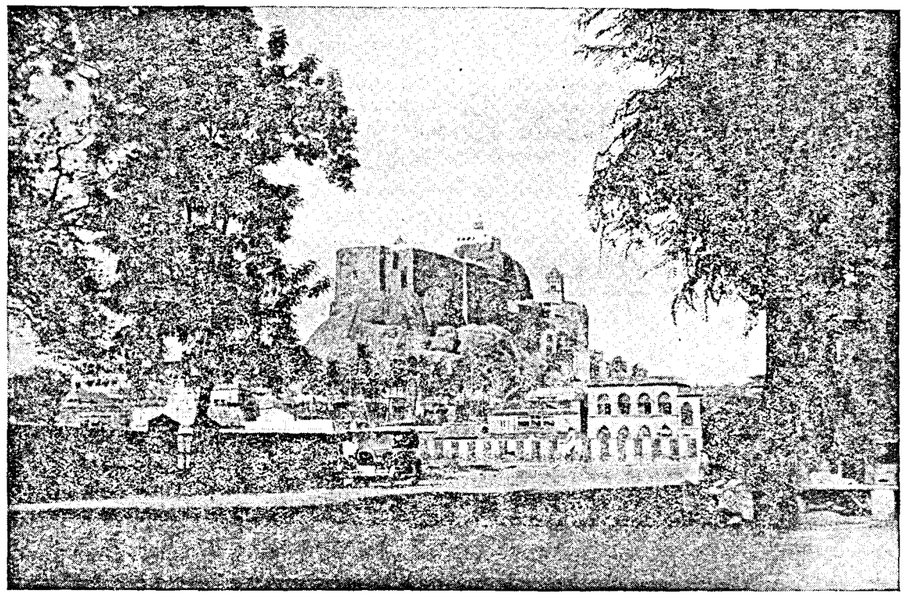


AMERICANS SAID—

They fought against overwhelming odds;
They wiped out masses of Japs and Burmans;
They killed until killing sickened them;
They fought through the night, and through the dawn;
They fought till their boots fell off;
They fought with deathless gallantry;
They gave their lives freely, yet exacted a grim price;

—They were the men of the Cameronians, the Duke of Wellingtons, the West Yorks, the Essex Yeomanry, the Gloucesters, the Royal Inskillings.

—Tribute by American Newspaper, *Portland Oregonian.*



"A HUGE ROCK RISES ABRUPTLY FROM THE PLAINS"—Rock Fort, Trichinopoly, centre of several bloody battles between the French and the British.

Places worth a visit

THE old sweat who had spent heaven knows how many years in India, and had absolutely nothing to show for it, was the most pathetic sight in the Regimental depots at home at the beginning of the war. He used to talk about " Rooti " and " Char " and be very mysterious and superior about the wonderful experience he had in India, but when the whole thing was boiled down, all he knew about India, apart from regimental musings was that it was very hot, and that Rasmak was a hell of a place.

India has plenty to show the Britisher, free, plenty of sights to broaden the mind, increase knowledge, and help a man when he gets home, to be something more than just another soldier.

The very sight of some of these almost incredible buildings should start some spark of more than passing interest. The least that one can say about them is that they show where many decorators of the interiors of super cinemas at home got their ideas, but a little serious attention repays itself a hundredfold.

A HISTORIC TOWN

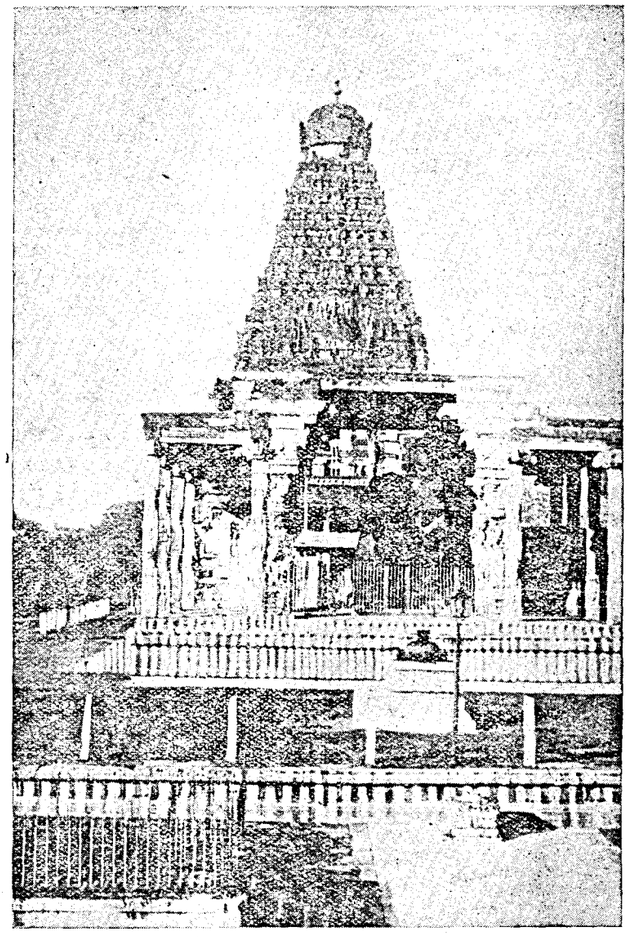
Trichinopoly is an excellent place for a beginning. There has been very little war in Southern India that has not affected this historic town, and the fort on that huge rock that rises abruptly from the plain was the centre of several bloody battles between French and British. Clive, Lawrence, Dupleix, Tippu Sultan and Hyder Ali—all organized their armies around it in either attack or defence at one time or another. Great flights of steps lead to the top of the rock where the grim square fort stands below a very lovely temple.

Only 31 miles from Trichinopoly, a bus ride, is Tanjore, the seat of two Hindu dynasties. Tanjore was the centre of an accomplished and flourishing civilization at the time when Elizabeth's licensed pirates were chasing the Spanish Armada up the Channel.

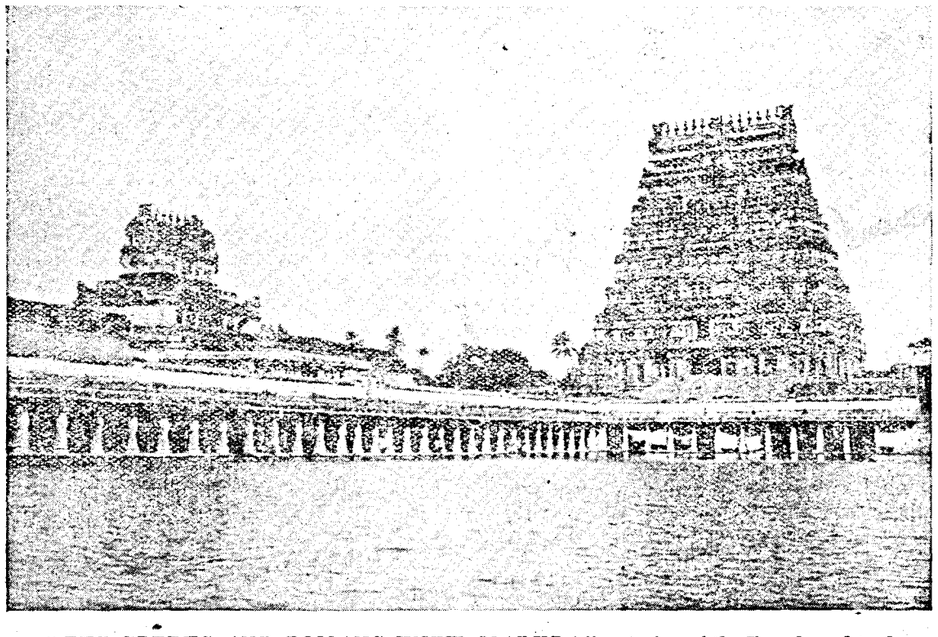
Like the majority of peoples before the twentieth century, the inhabitants of the country put their artistic expression into religious buildings and the carvings on the temples in Tanjore are some of the finest in India, and a vigorous change from anything seen in Europe.

A 12TH-CENTURY MARVEL

The Great Temple, which was built about the time that William the Conqueror was settling down in England, was conceived and constructed as a whole, and not piecemeal, so that it displays purely the design and thought of the Indian of the twelfth century.



"CARVINGS ON THE TEMPLE IN TANJORE ARE SOME OF THE FINEST IN INDIA"—A view of the Great Temple. The stone sculpture of the Sacred Bull can be seen between the mainpillars.



"THE GREEKS AND ROMANS KNEW MADURA"—A view of the Temple and tank.

Its tower, which is 216 feet high is crowned with one eighty ton block of granite. To get it there the builders made a sloping road four miles long, and pushed it up! The stone sculpture of the sacred bull is in this temple, and the building is still used for religious ceremonies. The people worship there now, in the same way that they did when it was first built nearly a thousand years ago.

A BEWILDERING PHANTASY

South of Trichinopoly, a little over a hundred miles is Madura. In Madura Indians were attending a celebrated college in the year 200, during the time when the Romans were building their roads in Britain and the local inhabitants favoured a blue dye smeared over the body as the height of fashion for the season. It was more or less the Oxford of Southern India until the eighth century. The Greeks and Romans knew Madura, the details of their connection with the city which was then an Empire's metropolis are lost, but they certainly engaged in trade there, for many of their copper coins have been found. The temples and palaces of Madura are very different in style from Tanjore, even more ornate, and built with great rectangular towers which are covered with a bewildering phantasy of carving. An enthusiastic photographer can have the time of his life at Madura, and take away proof of the tales he will have to tell.

In Mysore city itself, the capital of one of India's most important states, there is enough interest and amusement to filll a whole leave. Returning to the subject of temples, a subject that should never prove boring in India, Mysore provides the ultimate answer, in the Hoysala temples. Haider Ali Khan and Tippu Sultan are names which dominate modern history of Mysore. Father and son, great villains both of them, but no greater than many in Europe today, they extended the boundaries of the Kingdom in all directions, and there were four Mysore wars with the British, Tippu Sultan playing the leading role.

Before firearms became quite too popular in the war effort the Indian had a far greater range of killing weapons than the European, who usually stuck to the sword, shield, bow and arrow and an odd battle axe. In the palace armoury in Tanjore is a grand collection of curious swords, sticking knives, knives that open like a pair of scissors and inflict a wound which used to make an enemy think twice before he came again. There too are the golden trappings and ornaments that decorated the state elephants of the Raja when he rode abroad.

Making the Best of it

[This is a British soldier's own story of how he spends his time in India, and it displays a commonsense attitude which has been far too absent in the majority of cases. He has been lucky in that he has had two changes of station, and naturally of area but he has no money of his own and yet manages to keep his interest alive wherever he finds himself.]

A few years ago many of us would have welcomed the chance of foreign travel. To-day we find ourselves—not on a conducted pleasure tour—but engaged in a bitter struggle. A few years ago many of us never ventured further than Brighton Pier, at the most we took a day's trip across the Channel. Now we find ourselves many thousands of miles away from our homes, and faced with a stay, not of days and weeks, but of months and years.

How can we make the best of our spare time. Many of us are trying to 'carry on' the routine of our English life; our spare time is being spent in a tramp from barracks to bar and from bar to cinema. Are we making the best of our opportunities?

How much you get out of India depends largely on your outlook. During my two years stay in India I have tried to come to a sympathetic understanding with India and the Indian. I have genuinely tried to treat the Indian as I would his English equivalent. Giving courtesy I have never received discourtesy in return.

A GLORIOUS SAGA

The purchase of an elementary book on Indian History (these can always be purchased cheaply in the bazaar) will unfold a glorious saga stretching over five thousand years. How many realize that over fifty centuries ago a great civilization flourished in the Indus Valley. The book would speak also of the origin of Hinduism, of the rise and fall of Buddhism, of the coming of the Moslems and the foundation of the British Empire in India.

An elementary book on Indian geography should also be purchased. This book would speak of India's great population, what it does, how it is fed, it would speak of the monsoons, of the irrigation systems.

Equipped with a general background I would turn to local history and activity. If I were in Poona I would read something of the Marathas. Poona was the centre of the Maratha power and the Marathas at one time ruled most of India. If I were in Bangalore I would purchase a little book called "Mysore" by Narayan, which would introduce me to a brief local history and outline the

various places of interest in the State of Mysore.

Language will always remain a difficult barrier between us and the Indian. You may have read of the hundreds of Indian languages. Many of these languages are spoken by a very few people. It is estimated that over two-thirds of the Indian people speak a form of Hindustani, although in many cases they speak Hindustani in addition to their local language. In South India, where Hindustani is not so widely used, there are four main languages. Throughout most of Northern, Eastern and Central India it is possible to get along with Hindustani. The best plan is to make an effort to speak at least some simple Hindustani, and as for the other languages learn a little as necessity demands. You will find that the slightest smattering of Hindustani will make a great difference.

HOW TO GET ABOUT

Now we come to the question of how to get about. For small distances the best way is to hire a dependable bicycle or walk. For longer distances the only practical way is to travel by train or by country bus. If you travel by train you can get a soldier's concession ticket. In many places the only way of getting about is by country bus. There is nothing to be afraid of in the country bus (although it is much more pleasant to travel in front, and you can always do this by prior arrangement with the bus company). I have travelled many hundreds of miles in country buses, and cramped as they are, they are an excellent way of seeing Indian life at first hand. Most of the drivers speak Hindustani.

When I was in Poona, I often left the station in the early morning by the Bombay train, and reached Khandala at the summit of the Bhor Ghat. From Khandala I have rambled through miles of the beautiful mountain country of the Western Ghats. Nearby is Lonavla, which is a good jumping off point for a walk to the Karli Caves (Buddhist), some six miles to the north-east. Six miles due south is the Maratha strong fortress of Lohagad, which was garrisoned by British troops until 1846.

Whilst I have been in Bangalore, I have often gone out to Nandidrug. This fortress lies some forty miles north of Bangalore. The best way to get there, is to leave the Bangalore City Station early in the morning by the Chik Ballapur train, and alight at Nandi. From Nandi you walk and climb to the top of Nandidrug. This fortress was built by Tippu Sultan, and was very strong in its day. From the walls at the top it is possible to enjoy a beautiful view. Mysore is within easy reach of Bangalore, and from Mysore you can get to Krishnarajasagara Dam, or to the ruins of Seringapatam, where the power of Tippu Sultan was finally broken. A pleasant day can be spent in Mysore itself, and from the top of Chamundi Hill, south of the city, you can command a complete view of Mysore City.

THE REAL INDIA

I have suggested some ways of seeing something of interest. But the travelling is half the fun. In the train and in the bus it is always possible to learn a great deal by conversation, especially if you know enough about India to hold your own intelligently, and are prepared to learn more. I have always found fellow travellers unreserved and willing to embark on conversation. Passing through the villages you will see the real India, and you will begin to appreciate the patient tilling and weeding, and the irrigation methods.

When I leave India, I hope to do so without recalling lost opportunities of seeing a country which holds a fifth of the world's population, a country which I shall probably never see again. I hope to leave with a deeper understanding of a country which promises to play a more and more important part in the world of to-morrow, for which we are struggling to-day.

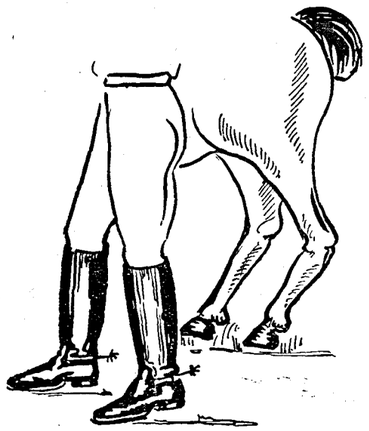
Soldiers, Use Your Cameras!

Photographs taken by soldiers on active service may now be published in newspapers, provided they receive the approval of the military censorship.

The use of cameras in theatres of active operations will be under the control of an Officer-in-charge of photography.

Under a similar arrangement men of the Royal Navy have taken pictures which have provided the public with a graphic record of the war at sea.

The new order is provisional, and will remain in force for three months. The number of cameras permitted to be taken into operational areas will be confined to two per unit.



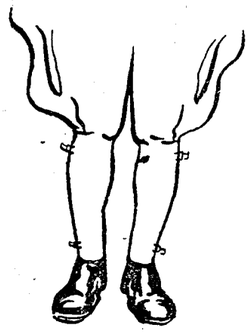
LEGWEAR

The officer who rides and shoots
The Cavalry—in fact—wear boots
Slim cylinders of polished hide
Which hide the spindle shanks inside.

◆◆◆

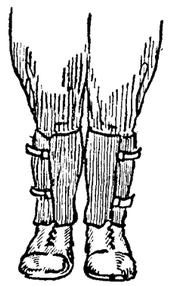
The Gurkhas with their massive calves
Disdain to do the thing by halves
They go the whole Hog, calf, or cow
In either leg a hide allow
Their Dictatorial boots, they tell us,
Make Rome & Berchtesgarden jealous.

◆◆◆



The Racin' steeplechasin' chap
When on parade, wears boots to clap
But in his leisure hours he'll hack
In ankle boots of glossy black
And these he'll usually crown
With leggin's (usually known).

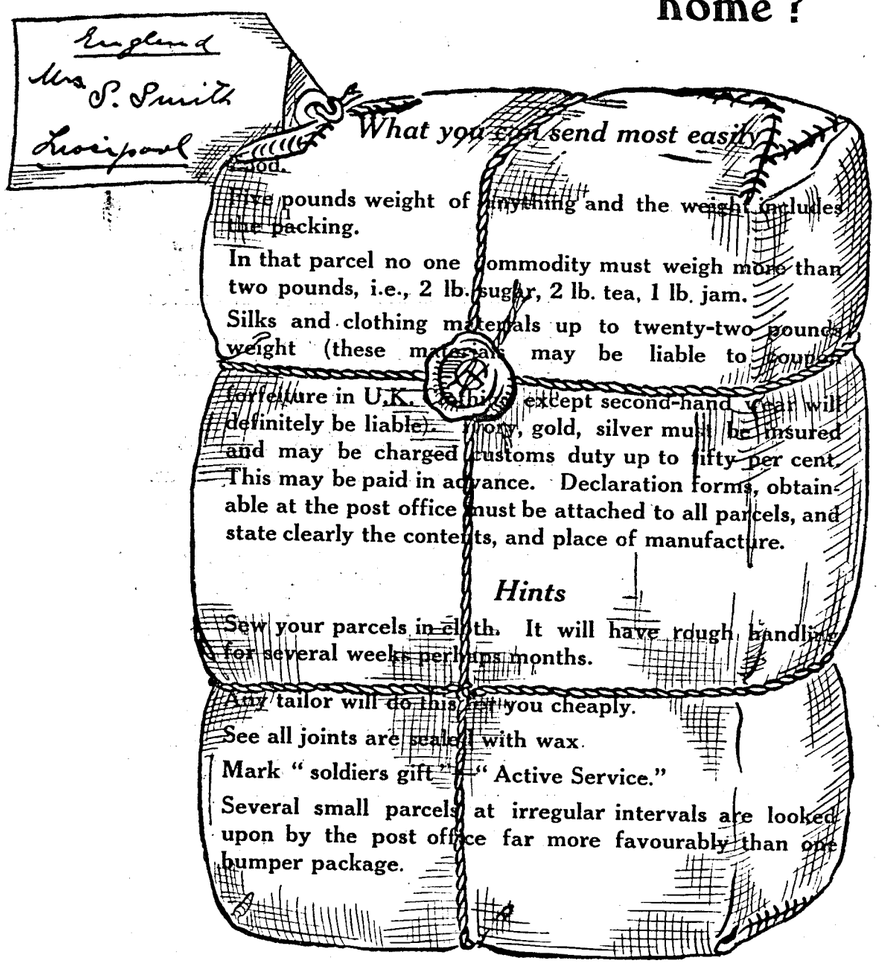
◆◆◆



The infantier wears leggin's too
(They look the same to me and you)
But to the more discerning eye
A subtle difference seems to lie
(Just as there does twixt guests & waiters)
Between their leggin's & our gaiters.

P.J.

Sending anything home ?



What you can send most easily

Five pounds weight of anything and the weight includes the packing.

In that parcel no one commodity must weigh more than two pounds, i.e., 2 lb. sugar, 2 lb. tea, 1 lb. jam.

Silks and clothing materials up to twenty-two pounds weight (these materials may be liable to confiscation in U.K.). Anything except second-hand clothing will definitely be liable. Money, gold, silver must be insured and may be charged customs duty up to fifty per cent. This may be paid in advance. Declaration forms, obtainable at the post office must be attached to all parcels, and state clearly the contents, and place of manufacture.

Hints

Sew your parcels in cloth. It will have rough handling for several weeks perhaps months.

Any tailor will do this for you cheaply.

See all joints are sealed with wax.

Mark " soldiers gift " — " Active Service."

Several small parcels at irregular intervals are looked upon by the post office far more favourably than one bumper package.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, " VICTORY HOUSE ", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

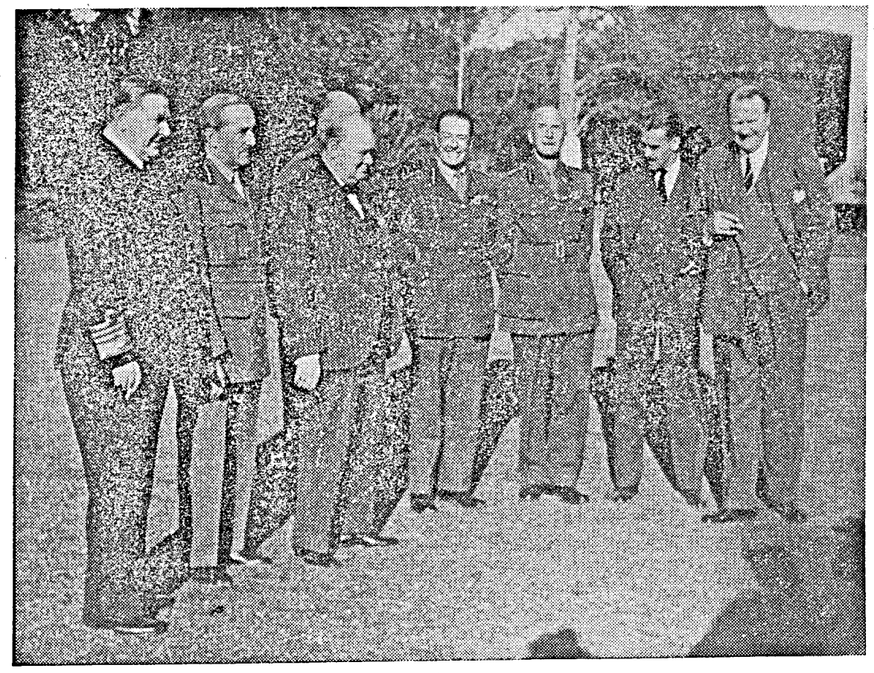
REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1943 No. 24

THE DOMINATING AIM



MR. CHURCHILL IN CAIRO

The dominating aim which we set before ourselves in the Conference at Casablanca was to engage the enemy's forces on land, sea, and in the air, on the largest possible scale and at the earliest possible moment . . .

We have to make the enemy burn and bleed in every way physically and reasonably possible, in the same way as he has been burnt and bled along the vast Russian Front from the White Sea to the Black Sea.

We have now a complete plan of action . . . This plan we are going to carry out according to our ability during the next nine months . . .

Everywhere in Egypt, there is the feeling that Britain had kept her word, that we have been a faithful and unfailing Ally, and that we preserved the Nile Valley and its cities, villages, and fertile lands from the horrors of invasion.

MR. CHURCHILL, in his war review in the Commons on February 11.

Running Commentary

Mr. Churchill's War Review—U.S. President on Roads to Tokyo.

In his review of the war situation, in the House of Commons on February 11, MR. CHURCHILL referred to the position in the Far East and the operations in Burma. He said, "For the time being in the war against Japan, the British effort is confined to the India theatre. *Our Asiatic war effort is confined to operations particularly in Burma, to open the Burma road to give what aid can be given to the Chinese.*" The British Government have been in close correspondence with MARSHAL CHIANG KAI-SHEK in regard to this matter, and GENERAL ARNOLD, Head of the United States Air Force, and FIELD MARSHAL SIR JOHN DILL have been conferring with the Chinese Generalissimo regarding plans for the future. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has referred to this conference in his nation-wide broadcast address to the American people, on the occasion of the annual dinner of the White House Correspondents' Association on February 12. "Great and decisive actions against the Japanese," he said, "will be taken to drive the invader from the soil of China. Important actions will be taken in the skies over China—and over Japan itself. The discussions at Casablanca have been continued in Chungking with the Generalissimo by GENERAL ARNOLD and have resulted in definite plans for offensive operations. There are many roads which lead right to Tokyo. We shall neglect none of them."

* * * *

The overthrow of Japan was one of the important subjects discussed at the Casablanca Conference. It may be said that the Chungking and Calcutta Conferences were to the Far East what the Casablanca Conference was to Europe. Though they form part of the general global strategic plan, the Casablanca Conference primarily concerned itself with a programme of action for the overthrow of Germany and Italy in Europe, and the Chungking and Calcutta Conferences devoted their attention to war plans in India and the Far East for the overthrow of Japan.

Wavell-Ho Ying-Chin Talks.

The important discussions in which FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL and GENERAL HO YING-CHIN, the Chinese Minister for War, participated should not, however, be taken as an indication that a new big offensive is to be taken from India in the near future to reconquer lost territory. *It is even possible that the Conferences might have reached the decision that the time was not yet ripe for a big seaborne offensive against Japan*—the only possible way at present of carrying out an effective offensive—before the monsoon. By the middle of next month, the monsoon will already begin to be felt along the Arakan Coast, and high winds and rough seas will make it difficult for landing craft to operate. In case postponement of operations was decided on, it must have been done with the full consent of China. But it is of interest to note that the *communiquè* issued after the Conferences announced that there will be a conference between GENERAL MACARTHUR and FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL in India to ensure fullest co-operation. This is a clear indication that *large plans for striking at the heart of Japan are under consideration.*

* * * *

Britain and Burma: Plans for Post-War Reconstruction.

So far as Burma herself is concerned, the British Government have been taking considerable interest in the matter of post-war reconstruction. Replying to a question in Parliament, MR. AMERY, Secretary of State for India and Burma, indicated the directions in which the British Government are helping the Burma Government at present located in India. They are mainly threefold:—

(1) To establish an organisation to meet the requirements of the military authorities in the operations for the recovery of the country and afford the fullest co-operation in hastening the defeat of the Japanese;

(2) To formulate plans for the material reconstruction of Burma and for the re-establishment of normal life of the country after the eviction of the Japanese;

(3) To study the whole field of administrative problems and make proposals for future policy.

The future of Burma thus involves *long-term and short-term plans.* The short-term plan is that of clearing the Japanese out of Burma and of bringing some sort of order out of the present chaos. The long-term plan relates to the great work of reconstruction which will build a Burma able to stand on her own feet, defend herself both from armed attack and from undue commercial competition, and work whatever form of self-government may be found to be most suitable to her.

* * * *

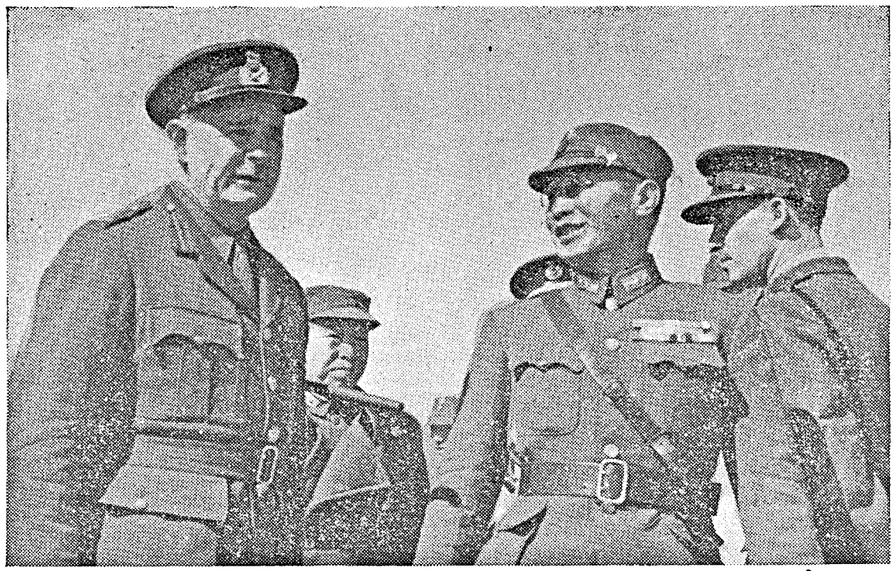
At present, Burma does not enjoy any kind of freedom. As in other occupied countries, the Japanese have dissolved all political parties. They have disillusioned even those Burmans who helped their armies to advance into the country and proved beyond doubt that their object is not to give freedom, but to keep Burma under their iron heel. *Britain's policy is to help her to regain the freedom which she had lost and restore the self-government which she was enjoying.* There is nothing perhaps which is more easy than to declare Burma independent and to fix a date for her attainment of that goal, as was demonstrated by Japan, but that would not be honest, and it would be doing the greatest disservice to Burmans themselves, for Burma is at present relatively undeveloped and has now been devastated by war and Japanese exploitation. She can only enjoy real independence after a period of reconstruction—reconstruction not as a

(*Continued on page* 6.)

SOUTHERN ARMY SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

With this Number is issued a Southern Army Special Supplement consisting of 24 pages.

The Editor wishes to thank Military authorities who have contributed articles and pictures to this Supplement and hopes it will be of some help in increasing the mutual respect and good fellowship between the Military and the Civil population.



H.E. GENERAL HO YING-CHIN, Chief of the Chinese General Staff and War Minister since 1929, has visited India at the invitation of Field Marshal Wavell. This follows the conferences held at Chungking between Chinese, American and British Chiefs.

H.E. GENERAL HO YING-CHIN arrived at Delhi Air-port with Lieutenant-General Yu Ta Wei, where they were greeted by Field Marshal Wavell. Photo shows General Ho Ying-Chin with Field Marshal Wavell.

★

"ONE thing at a time, and that done well, is a very good rule, as many can tell"—so runs an old saying. But Soviet Russia has proved that many things at a time, and everything done well, is the best rule in dealing with the Nazi hordes. Her policy of bringing simultaneous pressure to bear on widely separated German strongholds along the front has brought success after success. This has forced the Germans to fight on grounds chosen by the Russians and prevented them from switching reserves from one area to another.

THE capture of Rostov, which is one of the greatest successes of the Red Army, is the result of this strategy. From the way in which things were working at first, it seemed that the Russians were driving straight to Rostov, and it was expected that one of the fiercest battles in the Russian campaign would be fought for the capital of the Don Cossack country. But what really happened was that the impact of the Russian drive did not speedily and directly fall on Rostov, but was distributed to widely separated positions. Kursk, Kharkov and Voroshilovgrad, three other German strongholds, were subjected to simultaneous and grave pressure. The Germans had thus to worry not only about Rostov, but also about the other important bases at the same time.

The German Winter Line

THE Germans could not afford to lose any of these bases, for on them rested their real winter line. Their main strong points along their north-south line of communications were Rostov, Voroshilovgrad, Kharkov, Byelgorod, Kursk and Orel, and all of them, except Orel, have been captured by the Red Army. These positions were captured by forces which struck out north, west and south from Russian strongholds like Voronezh, Valuiki, Millerovo, Kupyansk, Salsk and Tikhoretsk. When the Germans lost Tikhoretsk, they had still hopes of defending themselves with their backs to the Sea of Azov and along the arc which stretches from Rostov to Novorossisk, but when they lost Kuschevskaya, that hope also vanished, because Marshal von List's Kuban army was split into two by the capture of this railway junction, through which runs the westerly railway line to Rostov. One part of the army is heading straight to the Kerch Straits and the other is in a small bridgehead south of the Don Estuary.

Changed hands Four Times

THE point that we desire to stress is that the capture of Rostov was rendered easier on account of the simultaneous thrusts on three other German strongholds. This is the fourth time that Rostov has changed hands. It was captured by the Germans on November 23, 1941, but only six days later, it was recaptured by Russian forces under the leadership of Marshal Timoshenko. Eight months afterwards, that is on July 24, 1942, it again fell into the German hands. And last Sunday, February 14, 1943, six months and three weeks later, it has been recaptured by the Red Army a second time, and it may be stated with a good deal of certainty that it will not change hands again.

THE capture of Rostov is highly important, for it represents the completion of the first stage of the reconquest of the entire Donetz Basin. To the Germans it was the gateway to the Caucasus, and now it has become the gateway to the Ukraine to the Russians. It is one of the most important railway junctions of Southern Russia, and an important port for seagoing ships. Before the German invasion, it was the centre of a very important coal and industrial region, and 50 per cent of the Caucasus oil came through the gigantic pipeline, of which it was the western terminus. But the capture of Rostov by the Germans was not of much economic gain to them, because all factories and machinery were safely carried away to the Urals region much earlier.

Timing and Technique

THE important thing to note in the capture of Rostov is the timing and technique of the Soviet strategical drive. It is stated that the distinctive feature of highly disciplined troops is the capacity to hold their fire in the face of an advancing enemy until the most critical moment, and that the hallmark of good generalship is the exercise of a sort of sixth sense in deciding exactly when and where to strike back. The Russian successes are due to the possession of both these qualities. They launched their attacks neither too soon, nor too late. The counter-offensive which began with the encirclement of the German Sixth Army provides a brilliant demonstration of perfect timing, and the manner in which Rostov was captured by threatening all the German bases on the Voronezh front at the same time reveals the masterly technique of Russian strategy.

After Rostov—Kharkov

THE same technique has brought about the fall of Kharkov, just two days after the capture of Rostov. On February 16, after a determined attack which eventually led to fierce street fighting, the Russian troops captured the City of Kharkov. The liberation of the City from enemy hands and the routing of the Nazi forces were brought about by the Soviet troops commanded by Colonel-General Golikov. A few hours before the official Soviet announcement of the capture of Hitler's greatest base in South Russia, a German military spokesman told a Swedish newspaper correspondent, "*We have suffered a defeat unprecedented in this war.*" It was an unprecedented defeat no doubt, but it was not unexpected. When Kupyansk, Novo Oskol, and Byelgorod, the key German outpost between Kharkov and Kursk, were captured, it was evident that the threat to Kharkov from Soviet forces operating on the south-east and north-east of the town was of a serious character, and its fall a mere question of time.

"East Wall" Crumbles

ROSTOV, Kursk and Kharkov—the next step is Orel. With the capture of Orel, Germany's "East Wall" will crumble. The hammer strokes Hitler's hordes are receiving in quick succession spell the early doom of the Axis in Russia.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

mere supplier of food, raw materials and revenue to Japanese imperialism, but as an autonomous unit in world economy.

* * * *

For the purpose of such a reconstruction, the Governor of Burma has set up a special department to prepare plans to study the economic and social problems and draw up proposals on which the future reconstruction of Burma can be based. MR. AMERY stated that "the Burmese Premier, the Finance Minister and other Burmans are closely connected with this department which is manned by young officers of proved ability." This is a great task that has been undertaken, for it involves a range over every detail of administration, law and order, communications, education, health, land, industry, commerce and finance, and will cost far more money than the Japanese would ever be prepared to put into Burma, and will be discharged with far more honesty than the Japanese have shown in attempting to make a quick profit out of a ravaged country, all the time dangling the bait of "independence" before the Burmese people.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

12th Feb.—Mr. Churchill reviewed the war situation in the House of Commons.

Three German aircraft were destroyed by the Royal Air Force over the south coast of England.

13th Feb.—There was an artillery duel across the Channel.

14th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked docks and shipping at Boulogne and Saint Malo and iron and steel works at Ijmuiden.

15th Feb.—L'Orient, Western Germany and Northern France were attacked by the Royal Air Force. Four Axis planes were shot down into the Channel.

Cologne and Milan were also bombed and Dunkirk was twice raided.

16th Feb.—It was reported that Hitler was preparing to give up the supreme command of the German forces to Marshal von Manstein. It was also reported that he was preparing to form a Defence Council.

17th Feb.—The Government decided "to accept in principle the main features of the Beveridge Plan" of social security for all.

The Royal Air Force raided targets in Belgium and Western Germany.

18th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked Lorient. German raiders were over South Wales.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

12th Feb.—Col. Frank Knox, United States Navy Secretary, in a speech on the anniversary of Lincoln's birth said that isolation—Political military and economic—was no longer possible, for the American people whose welfare was bound up with the welfare of all peoples.

13th Feb.—President Roosevelt broadcasting from the annual dinner of the White House Correspondents' Association indicated that the United Nations planned to open a second front in Europe after the coming battle in Tunisia.

15th Feb.—The great 35,000-ton French battleship **Richelieu,**—one of the world's greatest surface warships—arrived in New York harbour from Dakar.

18th Feb.—Marshal Timoshenko arrived in Washington.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

12th Feb.—It was announced that a Lend-Lease Mission from America would be shortly coming out to India.

The Royal Air Force aircraft attacked objectives in enemy-occupied Burma. Stiff fighting continued in Arakan.

Two Chinese Generals, General Ho Yin Chin, Chief of the Chinese General staff and War Minister and Lieut.-General Yu Ta Wei, Master-General of Ordnance, arrived in India on a visit.

13th Feb.—Enemy attacks in the vicinity of Donbaik and Rathedaung were repulsed.

14th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked enemy objectives, especially in the Lower Chindwin region.

15th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked Kalachaung village on the Mayu Peninsula. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed and several damaged.

17th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Magwe.

(*Continued on page* 8.)

DIARY OF THE WAR

(*Continued from page* 6)

The Hon. Sir H. P. Mody, the Hon. Mr. N. R. Sarcar and the Hon. Mr. M. S. Aney, Members of the Viceroy's Executive Council, resigned in connexion with the Government's decision not to release Mr. Gandhi unconditionally.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12th Feb.—General Eisenhower was appointed Allied Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of State for War, said that heavy fighting was imminent in Tunisia.

13th Feb.—Several Under Secretaries resigned from Mussolini's Government.

Rommel's troops fell back into Tunisia.

Wholesale evacuations from villages along the coastline of Africa were carried out by the order of the German military authorities.

The Eighth Army released over 2,000 Jews, residents of Tobruk, Derna, Barce and Benghazi.

14th Feb.—Axis thrust in Ousseltia Valley was repelled.

The Government of Albania resigned.

15th Feb.—The Eighth Army units made another forward push in the coastal sector of Tunisia. Bizerta was bombed.

American aircraft bombed Naples; British bombers attacked Calabria and Sicily.

16th Feb.—There was heavy fighting west of Faid. Allied bombers attacked objectives at Maknassy and Sened.

17th Feb.—Rommel was reported to be seriously ill in Germany.

American troops left Gafsa but the Allies took Ben Gardane. The Germans withdrew in Southern Tunisia.

18th Feb.—Rommel's forces withdrew to Mareth line. United States forces advanced 10 miles.

Six Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12th Feb.—The Russians retook Lozovaya on the main line to Crimea and landed troops on the Black Sea Coast.

13th Feb.—The Red Army retook Krasnodar. Kharkov was partially encircled.

14th Feb.—Rostov was in flames. The Russians captured Novo Cherkassk.

Writing in the *Red Star*, President Kalinin said: "Germany's position to-day, despite her territorial gains, very much resembles that in which she stood in 1918."

15th Feb.—The Russians took Rostov and Voroshilovgrad. The Germans abandoned Kharkov.

16th Feb.—Kharkov defences were breached and the Russian forces advanced on Taganrog. Over 100 German tanks were destroyed and 15 were captured.

17th Feb.—It was reported that Marshal Timoshenko was *en route* to the United States with four Russian Staff Generals and an Admiral.

The Russians entered Kharkov and closed in on Orel.

18th Feb.—The Russian troops took Slavinsk, Ziev and Roventry. They were 12 miles from Taganrog.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12th Feb.—There were rumours that Mihail Antonescu. Rumanian Foreign Minister, and brother of the Rumanian "Dictator," had fled to Turkey with a request for mediation in a separate peace.

14th Feb.—An air raid alert sounded in Zurich and Basle.

The Prime Minister of Persia resigned.

15th Feb.—Ali Soheily was chosen as the new Premier of Iran by the Shah.

A great number of foreign aircraft flew over Switzerland.

* * * *

SHIPPING

12th Feb.—The British submarine "P. 48" was lost.

17th Feb.—It was officially announced that the Japanese sank one heavy United States cruiser and one destroyer in the South Pacific.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

14th Feb.—The Nazis issued new orders to speed up the extermination of the Jews remaining in Occupied Europe by mass massacres and starvation.

15th Feb.—Two German officers were seriously wounded by terrorists in Paris.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

12th Feb.—Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of State for War, disclosed that 4,000 Japanese were killed and 105 taken prisoner in the Solomons during the last two weeks of January.

The main Japanese force was thrown back at Wau.

13th Feb.—Three Japanese warships were sunk in Guadalcanar. The Japanese were decisively defeated in the Wau area.

14th Feb.—Allied troops continued to push forward in Salamau area. A Japanese transport was bombed off Cape Orford.

15th Feb.—A Japanese patrol was ambushed at Wau. It was revealed that 6,066 Japanese were killed and 127 captured during the victorious battle on the Guadalcanar.

16th Feb.—More than 30 Allied bombers gave Rabaul a terrific pounding.

17th Feb.—American bombers raided Kiska.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1943 No. 25

Tribute to the Red Army

H.M. THE KING-EMPEROR

TO-DAY I and my peoples join with the peoples of the Soviet Union in wholehearted tribute to the heroic qualities and magnificent leadership, whereby the Red Army in its struggle against our common enemies has by its resounding triumphs written new pages of history

It was the unyielding resistance of Stalingrad that turned the tide and heralded the crushing blows which have struck dismay into the foes of civilization and freedom

To mark the profound admiration felt by myself and the peoples of the British Empire, I have given commands for the preparation of the Sword of Honour which it would give me pleasure to present to the City of Stalingrad

My hope would be that this gift might commemorate in happier times to come the inflexible courage with which the warrior city steeled herself against the powerful and persistent onslaughts of her assailants and that it might be a token of admiration, not only of the British peoples, but the whole civilized world

H.M. THE KING-EMPEROR, in a telegram to M. KALININ President of the Soviet Republic, on February 21

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
The Red Army	4–5	The Battle of House 21-A	15
Running Commentary	6	Dramatic Capture of von Paulus	16
Snipers of the Red Army	7	Stalin's Order	17
Russia: Before the Spring thaws	10	Shooting of Russian Children	18
A major Russian Objective	12	Russia's "Land Battleships"	20
Defender of Stalingrad: A sketch of Rodimtsev	14	Rostov: Tactical ascendancy	20
Stalingrad: Stay-put Women	14	Diary of the War	21

UNDYING HONOUR

"Red Army Day in Russia is a fresh reminder to us all of the spirit, courage and endurance of Soviet troops. Their unflinching steadfastness in adversity and gallant vigour in the triumphant counter-offensive have brought fresh and undying honour to Russian arms. I am proud to have known the Russian soldier in peace and war. On behalf of the forces, under my command, Indian and British, I would ask you to accept our warm congratulations and good wishes."

—FIELD MARSHAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL.

◆ ◆ ◆

DESTROYED A MYTH

"It should not be forgotten the Red Army was confronted by practically the entire weight of the land and air forces of the German war machine massed on the Russian front. The simple truth is that in these Russian campaigns the Government of the Soviet Union, its leaders, its Red Army and its great Soviet people destroyed the myth of Hitler's invincibility, contributed to world's peace and new strategy of defence against the mechanised lightning attack which threatened the earth, saved the liberties and homes of mother Russia, broke the back of Hitler's offensive, prevented Hitler and his Allies from dominating the three continents and gave to us the priceless gift of time to prepare."

—MR. JOSEPH E. DAVIS.

◆ ◆ ◆

UNSURPASSED IN ALL HISTORY

"On behalf of the people of the United States, I want to express to the Red Army on its 25th anniversary our profound admiration for its magnificent achievements unsurpassed in all history. For many months, despite tremendous losses in men, supplies, transportation and territory, the Red Army has denied victory to a very powerful enemy. It has checked him at Leningrad, Moscow, Voronezh and in the Caucasus and finally in the immortal battle for Stalingrad, the Red Army not only defeated the enemy but launched a greater offensive which is still moving forward along the whole front from Baltic to the Black Sea."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a message to M. Stalin.*

An Army of Avengers

THE Red Army is an army of defence. It has been created not to conquer other people's country, but for the defence of the frontiers of the Soviet land. But in June 1941 Hitlerite Germany treacherously attacked our country. From that moment the Red Army became transformed into an army of avengers. The Red Army is entering upon the 25th anniversary of its existence, at a decisive moment of the patriotic war. Due to the absence of a Second Front in Europe, the Red Army has been bearing alone the whole burden of the war.

IN three months the Red Army has cleared of the enemy, the territory of Voronezh and Stalingrad, regions of Chechenoingush, Northern Osetinian Kabardabalkar, and Kalmuck autonomous republics, of Stavropol and Krasnodar and the areas of Cherkessk, Karachayev, and Adygev autonomous areas and nearly the whole of Rostov, Kharkov and Kursk regions.

Time Working against the Enemy

MASS expulsion of the enemy from the Soviet country has started. The balance of forces on the Soviet-German front has undergone a change. Time is working against Fascist Germany. Hitler's Germany enjoyed until lately superiority over the Soviet Union in technical equipment and most of all in tanks and aircraft. But times have changed. The Soviet output of tanks, aircraft and guns has increased. The enemy has sustained tremendous losses especially in tanks, aircraft and guns. In the three months of Soviet offensive in the winter of 1942 to 1943 alone, the Germans lost over 7,000 tanks, 4,000 planes and 17,000 guns.

Tactics of Manœuvring

THE Red Army since the beginning of the war has put out of action about nine million German officers and men, of whom not less than four million were killed in action. The Rumanian, Italian and Hungarian armies have been completely routed. In the last three months alone the Red Army smashed 112 Divisions, killed over 700,000 of the enemy and took 300,000 prisoners.

THE German Army came into the war with two years experience, but since then the Red Army has become a regular army getting rid of the stupid and harmful tactics of the line and firmly adopting the tactics of manœuvring. The command of the Red Army has not only the aim of liberating the Soviet land from the enemy, but also not to allow the enemy out of our country alive.

The Pledge of Our Victory

IN the name of the liberation of our country from the hated enemy, I order:

(1) To improve tirelessly military knowledge and to strengthen discipline, order and organization.

(2) To strengthen the blows upon enemy troops, to cut off enemy communication lines, to encircle enemy troops and annihilate them if they refuse to lay down their arms.

(3) To fan the flames of guerilla warfare on enemy's rear.

THEREIN is the Pledge of Our Victory.

M. STALIN.

Running Commentary

Germany and the Position in Hungary. Germany's present situation can be properly assessed by an understanding of the position in the Balkan Peninsula. "The advance of the Red Army," writes the Swiss paper *Berner Tagwacht* "is a greater danger to Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia, Bulgaria and the whole of south-eastern Europe than to any other European country." Reports from various sources show that the Governments of Balkan countries no longer believe in the possibility of German victory. The fact that the Divisions which they sent to fight on the Russian front (20 Rumanian and six Hungarian, together with nine Italian) have been virtually annihilated, is kept from the public, as also the real situation at the Russian front. At a Government party meeting on January 22, the Hungarian Premier, Kallay, reported that Hungarian troops had suffered heavier losses than before, but that "they cannot be exactly ascertained."

The same policy of concealment is being applied to military operations. According to the *Berner Tagwacht*, General Von Miorka, Military Correspondent of *Pester Lloyd*, "gives a false picture of the position on the eastern front, but he is mistaken if he thinks that his readers do not know the real position." In his reports, it is added, he entirely ignores Russian communiques. Swiss and Turkish reports paint a similar picture of the Rumanian Government, as it struggles to allay popular alarm and unrest while facing insistent demands for more and more foodstuffs, raw materials and manpower from its insatiable German masters.

After quoting neutral reports that Rumanian losses amounted to 300,000 men and that two Rumanian Generals had committed suicide, the *St. Galles Tagblatt* adds:

> "The effect of these defeats is shown in the increasing numbers of deserters who are trying to avoid active service by escaping—mostly to Bulgaria. Simultaneously, antiwar propaganda has become more active; an enormous number of leaflets have been distributed calling on Marshal Antonescu to withdraw behind the Dnieper line . . . the Balkans, including Macedonia and Greece, are in a state of ferment."

The Balkan Governments are realizing that they have backed the wrong horse, and the Balkan peoples are beginning to see that they have been duped.

* * *

Tied to the German Chariot Since the treaty of Trianon at the end of the last war, the recovery of lost territory (whether inhabited by Magyar elements or not) has been the fundamental aim of the Hungarian regime. After Munich, Hungary saw a chance of recovering something of her old imperial position under the Hapsburgs by playing Germany's game. The first stop was to raise a territorial claim against Czechoslovakia, which was compelled by Germany under the first Vienna award to return to Hungary a strip of territory along her northern frontier. In response, Hungary signed the Anti-Comintern Pact in February 1939. Thereafter, she pursued a tricky policy of picking up territorial spoils in Germany's wake without contributing to Germany's military resources. Hungary annexed Ruthenia when Germany invaded Poland. The next step was to try for the return of Transylvania by Rumania. For strategic reasons, Germany wanted to have Hungarian territory extended into the heart of Rumania, and by the second Vienna award of August 1940 she allotted the greater part of Transylvania to Hungary. The Hungarian Government then signed the Tripartite Pact. Hungary had thus gained her prizes without firing a shot. But she had to fight for her spoils, so far as Yugoslavia was concerned. The German army marched in, and Hungarian troops joined them in an attack on Yugoslavia. Hungarian policy passed from opportunism to aggression, and she was securely tied to the German chariot. When Germany secured her Balkan flank by overwhelming Yugoslavia and Greece, she launched the attack on Russia—and the military collaboration of Hungary and Germany was inevitable. Hungary had gone too far, she had aroused bitter enmity in all her neighbours, and so a victorious Germany is her only protection. The present regime is in the grip of the Germans, but as Germany weakens, political changes may take place.

Snipers of the Red Army

By LIEUT.-GEN. G. MOROZOV

SNIPING is an art which every Red infantryman is encouraged to acquire. The Soviet crack shots can be seen at their most brilliant on the Leningrad front, where there are whole platoons in which every man is a master sniper. The old hands impart their skill to the raw recruits. Pchelintsev, one of the best, has been made a Hero of the Soviet Union.

Each man has his little book in which he records his kills. A total of a hundred or more is not at all unusual. One crack shot called Dordzhiev has a score of 181.

Soviet snipers hunt in couples. Each man has a rifle equipped with a telescopic sight. Usually one does the shooting while the other observes. Every 20 minutes or so they change roles, since long intent gazing through field-glasses is very trying on the eyees.

At short range, when there are a large number of targets, particularly when an enemy attack is being repulsed, both partners maintain fire.

The sniper's commonest targets are enemy officers, observers, snipers, gunners, trench-mortarmen, automatic riflemen, aeroplanes on the point of landing and enemy parachutists.

INDEPENDENCE IN ACTION

So that he may give his skill full play, the sniper is allowed considerable independence in action. He uses his own judgment in selecting positions and targets. Often he acts in isolation on the most dangerous sectors, and remains in ambush when necessary to cover the retreat of his unit. He needs not only great skill, but also high courage and contempt for danger.

The Red snipers were particularly active this spring, when the heavy rains and the thaw forced the enemy out of his dugouts and trenches. Never had they enjoyed such a wealth of targets. They picked off every German who dared to venture within range.

Snipers take part in both offensive and defensive fighting. Recently an infantry company under the command of Lieutenant Vlasov was ordered to advance in a certain important sector. Vlasov sent snipers ahead with a vanguard patrol. The first encounter was with two German motor-cyclists. The snipers wounded them both and took them prisoner. Then a party of enemy scouts was detected. Five of these were picked off, and the rest fled.

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE

Vlasov called the snipers into the preliminary conference before commencing the offensive. They were present while he gave the platoon commanders their orders. The snipers were instructed to keep on the outer flanks of the first and second platoons and to pick off enemy scouts and snipers, automatic riflemen and machine-gunners.

The snipers of the third platoon remained with their group, which advanced in the company's second line, while a party of snipers kept a little ahead of the flank squads. They observed all suspicious features of the terrain, keeping an especially wary eye on a mound beyond which they discerned a hardly noticeable camouflaged earthbank.

CROSS-FIRE FLANKS

When the platoons advanced to the attack, the enemy opened desultory fire from trenches. Machine-guns began to rattle from the mound. The Red infantry fell to the earth. The gunners could not be seen, but puffs of smoke beyond the camouflaged bank revealed their position.

The Soviet snipers then opened oblique fire from both flanks, those on the right aiming at the left side of the mound, and those on the left at the right side. The German machine-guns were silenced. But the snipers continued firing to prevent the machine-guns from coming to life again. Taking advantage of the cessation of fire, the platoons rose and charged. One enemy machine-gun opened fire for a moment, but the snipers silenced it again.

Here is another example—this time of successful co-operation by snipers in defensive fighting. Company commander Senior Lieutenant Stepanov, anticipating a local enemy attack, sent three pairs of snipers to take up positions on the nearest approaches to the Soviet defence lines. One pair, who established themselves near a little bridge across a stream, was instructed to keep a definite zone under observation, paying special attention to the exit from a certain thicket. An automatic rifleman accompanied this pair of snipers.

ANNIHILATING ENEMY SCOUTS

They were instructed that when the enemy's vanguard reached a specified line they should withdraw to the main position. While withdrawing, they were to halt at intermediate points and open fire. Similar precise instructions were given to the second pair, who

advanced to the mouth of a gully, and to the third pair, who took up a position at the bend of the stream.

After some time enemy scouts appeared. Adapting themselves to the terrain, they advanced towards the company's defence line. The snipers waited until the scouts had emerged from a maize field and then opened fire. Most of the scouts, including an officer, fell.

The enemy then brought up machine-guns, which the scouts held in check for half an hour. The Germans apparently decided that the line where the snipers were stationed was the advanced defence line, and opened artillery fire upon it. By then, however, the snipers had withdrawn, and the German guns shelled emptiness.

During the withdrawal the snipers halted at intervals and picked off enemy officers, observers and signallers. Assisted by the auto-riflemen, they also succeeded in shooting some machine-gunners and anti-tank gunners. Besides inflicting losses on the enemy, they retarded his advance for a considerable time.

NIGHT SNIPING

As soon as they reached the main Soviet positions on the advanced defence line, the snipers became part of the general fire system, definite targets being assigned to them. The enemy did not succeed in advancing beyond the stream. The Soviet battalion which later launched a counter-attack, repelled the Germans, who left many dead behind them.

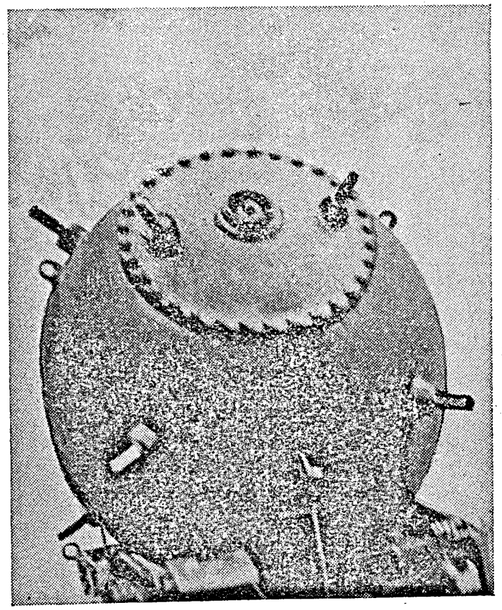
Snipers usually rest at nights. However, the enemy often takes advantage of darkness for reconnaissance, so our snipers have developed a taste for operating at dusk and dawn, and even in the dead of night.

It is hard to aim accurately in the dark with ordinary weapons. The sniper's rifle, however, has a telescopic sight which magnifies the target four times, and enables the sniper to aim accurately at something invisible to the naked eye. Searchlights and flares are sometimes employed to assist accurate aiming.

The ranks of the Red Army are constantly being swelled by new reinforcements of snipers trained behind the lines.

—*Soviet War News.*

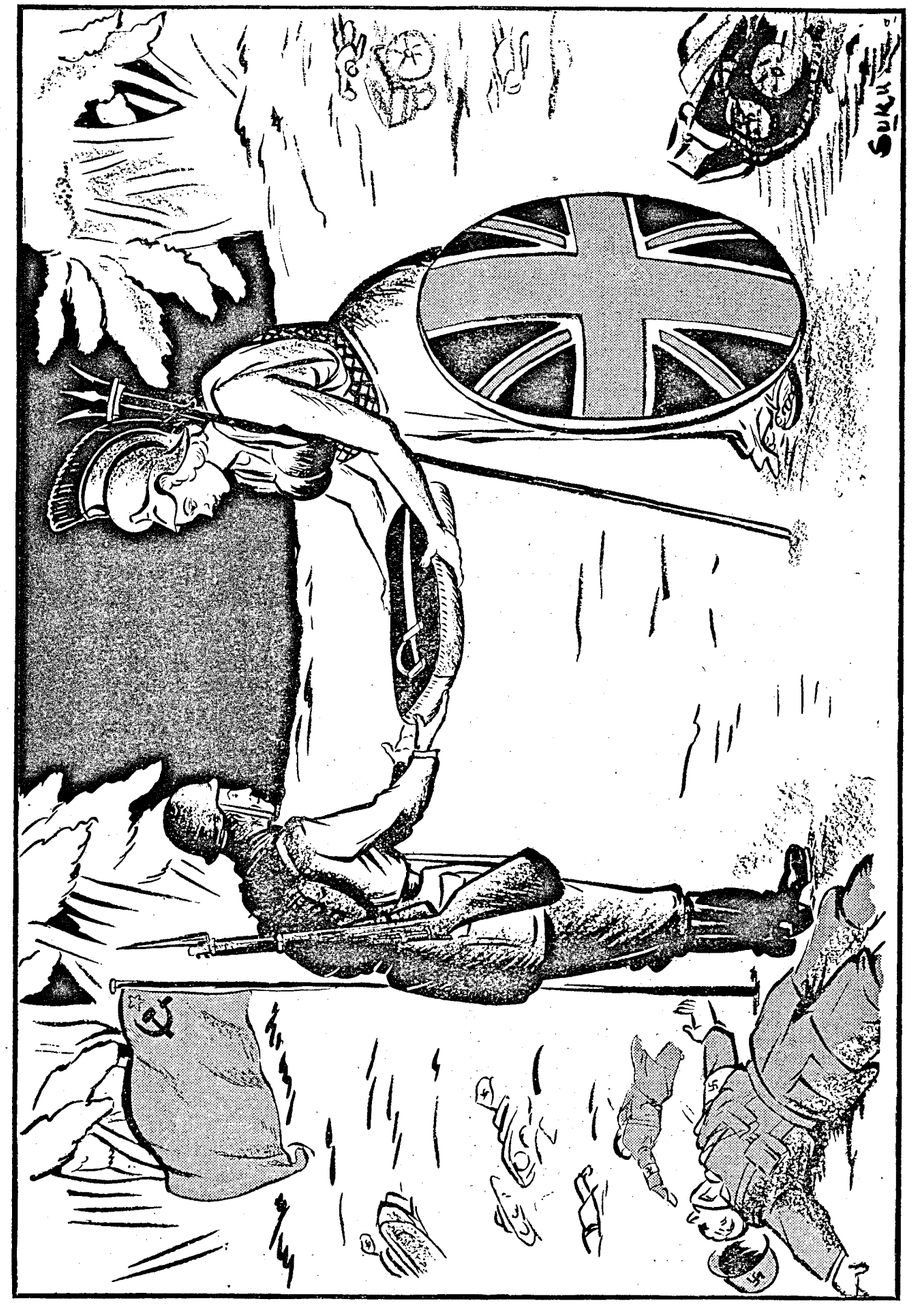
Do not touch a mine



A report has been received of an attempt by villagers to handle a mine washed up on the coast of Eastern India.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that by such action members of the general public incur the gravest risks. Mines are filled with high explosives, and during the present war the enemy has consistently disregarded the international convention under which mines must automatically become harmless once they start to drift. A mere touch may cause a disastrous explosion, with serious loss of life and damage to property nearby.

The outside of a mine is a metal sphere with a diameter varying from 2 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. It is usually black, but becomes discoloured in the sea. If of the contact type, it has projections or horns, pressure on which will lead to an explosion. Members of the general public noticing such an object in the sea or on a beach should not thereafter go within 500 yards of it. They should report its presence to the nearest civil or military authorities, who will have it examined by an expert and, if necessary, rendered harmless before removal. By taking these precautions the public not only ensures its own safety but also enables the authorities to obtain what may be important information.



THE SWORD OF HONOUR

Russia: Before the Spring Thaws

By LORD STRABOLGI

THE whole military situation in the world war is dominated and conditioned by the fighting on the Russian front. The weight and strength of the offensives launched by the Russian army have surprised everyone outside a small inner circle of the High Command in Moscow. For the second time, the German General Staff has been taken by surprise. The first occasion was in the opening stages of the German invasion in the summer of 1941, when the power of manœuvre, tactical efficiency and weapon strength of the Russian armies were more formidable than German experts had anticipated. This miscalculation was shared by most of the professional experts in other countries, belligerent or neutral.

What has happened, and is happening, is that the Russian counter-offensives this winter have been far more successful than those 12 months earlier and have already had results of the greatest importance. While the losses of 18 months' hard campaigning have weakened the German armies, Russian armies are now stronger and better equipped. Russian generals have solved many of their supply difficulties and have greatly improved their tactical methods. Russian artillery and field mortars have been strengthened and, added to a successful supply of tanks and aeroplanes from United States and Britain, has given the Russian armies the necessary weapon superiority for the first time.

SUBSTANTIAL AIR SUPERIORITY

Perhaps, most important of all, the 6,000 aeroplanes sent to Russia from the United States and Britain, added to the greatly increased output of modern machines in Russian aircraft factories, have given the defenders substantial air superiority along the whole front over their German opponents.

At the beginning of the great Russian winter offensive last November, Axis forces on the Eastern Front numbered approximately 240 divisions, of which about 60 were from Italy, Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia and Finland. With the exception of Finnish divisions, which are known to be tired, all these satellite armies have ceased to exist as serious fighting forces. Rumanians, Hungarians and Italians in particular have been so battered and weakened that the remnants can now be used only on lines of communication.

Of 180 German divisions, 60 at least have been cut off or practically destroyed. In the first two months of the Russian winter offensive, 500,000 Germans have been killed and 200,000 captured as prisoners. Add to these the wounded—and at least one-third of the German armies on the Russian soil has been put out of action.

SITUATION SIMILAR TO OCTOBER 1918

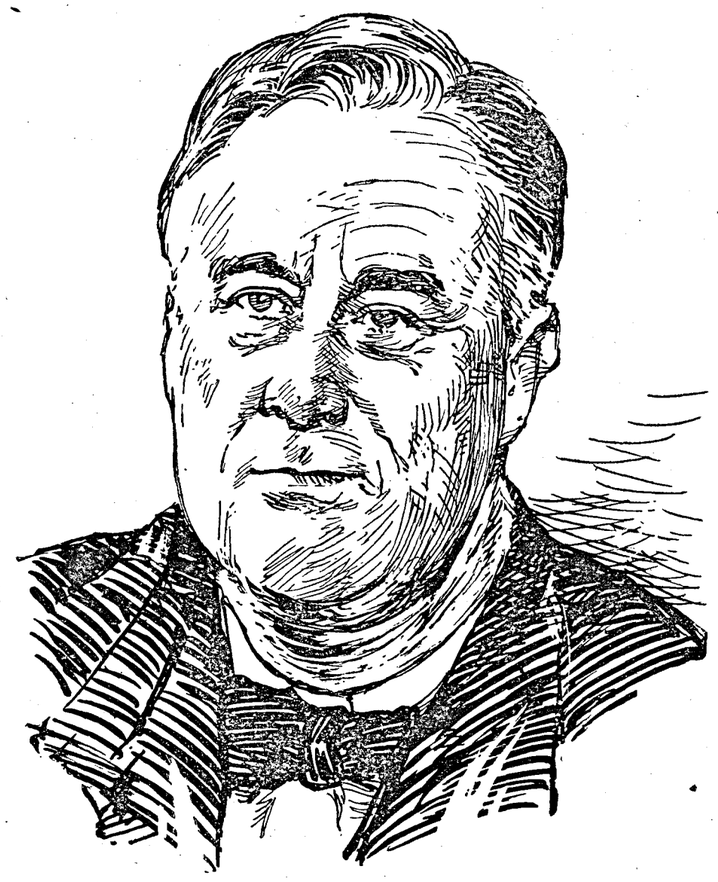
The material losses have been equally heavy. There have been captured or destroyed 6,000 tanks, 12,000 guns and 1,000 aeroplanes. It is noteworthy that the Russian air, weapon and numerical superiority has enabled a number of heavy attacks to be launched along this whole long battlefront between the Baltic and the Black Sea. We thus have, on a much larger scale, a situation on the Eastern Front similar to that in October 1918, when, on the Western Front, in France and Belgium, Marshal Foch, in supreme command of the British, French and American armies, was able to pursue comparable tactics. Then, in the autumn of 1918, aerial, weapon and numerical superiority enabled the French Marshal to jab or thrust at a number of points simultaneously, thus preventing the German generals from concentrating their reserves to meet successive threats. Marshal Hindenburg had no alternative but to retreat along this whole line with the object of falling back on the Rhine.

Behind the German armies was a good system of roads, railways and canals, and the retreating distance was not too great. Nevertheless, Hindenburg failed to extricate his army, and the German Government was advised by the German General Staff to sue for an armistice on any terms.

Now the difficulties of winter retreat along the whole Russian front would be far greater owing to weather conditions, comparative lack of communications and the far heavier equipment of a modern army which would have to be evacuated or abandoned.

If the pressure of the Russian armies can be maintained, such a retreat may be forced on the German High Command. It has already begun in the Caucasus and, to a certain extent, on the central front. It could well end in a great military disaster. It is known that the Germans are using such reserves of fresh troops as are available to reinforce their hard-pressed armies on the southern sector of the front, but it is doubtful if these are enough to save the situation. Very great events may happen on this Eastern Front before the spring thaws.

Earned Lasting Admiration



"TO-DAY the great successes on the Russian front have led thousands of Americans to throw their hats in the air and proclaim victory is just round the corner. Others among us believe in the age of miracles. They forget there is no Joshua in our midst. We cannot count on great walls crumbling and falling when a trumpet blows and peoples shout. It is not enough that we have faith and that we have hope. Washington himself was the exemplification of the other great need. Would that all of us could live our lives and direct our thoughts and control our tongues as did the father of our country.

"THE enforced retreat of the enemy had cost him heavily in men, supplies and territory and especially in morale. Such achievements can only be accomplished by an army that has skilful leadership, sound organization, adequate training and above all determination to defeat the enemy at no matter what cost and self-sacrifice. At the same time I also wish to pay a tribute to the Russian people from whom the Red Army springs and upon whom it is dependent for its men, women and supplies. They too are giving their full efforts to the war and are making the supreme sacrifice. The Red Army and the Russian people have surely started Hitler's forces on the road to ultimate defeat and have earned the lasting admiration of the people of the United States."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

A Major Russian Objective

By MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES GWYNN

HISTORY can show few if any more complete reversals of an apparently desperate situation than that of Stalingrad. The victory is as important strategically as it is sensational. It has deprived the Germans of a force of a size that no army, however numerous and strong, can afford to sacrifice. Moreover, it was undoubtedly largely composed of their best troops. It releases an equally large or possibly a larger Russian force which may within a short period be available for attack in the current operations, or can be withdrawn as a reserve for employment after the spring thaw—that is to say at a time when the troops which have been fighting throughout the winter may need relief for rest and reorganization.

Hitler's sacrifice of the lives of many thousands of his soldiers in order to keep railway communications through Stalingrad closed for a few more days affords proof of the immediate strategic importance of the opening of the lines.

The moral effect and the loss of prestige entailed by the disaster may have incalculable results. That an army of that size should have found itself in a hopeless position must shake the confidence of the German people in the Higher Command; that Field Marshal Paulus and some 90,000 of his men refused to obey Hitler's 'no surrender' order will no doubt be remembered by other Germans called on to fight to the last.

ASTONISHING FEATURE

Why Paulus's Sixth Army made no attempt at a sortie to join hands with the relief forces from Kotelnikov still requires explanation. That the Russians without railway communications and by circuitous routes were able to interpose adequate forces between the Sixth Army and the relief forces is not the least astonishing feature of the whole episode.

We have still to see what will be the fate of the German Caucasus army. It may be presumed that a considerable proportion of its original elements has already been extricated through Rostov. Evacuation across the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Straits seems to be the only remaining way of escape and ice conditions will increase its difficulties. Certainly immense quantities of equipment will have to be abandoned. Replacement of the losses they have suffered in material must be a major problem for the Germans for it will throw a desperate strain on the railway communications. What they will not be able to replace are the great numbers of experienced officers and non-commissioned officers, even if they can fill the depleted ranks from one source or another.

* * * *

In this winter campaign the capture or the interruption of railway communications is the main object of a strategic manœuvre. Lateral railways especially are essential for the movement of reserves of an army, waging as the Germans are a defensive struggle. The importance of the capture of town depends largely on the extent to which they control the railways.

Army of Thinking Men

"It lies to the credit of the Soviet military authorities that they early grasped the need for the education of the rank and file. They created an army not of automatons but of thinking men full of initiative."

—MR. ATTLEE.

THE PROUD PRIVILEGE

It has been the proud privilege of the Russian army to be the first to demonstrate to the world that this Nazi German army is no better than the army of the Hohenzollerns, that it relies principally upon surprise attack on unprepared populations for its success and that, when it meets a force properly equipped and led, it can be utterly defeated.

—Mr. DUFF COOPER.

Brilliant Victories

★ ★

"I was overwhelmed with joy by the news of the continued successes your army has achieved during the past few weeks. The successful recovery of the big cities and the annihilation of the enemy forces foreshadow the collapse of the Axis gangsters and further facilitate the execution of the United Nations' plan for counter-offensive. These brilliant victories were wholly due to the gallantry of the soldiers and people under your able command.

ON the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Red Army Day, I, herewith, convey to you our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for your further victory. It is our belief that only through the destruction of the military might of the Axis partners in the East as well as in the West, can a lasting world peace be established. Hence the mission of the United Nations is one and the same, and the victory is indivisible.

I have confidence that your country and my country will co-operate in the spirit of mutual assistance in laying the foundation for a world justice and peace at an early date."

—GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, in a message to M. Stalin.

Defender of Stalingrad

A Sketch of Rodimtsev

MAJOR-GENERAL Alexander Rodimtsev, defender of Stalingrad, learned the art of street-fighting side by side with British soldiers. He fought in Madrid during its long siege by the Fascists, for the Government of Spain. His companions—volunteers like himself—were members of the International Brigade which included among its numbers many Britons. Month in and month out, the young Russian, with volunteers of many other nations, held the suburbs of Spain's capital against a numerically superior and far better equipped foe.

Rodimtsev went back to the Red Army with knowledge of tactics in close fighting, which Marshal Timoshenko, his supreme Commander, gave him an opportunity to demonstrate when the German legions swept up to the gates of Stalingrad.

Rodimtsev is a son of the Revolution. He is now 36, and remembers the Czarist days only vaguely. His father was a revolutionary working man who took active part in the 1917 rising. Young Alexander, joining the Red Army—as several boys of his age did—in 1924, attracted attention for his soldierly qualities. He was brought to the notice of Marshal Shaposhnikov, one of Russia's greatest strategists, who was then head of the General Staff Academy. The clever young soldier became a cadet and graduated with high honours.

FOUGHT IN SPAIN AND FINLAND

Five months ago he was a full Colonel in the Red Army, having fought both in Spain and Finland. He was given the Gold Star of a Major-General and put in command of a Soviet, Guards Corps. Guards in the Red Army are given the name as an honour. Any regiment can become a Guards' regiment if it distinguishes itself sufficiently on the battlefield.

Rodimtsev, who shares with great men one valuable gift—he can command sleep whenever he likes and get along with very short hours—held his Guards in readiness at Stalingrad for the German onslaught that Timoshenko knew was on its way. One of his divisions held off two divisions of German infantry and a hundred tanks for ten days, and then counter-attacked. They annihilated their enemy and cleaned up that particular section of the city. He went to the north-west suburbs where he is standing to-day, and was put in charge of the defence of the workers' settlement.

UNORTHODOX TACTICIAN

Rodimtsev is an unorthodox tactician. He operates with small self-sufficient groups of men who have tremendous fire power. Another trick he learned in Madrid has been used devastatingly. He has allowed Germans to occupy whole blocks of buildings. Holding flank forces in reserve, he has then cut them off, having a number of small sieges within a greater siege going on at one time. His troops with their great fire power and his tunnellers with their dynamite have done the rest.

Rodimtsev is an unmarried, squarely built and briefly spoken young man. He has proved that the lines of determination on his clean-shaven face mean something.

Stalingrad: Stay-put Women

ALL through the siege of Stalingrad some of the women stayed behind, cables the *Daily Herald* Moscow correspondent.

One with two little girls, aged three and five, lived in the no-man's-land. She popped up from a hole in the ground while I was touring the desperately contested grounds of the Red October Factory.

"My home was over there," she said, waving her hand towards the pounded streets.

For a time it was not too difficult behind the Soviet lines and she could make herself useful by doing small jobs for the troops like washing. Then the tide of battle swayed over her head and she was between the German and the Russian positions. She had a little food saved up but it did not last long. At night she had to venture out periodically to carve pieces of flesh from dead horses.

I met another of the stay-put women at the top of a Volga cliff down which a wooden ladder led to her headquarters. She was standing at the entrance to the cave hanging out a line of washing with two children looking on. "I have been here right through the battle," she told me. "I reckoned it was safer to stay than to risk crossing the river under fire. Besides I could do laundry work for the staff."

The Battle of House 21-A

THIS is the story of what happened in a house in a suburb of Stalingrad—No. 21-A. It is in a broad street of large houses with gardens and an avenue of young poplars—a quiet, peaceful scene if it were not for the craters in the road, two burnt-out German tanks up against a broken stone wall, and the barricades.

This is the first line of the front. No. 21-A is a fine four-storey house which would be comfortable enough if it were not for the fact that a corner has been sliced off by a bomb and that the windows and doors have been blasted by explosions. This is a house where for nine days a battle has been raging. Sub-Lieutenant Svetkov with a small group of men is holding it, and the house opposite is held by Germans. The Sub-Lieutenant told a *Pravda* correspondent the following story of the house :—

In mid-September the Germans concentrated on the outskirts of Stalingrad a powerful force, and captured this street. They built defences, but Russian guards attacked by night and cleared the street. In house 21-A they found many German dead and in apartment No. 3 on the second floor they saw the body of an old woman covering an 18-months-old dead child. Before she died she gave her name and told the terrible story of the house. When the Germans attacked the house she, her daughter, and grandson were alone there. When the Russians counter-attacked, a German officer came into the room and shot into the boy's bed. The old woman ran towards him and gripped his hand. The German turned the revolver on her and fired three times. The girl was taken away by soldiers.

A CHILD'S TOY

As he told the story the Sub-Lieutenant jumped excitedly to his feet and took from his pocket a small toy. "This is what I found in the boy's hand," he said : "I am keeping this, and I will never forget that little boy." He said that when the guards captured the house they built defences in all directions and placed machineguns to dominate the cross roads. The next morning the Germans counter-attacked. From the corner windows, in trenches, and behind barricades the guards awaited the attack. Twelve heavy German tanks carrying shock troops came down the street.

A violent battle broke out at the narrow neck of the street. Russian grenadiers coolly waited for the tanks. They fired at them, and five were burnt, but the others advanced. The Russians had no cartridges left for their anti-tank rifles. Moving swiftly from window to window they carefully chose the moment to throw their grenades. Three more tanks stopped, but a fourth continued to come forward. From the ground-floor windows the guards used automatic rifles against German storm troops. All their anti-tank weapons were exhausted.

Then one tall fellow took an anti-tank mine, held it firmly to his chest, and threw himself under the tank, crying : "You won't get through, I won't let you." The machine came to a standstill and blew up. Three tanks remained, and smashing through the barricade they came straight towards house 21-A. They were met by a rain of petrol bottles. But some storm troops jumped from the tanks and reached the door of the house and fought on the staircase. While other Russians built a barrier of furniture across the first landing one Russian lay flat on the stairs keeping the Germans at bay.

DEFENDERS OUTNUMBERED

The defenders were faced by thrice their numbers. Five men on the first landing, with no munitions save what was in their rifles held their fire till the enemy clambered on to the barricade. Here the Germans were held, but other Germans climbed up the fire escape and attacked from behind. The Russians got to the floor above, placed a wounded man on the balcony, and again faced the Germans who were edging up the stairs throwing grenades before them. As the grenades were lobbed at them a Russian jumped and caught them and roaring with excitement, flung them back.

This was more than the Germans could stand, and at nightfall they retreated to the ground-floor. The next morning they again tried to get control of the whole house. They began by tossing mines through a large staircase window, but when the shock troops again tried to break their way upstairs they were met by carefully chosen shots from behind the barricade.

The Russians' situation had grown desperate. Their cartridges were spent. The guards began to prepare themselves for a hand-to-hand struggle. Suddenly from somewhere above there came excited shouts. Russians from the next block, clambering from roof to roof, had reached 21-A just in time. Using grenades they forced the Germans downstairs, and soon the whole house was again in Russian hands. This attack cost the Germans 52 soldiers and officers.

Lieutenant Svetkov at the end of his story turned to his men and took the toy from his pocket. "I have a little four-year-old daughter," he said, thoughtfully. Then, going to his machinegun, he fired two long bursts at the house opposite. The Germans replied. Mine explosions shook the house. "When I think of the Germans I can't control myself," he said. "I shake; my hands itch, and either I have got to shoot or throw a grenade or use the bayonet."

In such houses the defenders of Stalingrad fought with the same bitter hatred.

The Times.

Dramatic Capture of von Paulus

By WALTER KERR

NOT far from this city of the dead Stalingrad, Field Marshal Friedrich von Paulus, Commander of the destroyed German Sixth Army, is a prisoner in an unpainted, winter-beaten peasant hut.

I saw him when he stooped to pass through the doorway out into the snow-covered yard. His lean, drawn face was as grey as his hair. He is 52 but looks 65, and he is six-feet-four. His thin lips gave him a hungry look. His right eye, part of his right cheek and the right side of his nose twitched, making it apparent that he is suffering from a nervous affliction.

Near the warm little hut, in which he is living with his Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Schmidt, and his Adjutant Colonel Adam, were other prison homes guarding some of his Corps and Division Commanders. They were a miserable-looking lot, one with a monocle, some with saber cuts, and all but a few trying to live up to a moving picture conception of the German General.

I talked with Chief Lieutenant Fedor Yelchenko, 21, the Ukrainian boy, who captured von Paulus.

IN A DEPARTMENT STORE

When I saw von Paulus, he was wearing a grey rabbit-fur hat and a long grey overcoat without medals or decorations of any kind except the epaulets of a Colonel-General. He did not want to talk and the only words he said were, first name "Friedrich", and age "52."

Von Paulus was captured in the basement of Stalingrad's big department store, the Univermag, early on January 31. The southern group of the two German forces, who were cut off and surrounded within the city, made their last stand here.

The store is in the centre of the city in the large Square of the Heroes of the Republic. Nearby are the remains of a theater, the Intourist Hotel, a Red Army building and a museum.

The square was surrounded by the Russians of Colonel Ivan Burmakov's brigade. Von Paulus was in the store's cellar, with General Schmidt, Colonel Adam and Major-General Raske, who commanded the Southern group. The Russians knew that they were there for the night before they captured three Majors who disclosed the position.

AN ULTIMATUM

During the night, Colonel Burmakov sent an ultimatum. There was no answer. Now, I will let Lieutenant Yelchenko tell his story. He is a husky little fellow from Uman near Kiev. He said:

"The Germans kept on shooting so, at seven o'clock, we opened up our artillery and mortar fire. After 15 minutes of this, General Raske sent out his Adjutant and an interpreter. He said his big chief wanted to talk with the Russian big chief. I said, 'I'm the big chief here. Take me to your man.'

"We started towards the gate, but the Germans in the courtyard yelled that the entrance was mined and showed us another way in. I had 15 men, including two other officers. We got into the cellar and saw that it was jammed with soldiers trying to escape our mortar fire.

"We almost had to fight our way through the crowd. The officers showed us the room but said that only one man could go in. I wanted my 15 men to come in too. I thought, 'After all, they are Germans in there. I don't like the idea of going in alone.' I insisted and they let two men come with me.

"Inside I saw Raske and Schmidt. I said, 'Where's von Paulus?' They said they were negotiating in the name of von Paulus."

A MEMORABLE EVENT

"This anniversary cannot fail to be a memorable event to every soldier no matter of what nationality. The Red Army's extraordinary achievements represent in many respects the most magnificent war effort the world has yet seen."

—GENERAL MACARTHUR.

RUSSIA'S SECRET

"What is the secret of Russia's great military effort? Consuming patriotism, unshakeable determination, selfless endurance beyond belief, supreme leadership and masterly organization."

—SIR JOHN ANDERSON.

Stalin's Order

NOT a single enemy soldier must remain on Russian soil after this summer.

This is Stalin's order. And the Russian General Staff, to attain it, is elaborating plans for a gigantic summer offensive which will surpass in size and intensity anything that has been seen before on the Eastern Front, declares the *Sunday Express* Stockholm correspondent.

Three million soldiers, equipped with the most modern arms are now being trained in Russia's interior, he says, for the special task of dealing the *coup de grace* to Hitler's exhausted forces.

This terrific army, commanded by experienced officers, consists chiefly of the classes called to the colours during the past 12 months and includes mechanised and armoured units, air force, artillery and paratroops. The men are being trained in the Urals and Siberia. In two or three months they will be ready to move to the front.

According to Russian reports, the present offensive is expected to come to a standstill with the arrival of the thaw, when the country will be turned into a sea of mud making operations by mechanised units impossible. The lull in big-scale operations will start at the end of April on the southern front, and in the middle of May in Central and Northern Russia.

A NEW OFFENSIVE

Four or six weeks later, the writer predicts, a new Russian offensive will be launched before Hitler can marshall his forces to make a last attempt to recapture lost positions.

British and American supplies are expected to play an important role in the offensive. The Russians have already made necessary preparations to assure safe arrival of this war material. During the past months tremendous work has been carried out all over Russia in connection with the new Alaska-Siberia northern supply route, which is much less exposed to enemy air and submarine attacks than the one used last summer. All ports on this top of the world route have been enlarged, 60 meteorological stations have been established and scores of airfields built.

A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT

"These victories are a great encouragement to the United Nations and inspiration to every man who loves liberty."

—MR. SUMNER WELLES.

Shooting of Russian Children

FROM "*PRAVDA*"

STEP by step the Red Army is forging ahead. Soviet villages and towns are being liberated. With tears of joy in their eyes the people come out to meet the Red Army men, their own dear liberators. Children, our pride, our joy, our future, warmly embrace them.

After words of ardent thanksgiving, the people begin to tell bitter stories of German crime. Not a single village captured by the Germans is free from their bloody traces. Infuriated by their failures at the front, they wreak their bloody vengeance on the peaceful population. They spare nobody.

Here is a protocol which freezes the blood. In a hamlet called Overensky in the district of Stalingrad, a Hitlerite officer mislaid a packet of cigarettes and the suspicion fell on some children. One of the Germans alleged that he had seen the boys playing with cigarettes. The Germans know that the dearest possessions of every Soviet citizen are his children. They broke into the cottages, rounded up the boys, beat them brutally with sticks and rubber truncheons and kicked them with their heavy boots before the eyes of their parents. Then they dragged them through the streets like chained dogs and pushed them into large open trucks.

ON REVOLUTION DAY

This was on November 4, 1942. For three days they kept the children in trucks and let them go hungry and cold and beat them till blood ran several times daily. On November 7, 1942, when the whole Soviet Union was celebrating the great Socialist Revolution, the German Commandant drove the people of Overensky on to the village square. Through an interpreter, he announced that the shooting of boys would now take place. "The relatives now have permission to weep over them," he added. Someone shouted. The Commandant declared through the interpreter that if he was not satisfied then all the inhabitants could expect to be executed and the hamlet burned down.

A car approached. German officers from other garrisons were coming to the square. They alighted smiling, rubbing their hands. They had come to watch the execution. They bustled about preparing their cameras. Then a large car containing children drove up to the square. It stopped and the boys were brought out. They could hardly stand. Their faces were covered with bruises and open wounds.

BRUTALLY TORTURED

Read this protocol signed by Captain Khankin Silkin, representative of the Lapichevsky Rural Soviet, Semyonin, father of two boys and other local inhabitants:

"On the day of the 25th anniversary of the October Revolution, they began to bring out children already brutally tortoured and tied them together to be shot. They were brought out to the accompaniment of laughter and noise of drunken Germans surrounding them. In this way the following were shot: Vanya Makia (11), Vasya Yegorov (14), Kolva Gorin (12), Alesha Semyonin (12), Artem Semyonin (14), Kolya Yegorov (12), Senya Manzhin (12), Mikofor Nazarkin (12), Kostya Golovlov (14), and Yemelian Safonv (12). During the shooting the boy Kostya Golovlov shouted to the Germans 'All right, shoot us, reptiles. All the same my father and our Red Army will pay you out for us and for everything.'

"This crime against children concerning which the present protocol is drawn up was perpetrated by the German Commandant Lieutenant Friedrich Guck and the interpreter."

The Sword as a Symbol

The sword is the most highly honoured of all weapons, a symbol of military dignity and authority, and it is the instrument with which the monarch confers knightly honours.

There are four swords used at the Coronation of a British Sovereign: (1) the Sword of State properly so-called, (2) the Curtana, the Sword of Mercy, which is pointless, (3) the Sword of Spiritual Justice, & (4) the Sword of Temporal Justice. The Sovereign is girt with the first, while the rest are carried before him.

The great heroes of the world are depicted as the proud possessors of swords, each having a particular name and quality of its own. Arthur's sword was Escalibar, Cæsar's Crocea Mors, and Charlemagne's Joyeuse and Flamberge. Mark Antony had his Philippan, Hildebrand his Brinnig, Oliver his Haute-Claire, Orlando his Durindana, Roland his Durandal, Rogero his Balisarda and Siegfried his Balmung.

Masterly Strategy

"NEVER in all its long, proud history has the German army sustained such unmitigated disaster as the Red Army has inflicted upon it in the battle of Stalingrad. Hitler has been outgeneralled, outmanœuvred and outfought. We have had one bit of really good news lately.

"TO-DAY the armies of the Soviet Union have forced him to stand before Germany as the man who is personally responsible for the slaughter of over a quarter of a million of the best of his own troops. In three months the Red Army has conquered all territory wrested from it by the Germans during the summer last year and much more besides, for the Red Army has driven into the minds of the German people the lesson that German troops can be defeated and hurled into the confusion of retreat. We are proud that our own Eighth Army taught Rommel that lesson too. Hitler's grand army like Napoleon's has found that there is deadly risk in a trial of strength against Russian patriotism, against the Russian peoples' capacity to endure the sternest sacrifice and against the great spaces of the Russian motherland.

"ON this anniversary we pay tribute to every department of the Red Army, to the High Command under the supreme direction of M. Stalin himself for their masterly strategy, to the Generals in field for its brilliant execution, to junior officers of every rank for their gallant and skilled leadership of troops, to non-commissioned officers and men for their stubborn endurance in adversity and ardour with which they have swung over to the offensive, to the gallant men of the Red Air Force and to all those responsible for overcoming the appalling difficulties of communications and supply. Not the least I think this country would wish to pay tribute to the deathless courage of the guerilla forces of the Soviet Union.

"IN May last, we signed here in London the Anglo-Soviet treaty of alliance. We are not only agreed to work together for the utter destruction of the Axis in war, we are agreed on the broad principles which will underline our collaboration in peace. To-day we salute the Red Army, the true successors of those who fought against Teuton knights in the days of Alexander Nevesky, against the would-be conqueror Charles XII, against the Grand Army of Napoleon. We salute and mourn their gallant dead. We look forward to the final victory that will be won together."

—MR. ANTHONY EDEN.

Russia's "Land Battleships"

AT a railway siding in Moscow I saw the nearest thing to a land battleship that exists. It was one of the Soviet's newest armoured trains.

The train was standing in snow-covered tracks; it looked a powerful and sinister weapon with machine-guns poking out at its sides and long baralled guns projecting from its turrets.

There was a Russian General to show me the works. He was General Andre Georgievich Chernov, who told me that he had fought in an armoured train during the civil war when the White Guards were besieging Stalingrad, then known as Tsaritsyn. Armoured trains played an important part in the civil war, he said. "There were many of them in the first battle of Stalingrad," he continued, "though they were neither as powerful nor as well-armoured as this one."

He pointed to the armoured plating on the train we were inspecting. I saw that it was in two layers separated by about an inch. The outer layer was about an inch and a half thick and the inner layer was about an inch thick.

"You see, we were protected against almost anything except direct hit from a heavy shell or bomb," said General Chernov. "In the old days many of our armoured trains had only light protection. Most countries considered the armoured train out of date years ago and they were hardly ever mentioned in military journals; but because of our civil war experience the Red Army persisted with them and improved them. In this war we have put them to such good use that the Germans are imitating us and are also building armoured trains." General Chernov explained that because of the great distances to be covered in Russia and the nature of the country, there were special advantages in armoured trains—Godfrey Blunden in *Evening Standard.*

Rostov: Tactical Ascendancy

THE Russian capture of Rostov is a feat of utmost moral as well as material importance, says the *Daily Herald* Military Correspondent.

It shows that the Russians have established so complete a tactical ascendancy that the enemy can no longer count on holding any place however strongly fortified and stubbornly defended against the enveloping movements which the Russians have now employed with unvarying success.

Their prolonged resistance at Rostov was not that of a rearguard fighting for time only, but that of a garrison whose orders were to hold out at all costs.

PARTISAN UPRISINGS

The *Herald* Moscow correspondent cables that as they retreat in South Russia, the Germans have got to cope with partisan uprisings behind the front. These are now sweeping the entire population of many Ukrainian villages into the work of preying on communications.

In one village near Voroshilovgrad when the news came of the Red Army's advance in the neighbourhood, the whole population armed themselves with sporting guns, crowbars, scythes and every kind of makeshift weapon and fell on a German lorry; their ambush was so effective that they captured the radio apparatus, 10 lorries of ammunition and quantities of rifles. Armed with these they developed their operations yet more devastatingly.

Madras Thanked

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has received from Sir Stafford Cripps the following message:—

"My sincerest thanks for further gift of £7,500 from people of Madras. We in Britain are deeply conscious of India's part in our struggle and we appreciate the very generous assistance which comes from Madras. —*Stafford Cripps.*"

"STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH".—Two V.C.O.'s of Q.V.O. Sappers and Miners, tell a large crowd of Madras workers, how the munitions and supplies they have turned out have been used against the enemy.

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

19th Feb.—There was slight enemy activity near the south-east coast of England.

Goebbels, speaking in the Berlin Sports Palast, said: "We have got to act and that without delay, quickly and thoroughly. In the east, we are at the moment living through a military trial."

20th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked Wilhelmshaven and also railway and canal targets in Belgium and France.

The Gestapo, faced with the danger of invasion from the east, ordered all peasants of full German blood to be armed.

One E-boat was destroyed and another damaged in the North Sea.

According to reports received in Zurich, Germany's total casualties in the war amounted to approximately four million.

21st Feb.—Two German aircraft flew over the coastal districts of north-east Scotland dropping bombs at two points.

The Royal Air Force bombed Wilhelmshaven. It was disclosed that United States aircraft destroyed 24 German aircraft in two days in raids on Dunkirk and Saint Nazaire.

22nd Feb.—The Royal Air Force heavily attacked the Deschimag ship-building yard in Bremen.

The Chinese Military Mission from the United States arrived in Britain.

23rd Feb.—The need for the speedy opening of a second front in Europe was urged in the House of Lords by Lord Beverbrook, former Minister of Aircraft Production.

25th Feb.—A telegram from President Kalinin accepting the King's offer of the Sword of Honour for Stalingrad was received by the King on February 23.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

19th Feb.—Madame Chiang-Kai-shek arrived in Washington on February 17. She warned a joint session of the United States Congress of the power of Japan. "The peril of the Japanese juggernaut remains."

Mr. Stimson announced that Lieut.-Gen. Walter Krueger had been relieved of the command of the Third Army and assigned to head the new Sixth American Army. [This Army comprises United States troops in Australia and New Zealand area.]

—Madame Chiang-Kai-Shek said ouse that Americans could help t by sending more implements of

Mr. E. R. Stettinus, United States Lease-Lend Administrator, stated that lease-lend shipments of war supplies to the Soviet in January were 10 per cent greater than in December.

Mr. Donald Nelson, Chairman of the War Production Board, said in a speech at Baltimore: "Before many months, we shall have enough production to smother the Axis."

22nd Feb.—President Roosevelt, in a letter published by the *Post Dispatch*, stated: "We have now turned a corner in the war."

23rd Feb.—Mr. Robert Patterson, United States Under Secretary of War, said at the American Labour Press Association Conference that the war was unlikely to finish in 1943. It was likely to end in 1944 or 1945.

President Roosevelt in a message to M. Stalin on Red Army Day, said: "On behalf of the people of the United States, I want to express to the Red Army our profound admiration for its magnificent achievements unsurpassed in all history."

24th Feb.—The 45,000-ton battleship **Iowa,** the mightiest warship of the United States Navy, was commissioned seven months ahead of schedule.

25th Feb.—To a gallup poll question, "Is Japan or Germany our Chief enemy?" put to Americans, 52 per cent replied Japan.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy-occupied village of Yegyanbyin on Akyab Island. Bombs were dropped on Japanese troop positions at Donbaik. Monywa aerodrome was attacked.

21st Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese aerodrome at Toungoo. Two villages on Akyab island were also attacked. United States aircraft attacked railroad rolling stock at Ywataung in Central Burma.

22nd Feb.—Hundraj M. Parwani, a prominent Congressman of Sind, who returned to India after an adventurous escape from the Japanese in East Asia, said: "Japan's professions of friendliness and goodwill towards India are insincere and false, meant only to deceive India. Conditions in India would, in the event of a Japanese victory, be a hundred times worse than at present."

23rd Feb.—The Royal Air Force bombed Port Dufferin and Myingan in Burma. American aircraft attacked enemy headquarters at Sahmaw. Buildings, barracks, oil tanks and railroad installations were destroyed. Japanese forces pushing into Yunnan from Burma, failed to cross the Salween river.

24th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked enemy objectives at Akyab and Panktawagyi. Bombs were dropped on and near the runaways of Mingaldon airfield in Rangoon.

25th Feb.—An attack representing the first Japanese offensive against a United States base was made on an American air-base in Assam on 23rd February.

Both Chinese and Japanese suffered heavy casualties in the fighting that raged for five days on the west bank of the Salween river.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19th Feb.—Two Axis planes were over Cyprus. United States bombers raided Cagliari and two other places in Sardinia.

Allied forces evacuated Feriana and Sheitla. Kasierina was occupied by German troops. American forces evacuated three air fields in southern Tunisia.

Advanced elements of the Eighth Army reached Madenine and attacked the southern flank of Rommel's forces.

20th Feb.—The Eighth Army captured a Mareth Line outpost. A major battle was imminent in Southern Tunisia.

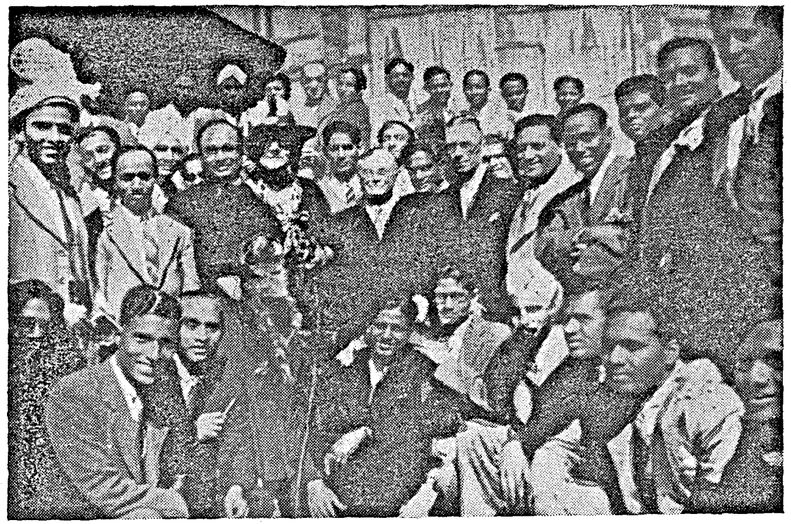
21st Feb.—Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, announced that since the battle of El Alamein, 136 Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean and 112 damaged.

Allied forward positions in the Ousseltia Valley were withdrawn. General Sir H. Alexander took over his command of all land forces in Tunisia.

Remarkable and Inspiring

"For Stalin's courage, his ceaseless labour, his leadership and his consummate skill, we and the world owe the greatest debt of gratitude. In the dark days of retreat, his leadership of the Soviet Union was as remarkable and inspiring as that of our own Prime Minister in the days of Dunkirk. I can pay no higher tribute to any man than that."

—SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS.



The Secretary of State for India, the Right Honourable L. S. Amery, with the Bevin Boys at their hostel in Lethchworth.

General Catroux was appointed permanent Liaison Officer between the Fighting French and General Giraud.

Sgr. Gayda, known as Mussolini's mouthpiece, made a statement in *Giornale D'Italia* that the Axis would continue resistance till a negotiated peace became possible. Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the American Office of War Information, described it as "the first appeal for peace by a leading Axis statesman."

22nd Feb.—The Allies advanced west of Madenine. The Axis took Kasserine Pass in Southern Tunisia.

23rd Feb.—A strong enemy attack north-west of Kasserine was successfully held. The enemy suffered casualties and tank losses south of Sbiba. The Eighth Army continued its advance towards the Mareth Line.

Two medium-sized enemy supply ships were destroyed, a large tanker probably destroyed and damage inflicted on three other vessels by British submarines in the Mediterranean.

24th Feb.—Rommel's drive from the Kasserine Pass to the key town of Tala in Central Tunisia was blunted.

25th Feb.—The Axis formed a new line three miles from Kasserine.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked forecast Axis evacuation of the Ukraine.

The Russian troops were within 12 miles of Taganrog. There were furious battles in Don basin. There was street fighting in Novorossisk.

20th Feb.—The Red troops captured the town and railway station of Merafa. The railway line and highway from Kursk to Kharkov was completely cleared of the enemy.

21st Feb.—Krasnograd was taken in the Ukraine. The Russians launched a three-pronged drive on Orel. Lubolin, an important place 25 miles west of Kharkov, was captured. The Red Army broke through two more defence lines—one beyond Kursk and the other west of Krasnodar.

The Chinese people's Foreign Relations Association sent the following message to M. Stalin and the Red Army: "Your victories have laid the foundations of Allied victory."

In a message on the Red Army Day to M. Kalinin, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, His Majesty the King said: "To mark the profound admiration felt by myself and the peoples of the British Empire, I have given commands for the preparation of the Sword of Honour which it would give me pleasure to present to the City of Stalingrad."

22nd Feb.—The Russian army made rapid strides in the drive against Dniepropetrovsk, Poltava and Sumy. Pavlograd was captured. The Russian armies operating from Voroshilovgrad and Rostov joined forces.

—According to the Stockholm
t of *New York Times*, Finland
d to sue for a separate peace.

The Germans abandoned Dneipropetrovsk. A German transport and a cargo ship were sunk by a Soviet submarine in the Polar Sea. A bitter battle was being fought for Orel.

Yugoslav guerillas put more than 50 German tanks out of action in a few days and killed about 1,500 German and Italian troops.

24th Feb.—The Russians captured Sumy, an important railway junction in Ukraine, and advanced west of Kursk.

In an Order of the Day, Stalin said: "In three months the Red Army has cleared of the enemy the territory of Voronezh and Stalingrad, regions of Chechenoingush and other autonomous republics . . . Mass expulsion of the enemy from the Soviet country has started."

25th Feb.—The Red Army continued to advance in Ukraine and the Germans threw in huge reserves.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19th Feb.—Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, the new Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East, warned British troops in Iraq and Persia that much hard fighting "will fall to your lot."

21st Feb.—M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, in a broadcast speech declared that a real alliance had been established between Britain and Turkey.

M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, announced that Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, had become an honorary member of the Turkish "Alkerli" (Turkish Cultural Society in foreign countries for Turks living abroad).

22nd Feb.—The new Persian Prime Minister, Ali Soheily, in opening the new Parliament, declared that the new Persian Government would spare no effort to increase the spirit of sincerity and mutual understanding governing Persia's relations with the Allies.

* * * *

SHIPPING

22nd Feb.—The United States submarine *Argonaut* was lost.

23rd Feb.—Two United States passenger cargo ships were sunk in North Atlantic with heavy loss of life.

* * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

20th Feb.—The Vichy Government closed all departments adjoining the Spanish frontier.

21st Feb.—All men, women and children of Turkish minorities living in Bulgaria near the Turkish border were sent to Dobrudja as a precautionary measure.

22nd Feb.—Warnings that total mobilization must be carried out without delay or Germany would otherwise resort to economic and even military sanctions were delivered to the Italian, Rumanian, Hungarian and Slovak Governments.

Some 170 bars and night clubs were closed down in Prague to release labour for the war front.

Five Danish industrial and other establishments working for the Germans were partly or completely destroyed by sabotage.

23rd Feb.—The Germans occupied Croatia.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

19th Feb.—United States aircraft attacked Japanese positions in the Shortland Islands. A Japanese airfield at Kahili on the south-east coast of Bougainville Island was also attacked.

There were fierce battles in North, Central and South China. Japanese troops landed on Kwangchowwan, a French Colony, 250 miles west of Hongkong. The Japanese launched extensive offensives in Hupeh, Kiangsi, Kwangtung and Kiangsu provinces.

20th Feb.—Sydney had an air raid alert. One enemy plane that appeared was driven off.

21st Feb.—United States naval forces shelled Japanese positions on Attu Island in the Aleutians.

22nd Feb.—Allied aircraft dropped 23 tons of bombs on Buin and Faisi on Japanese airfields.

Mr. Ralph Seard Bard, United States Assistant Secretary for Navy, declared in a speech at Baltimore that the Japanese would be blasted out of their strongholds and beaten into submission.

Sweden relinquished her territorial rights in China.

23rd Feb.—Lieutenant-Commander George Porter of the United States navy disclosed that undersea boats were within "spitting distance" of the Japanese homeland.

Munda in the Solomons was bombed by United States aircraft.

24th Feb.—An Allied convoy shot down five out of eight attacking Japanese torpedo planes. Japanese positions in Kiska were raided.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1943 No. 26

Above all Strife and Bitterness

IT is a fine thought that in the midst of this world upheaval where brutality and fear, misery and starvation, follow in the wake of the Axis invaders, the Red Cross stands forth as something above all strife and all bitterness, unassailed and unassailable

I appeal to you with all earnestness to show your gratitude for all that the Army, the Navy and the Air Force have done, and are doing, day in and day out, often without food, and without sleep, battling their way through virgin jungle, over dangerous seas, through barren desert, and through storms, so that we may be spared the horrors of invasion

Try and visualize the powers of endurance, the courage and humour which are required to get them through, and let us say to ourselves that anything we can do and any sacrifice that we can make are insignificant in comparison with what they are doing for us

H.E. LADY LINLITHGOW, in a broadcast inaugurating the All-India Red Cross Week

CONTENTS

	PAGE
British Army Week Tributes .. .. } No easy way out for Germans .. .. }	2
Running Commentary	3
The Mareth Line	4–5
A Nation of Disillusioned Cynics	8
Battle to open up Europe	10
Blockade of Axis Europe	12
The Axis has a Shipping Problem too ..	12
Hard Struggle before Germany	13
Keeping Axis Disarmed After War	13
Countering Nazi Plunder	14
Turkey: Lease-Lend Aid from U.S. ..	15
Turkey and Britain: A Tradition	16
Turkey's Communications	16
Russian Armies' Unimpeded Progress ..	17
Taking Risks with Their Eyes open	18
Guerilla Warfare on Assam-Burma Border.	18
Guadalcanal—A Review	19
Research for Larger Food Supplies: Grants for sowing better rice	20
Diary of the War	21

British Army Week Tributes

"We have other armies all over the world waiting to show that the Eighth Army, for all its achievements, is not unique. These other armies are hoping to emulate, not only their own brothers, but the valiant Red Army as well."

—SIR JAMES GRIGG, *War Secretary, in a broadcast from London on Feb. 28.*

◆ ◆ ◆

"To-day we face the East. Not defensively, not with any doubt or apprehension, but aggressively, with confidence and determination."

—FIELD-MARSHAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL, *in a message to Sir James Grigg.*

◆ ◆ ◆

"The troops in Persia and Iraq are now in fine fettle, eagerly awaiting the moment when they may meet the enemy."

—GENERAL SIR HENRY MAITLAND WILSON, *in a message to Sir James Grigg.*

◆ ◆ ◆

No easy way out for Germans

"We have never declared or desired the extermination of the German people, but in the light of the barbarous ferocity with which they are, as a deliberate act of policy, exterminating the Poles and Jews in occupied countries and deliberately wiping out those elements in subjected nations which are the spearpoint of national resistance, there can be no easy way out for the Germans."

—MR. C. R. ATTLEE, *Dominions Secretary, in a speech in Manchester on Feb. 28.*

Running Commentary

Marked Change in Jap Propaganda—Note of Realism.

There has been a marked change in the nature and trend of Japanese radio propaganda recently. There is an air of realism, and there are signs of genuine apprehension at the increasing capacity of the Allied powers to smash the Japanese war machine. No longer do we hear so much the usual boasts of Japanese military strength and power. A Japanese writer, SEIICHI TANAKA, writing in the *Japan Review* in November 1942, said,

> "The building of potential strength is more fundamental than the immediate destruction of the opponent."

Similar sentiments were expressed by SIGEYOSI MATSUNAE in *The Kaizo*, another Japanese magazine. The writer points out that Britain's productive power since the Napoleonic Wars had increased enormously.

> "Her consumption of cotton," he says, "rose 600 times and the production of iron 500 times in one-and-a half centuries."

The main theme of Japanese propaganda now is to emphasise the Allied strength and rouse the Japanese to greater effort. "You must make every effort for the fulfilment of your country's aims"—this is the recurring theme. In a radio talk at Palao in the Japanese mandated islands in the south, a postmaster, in a talk in Japanese, said,

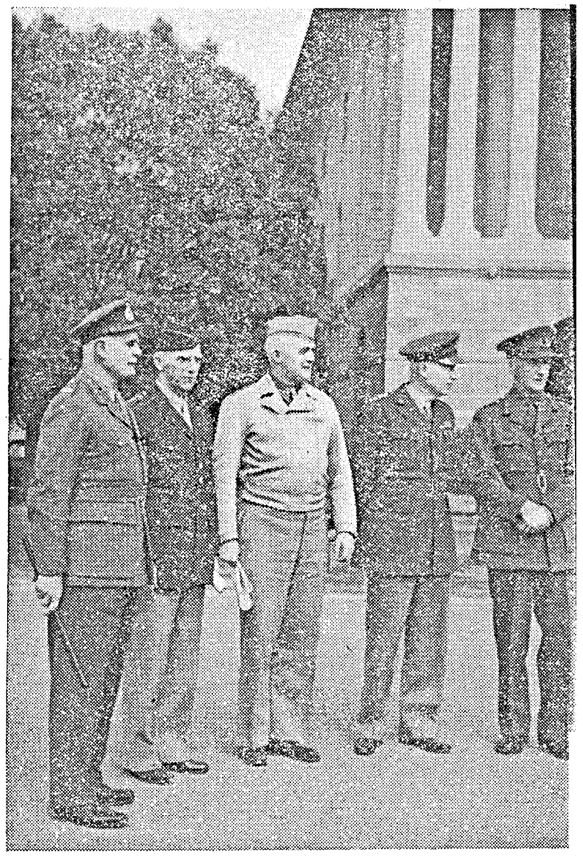
> "Japan is engaged in a war of life or death. In a modern war, especially in the initial stages, there is no difference between a soldier fighting at the front and a man working at home. .....All the Japanese people who are not actually carrying guns must work with the same determination as if they were on the battle-field."

The sense of realism seems to be so pronounced that the Japanese Government even introduced a Bill "for the guidance of speech, newspapers and overseas propaganda." The Tokyo broadcast says,

> "The strictest control was unavoidable. The present war would decide the destiny of Japan. Only one way is opened for the Japanese people—to win the war. For this reason the Government is taking every precaution to prevent mistakes in speech and information. It is hoped that the people will assist and take every precaution."

It is well-known that strictest regulations are already in force in Japan, and to them have been added some more.

(*Continued on page* 6.)



ANGLO-AMERICAN ARMY OFFICERS MEET IN DELHI.—After conferences at the Secretariat, New Delhi, India, on February 1, 2 and 3, the main confreres lined up for their pictures. Left to right: Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell; Lieut.-Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, commanding all United States Army troops in China, Burma and India; Lieut.-Gen. H. H. (Hap) Arnold, commanding the entire United States Army Air Forces; Lieut.-Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding the entire Service of Supply for the United States Army; and Field MarshalSir John Dill.

THE MARETH LINE

GENERAL SIR H. R. L. G. ALEXANDER

GENERAL BERNARD MONTGOMERY

☆

GOOD news comes from Tunisia : The Eighth Army has pierced the defences of the Mareth Line at several places. Heavy bombers of the Allied air force had been pounding ROMMEL'S positions along the line, with a view to helping GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S forces start the fresh offensive. It is stated that the day-and-night air offensive to which the enemy positions were subjected was reminiscent of the sustained battering at El Alamein before the great break-through, which led to the expulsion of the Axis forces from Egypt. The village of MARETH itself was the principal target area for Allied bombers. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent with the Eighth Army reports that Allied air attacks are on a big scale. He says that the tempo on the Mareth front is increasing with great bomb bursts at night and fierce artillery exchanges during the day. He also points out that the Axis forces are building new positions and greatly increasing their anti-aircraft guns.

Main Defence Zones

THE Mareth Line, it may be stated, was built on the pattern of the Maginot Line. It consists of three main defence zones, which run for thirty miles from the Mediterranean to a 1,600-foot range of hills called MATMATAS. The Mareth village which lies well within the main defences, is regarded as the pivot of the line, the main position of which blocks the twenty-mile gap between the salt marshes which are nearly part of Lake Jerid, and the sea. It is impossible for heavy vehicles to cross the marshes and therefore it is extremely difficult to outflank the line from the west. The sea coast itself is too shallow for landings from sizable ships.

THE Mareth Line itself consists of a string of fortified positions which have been cut into the desert rock and, wherever necessary, reinforced with concrete emplacements. There are concealed guns, underground living quarters, telephones, and underground water-supplies drawn from the Mareth oasis. The protection for the defence positions include barbed wire entanglements, pill-boxes, tank traps, machine-gun nests, and of course the usual mines. It is stated that these defences are some nine to ten miles deep.

Rommel's Plans

WHAT is ROMMEL likely to do ? Will he put up prolonged resistance along his defence positions, or will he abandon the Mareth Line altogether and join VON ARNIM'S forces with the object of concentrating on defence of the tip of Tunisia with all the united strength of the Axis forces in North Africa ? For, so long as Germans can deny the Allies the key-posts of BIZERTA and TUNIS, the North African coast cannot be used as a springboard by the Allies.

BUT it all depends on the progress of events in the central sector. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent with the First Army in Tunisia reports that American engineers have entered Feriana, which is 28 miles south-west of Kasserine. The capture of Kasserine Pass on February 25 is described as a resounding victory of the Allied forces over Rommel's troops. The future developments in the central sector depend on Allied ability to keep the enemy on the move. The object of the Allies is to cut the enemy communications and sever VON ARNIM'S forces in the north completely from those of ROMMEL in the south. The battle in Tunisia itself is thus one of communications.

As regards the northern sector, the situation has not materially changed.

Not an Easy Task

THOUGH the position on the Mareth front shows some signs of deterioration for the Axis, it is as yet too early to expect that there will be a collapse. ROMMEL'S retreat into Tunisia has, to all intents and purposes, brought about the merging of the two Axis armies. In his great retreat westwards across Libya, ROMMEL was able to take with him a number of base garrison troops and also considerable equipment at depots such as Tobruk, Derna, Barce and Benghazi. It is estimated that ROMMEL has some 50,000 men. This, combined with VON ARNIM'S forces which number 75,000, makes the total German troops in Tunisia come to about 120,000 men. It is not an easy task to clear a well-equipped army of 120,000 men from its last stronghold, which is so close to the main base of supplies.

Battle for Tunisia : Prospects

THE Battle for Tunisia is, therefore, likely to be long and hard, though ultimately there can only be one end to it. It is a very important battle, on the speedy outcome of which depends the early launching of a Second Front in Europe. The Axis must be pushed out of Tunis and Bizerta before any attempt can be made by Britain and America to invade the Continent. HITLER knows this only too well, and that is why he has diverted a very substantial part of his dwindling strength for the purpose of defending his positions in North Africa. His object in doing so is to delay the Allied attack on occupied Europe as long as possible. By merely keeping the Allies engaged he will be preventing, to a certain extent, the despatch of troops and supplies to Russia, which at present would be required for the operations in North Africa.

General Alexander's Appointment

THE appointment of General Alexander in immediate charge of the operations, as General Eisenhower's deputy, has been welcomed by *The Times*. He comes on the scene, says the paper, " at a time of disappointment. But he has already turned a defeat into a resounding victory at the other end of the Mediterranean." " A less dramatic reversal of fortune than he achieved at El Alamein ", adds *The Times*, " if brought about with the speed of which he is master, may determine the whole course of the war, not in Africa, but in Europe."

ALL eyes are on the Mareth Line, and on Tunis and Bizerta. The unity of Allied command and the firm determination of the Allies will no doubt bring about the utter collapse of the Axis, but time is of the essence of the thing. It is to be hoped that General Alexander and General Montgomery will repeat their successes in the Western Desert in the last outpost of the Axis in Africa.

☆

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3.)

Production of Planes: Japan's Difficulties. Why has Japan decided to drop its boastful tone and regulate its propaganda in such a distinctive manner, both at home and abroad? The reason is apparent. Japan is experiencing considerable difficulty in the production of planes, training of pilots, etc., and this fact cannot be concealed. Replying to a question about training of pilots, TERAGIMA, the Japanese Minister for Communications, said, according to a Tokyo broadcast in Japanese on February 16:

> "Every effort was being made to train them. . . Short-term courses are being considered. Further, in all schools and colleges, preparatory courses on the art of flying will be opened to make youths air-minded."

Another broadcast in Japanese said,

> "The Government is also planning to equip all schools and colleges with model planes and practice planes to give special flying education to the students."

Yet another broadcast referring to the production of planes, said,

> "The Hodogaya Chemical Industries Company, Ltd., were honoured by the Ministry of War for their valuable services to the Japanese war front. Conquering all *difficulties* the Company succeeded in producing the quantities of chemicals demanded by the military authorities for aeroplanes."

The word "difficulties" deserves to be noted. To ease her difficulties, which are considerable, Japan is trying to exploit Manchuria further. A Batavia broadcast in English on February 10 reported that a mysterious new alloy had been discovered and that this would help in the solution of aeroplane production problems. It added,

> "Nippon is now in a position to obtain a more than adequate supply of aircraft metal from the unlimited supplies in Manchuria."

The President of the Manchuria Industrial Development Corporation stated that Manchuria's aircraft production had increased in the past two years and that she can produce aluminum shells by cheap and abundant electric power. In other words, the Japanese exploitation of Manchuria is still further increasing in its scope and intensity.

* * * *

Cotton not Sufficient for Japan's Needs. Among other problems facing Japan is that of cotton. According to a Japanese home broadcast on February 15, KISHI, the Japanese Minister of Commerce and Industry, replying to a question in the House of Representatives, said,

> "As the quantity of cotton now available to Japan is insufficient to meet her total demand, the Government will mobilise every possible source to solve the problem. China will be the centre of Japan's cotton producing scheme."

From this it will be clear that the indigenous economy in South-Eastern Asia has been dislocated by Japan's drive for more cotton.

Among other articles which are preeminently necessary for the successful prosecution of a modern war are petroleum, iron, cooking coal, manganese, copper, nickel, tungsten, etc. Japan has to import all these articles from outside. Before the war Japan imported 3,200,000 tons of pig iron, 2,224 tons of manganese, 256,000 tons of nickel, 11,300 tons of copper, and so on. These materials used to come from countries, whose markets are now closed to Japan.

* * * *

Shipping: Japan's Policy of Sufficiency of Subject Areas. As regards shipping, Japan faces a serious problem. A Tokyo broadcast in Japanese on February 10 stated that the shipping situation was far from being easy and much effort was being taken "on the salvage of sunken ships." A Batavia broadcast in English on the same day said,

> "Manchuria can be trusted with providing Nippon's domestic shipbuilding yards with all the necessary materials, including iron, without importing them."

Japan wants that her subject areas should each become a self-sufficient economic unit so as to avoid undue strain on Japan's merchant shipping. There are a number of other statements of Japanese origin, which clearly show that the policy of self-sufficiency in occupied Asia is due mainly to the difficulty of Japanese shipping position. On August 2, *GENERAL HOMMA* said,

> "The economy of the Philippines which would eventually become an integral part of the greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, for the present must become self-sufficient in food and daily necessities."

A Tokyo broadcast said on July 8th,

> "In order to establish self-sufficiency in the most important foodstuffs in the Malayan Peninsula, the Japanese military authorities have decided to cultivate rice fields, wherever possible."

The Japanese shipping difficulty was further made clear in an article in the *Koelnische Zeitung* on July 9th.

> "The Japanese Government," it said, "has not yet made a decision as to whether it is desirable to transfer a certain proportion of industry to Southern areas, in order to save shipping space . . . "

Thus it will be seen that Japan is experiencing considerable difficulties in regard to certain problems, the most important of which is that of shipping.

* * * *

Japan and Germany: Consolation in Comparative Suffering. It is of interest to note that in the home broadcasts the Japanese have been asked to derive some consolation and strength for themselves from a knowledge of the conditions in Germany. A Tokyo broadcast said on February 3,

> "The people in Japan do not suffer so much as the people in Germany do. People in Japan should be thankful for them. The German people are not optimistic concerning the present war, but, after their bitter experience during the previous world war, they are determined to win this time at any cost."

This line of propaganda adopted by Tokyo has, it will be seen, given up the usual trumpeting forth of Japan's greatness as a military power and is pitched in a minor key which reveals Japan's difficult plight.

* * * *

Red Cross Week: Lady Linlithgow's Appeal. The All-India Red Cross Week (March 1–7) was inaugurated by Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow by a broadcast from A.I.R., Delhi. Her Excellency paid a tribute to the great work done by the Red Cross and appealed for funds to carry on the good work. The main objects of the Indian Red Cross are (1) to benefit the sick, wounded and convalescent of the Services, and (2) the provision of comforts for Indian prisoners of war. It has been estimated that the cost of supplies for war hospital beds for 1943 comes to Rs. 84 lakhs and that parcels for Indian prisoners of war will cost approximately Rs. 70 lakhs. If sufficient support is not forthcoming from the public, Her Excellency said, the efforts of the Red Cross will have to be curtailed—"The people of India will not allow this to happen—You cannot allow this to happen. . . . Give generously now and contribute regularly for the duration of the war, thus ensuring the steady income which alone will enable the Indian Red Cross and St. John Ambulance to continue the great humanitarian work which only they can do." We strongly endorse Her Excellency's appeal and hope that the public will contribute generously to the Red Cross Fund.

THE FOUR PILLARS

The Red Army was founded in order to maintain the Russian people's right to exist under its own forms of social and political organization. By its endurance, its valour and its victories, it has established something more. On the four Powers that have proved strong enough to outride the storm of new barbarism rests the responsibility to make themselves into four chief pillars of the future world. The British Empire, the United States of America, the Chinese Republic and the Soviet Union are all communities representing widely differing forms of political and social faith, but they have learnt in the stress of battle that the ideals and the necessities that they share go deeper and they have the task of building up in the years to come, on the basis of these common ideals, a synthesis of practical relations in which diversities of expression can be reconciled. To such a synthesis the Soviet Union and Great Britain are now closely bound by their 20-year treaty of alliance.—*The Times.*

A Nation of Disillusioned Cynics

By W. A. SINCLAIR

[*Mr. Sinclair is not only one of Britain's most analytical students of enemy propaganda, he is in normal times a member of the philosophy department of the University of Edinburgh. Being a Scotsman and a philosopher he is also a moralist, and it is perhaps more as a moralist-philosopher than as a debunker of enemy propaganda that he writes here.*]

THERE is a point about Nazi education that I have been thinking over a good deal of late. I am inclined to think that its long-term results are going to be different from what was expected by foreign observers and expected by the Nazis themselves. In fact, I think that the tone of recent German Home propaganda shows that this unexpected consequence has come about already.

You know how the Nazis scrapped the old German educational system and how they set up a new one designed to make the Germans, especially German youths and children, into unthinking fanatics, into human machines that the Nazi leaders could control and direct for their own purposes. It looks to me as if the effect of all this has been to produce in the end not single-minded, whole-hearted fanatics full of zest, but something that is at first sight almost the opposite of this, namely, disillusioned cynics.

The system did produce single-minded, self-sacrificing fanatics for a time; but as the years went on, these manufactured fanatics found life losing its zest, and those one-time fanatics are now ending by getting no zest out of anything. Only the crudest material satisfactions seem to have any attraction for them now. This doesn't make the Nazis any the less dangerous. They are desperately dangerous to us still. But it is an illuminating change to study.

It is typical of what seems to be a general rule about the government of human society. If you have got complete political power over any given human society, and if you want to produce a specified result, you can generally produce it. But at the same time you will probably produce inadvertently other results which you did not want; which may be altogether different from the results you wanted; and which may in the end produce a situation the opposite of what you wanted.

STORY YOU MAY LIKE TO QUOTE

There is a picturesqué biological story that I often think of in this connection. It occurred in the dairy industry, in cattle breeding. The dairy farmers wanted cows that would be quiet animals as well as good milkers. The dairy farmers found that they could not make a profit out of cows, no matter how good milkers they might be, if they would not stand still but kicked over the milk pail or disconnected the mechanical milker. So the animal geneticists made a special study of the inheritance of docility in cows, and set about breeding cows that would stand quietly. They succeeded. They produced a very quiet and very docile breed. That was what they had expected. But they inadvertently produced another result that they had not expected; for the male of this quiet breed of dairy cows is the dairy bull, which is probably one of the most violent and incalculable and dangerous of all animals. The lion and the tiger are at least calculable in their tendency to attack men; the dairy bull is not. It may behave quietly for months on end, and then without any warning it may turn upon the man who has been feeding it, gore him, tread upon him, and deliberately kill him. This is what the geneticists produced as well as the docile cow.

This biological story, by the way, is one you may find useful to quote to unrealistic persons who blithely draw up plans which they assert will solve all human problems. These plans may well produce what their designers want—and a great deal more that they don't want. Human beings and human society are not so simple.

I think something like the cattle-breeders' experience is now coming upon the Nazi Government in its educational scheme. At first these schemes produced a state of mind in the young German that the Nazis wanted, but later the state of mind they produced was one the Nazis did not want, and which they are now finding unmanageable and dangerous.

This is a result that the mediative observer of human nature in general could, I think, have quite reasonably foretold, even though he had no experience of the particular case of Nazi Germany. Human nature seems to be so. It just seems to be one of those observable facts about human nature that may seem mysterious, but just are so—the same sort of mysterious fact about human nature as the observable fact that if you set out to pursue happiness, and happiness only, you don't get it. Happiness and contentment seem to be by-products of the pursuit of something else. Happiness seems to come as a by-product if you set out to do a job of work as your primary aim—at least, it may come in this way if other circumstances permit. It just doesn't come any other way. In a similarly mysterious way, the manufactured fanatics end as cynics. Why they should do so is another story. The observable fact is that they do.

Now, though we could have anticipated from our observation of the ways and works of man that men and women who are systematically drilled in a modern State as unthinking fanatics will end as disillusioned cynics; though we could have foretold this, the interesting point is that there is clear, factual evidence that this development is by now well advanced in Germany already.

You can see this very clearly from the present tone of German Home propaganda. As you know, whatever we may think of German Home propaganda from the moral point of view, there is no doubt that it is efficient where short-term results are concerned. As far as short-term results are concerned it works; because if it doesn't work the Nazi propagandists are promptly thrown out of their jobs. We don't find the Nazi Propaganda Ministry steadily sending out propaganda of a uniform tone to the German people for weeks or months on end if that propaganda doesn't appeal to the German people.

ONE DISILLUSIONED CYNIC TO ANOTHER

There has been a most remarkable tone in German Home propaganda of late. Ten weeks ago I was beginning to suspect that this change was, in fact, taking place. Since then this new tone has been practically standard. It runs uniformly through all Nazi Home propaganda. The Nazi Government is now appealing to the German people on the most crudely materialistic lines. The difference from the fantastically ideological propaganda of 1940 is remarkable. During the last few months the uniform tone of all Nazi Home propaganda, including the speeches of the Propaganda Minister himself, has been that Germany is not fighting about ideals or ideologies but is fighting for material gains only, and that the way to get them is to take them from other people.

Goebbels himself said in his last speech at Munich: 'We aren't fighting for lofty ideals . . . more important things are at stake: iron, oil, and wheat.' The impression you get if you listen to any one of the Nazi Home propagandists at the moment (I mean the impression you get from voice and manner, as well as from what is said) is that he is speaking as one disillusioned cynic talking knowingly to other disillusioned cynics. These propagandists are saying to the German people that they must go on fighting, because if they don't they will be cold and hungry; and they are also saying that being warm and well-fed and comfortable is all that really matters, and that ideals are humbug. It is very remarkable change.

WHAT HITLER SAYS ABOUT IT

When I detected the first signs of this coming change in the tone of German Home propaganda I was somewhat perplexed. Hitler's own theory of propaganda was, you know, quite the opposite of this. He said in *Mein Kampf* that the only way to keep the German people going was to make them believe that they were fighting for ideals, and he said that in the last war as soon as the German people ceased to believe they were fighting for ideals they collapsed. His actual words were: 'As long as the German people still thought they were fighting for ideals they held out; when they were made only to fight for their daily bread, they preferred to give in.' Hitler then went on to write that the German statesmen of 1918 were wrong in their policy of telling the Germans that they were fighting only for their daily bread. He said: 'These statesmen never grasped the fact that when a man starts fighting for economic motives only he does all he can to avoid death, since death would for ever rob him of the reward of his fight.' That is what Hitler wrote in 1924.

I wondered at first whether Goebbels was going off on his own on this materialistic line contrary to Hitler's propaganda principles. But things don't happen like that in Nazi Germany. If that materialistic tone had appeared for one week only it might have been a temporary vagary of Dr. Goebbels' alone, but a change in the whole tone of propaganda could not take place and be kept up for months without Hitler's approval. As the weeks have gone by I have become convinced that Hitler as well as Goebbels now think that the only appeal that will have any effect on the German people is this simply materialistic one.

This, for a time at least, did work. The young Nazis I used to know in Germany before the war, and the Nazi soldiers and airmen who were taken prisoner by us in 1940 and 1941, were fanatics. Hitler had succeeded in producing what he wanted to produce. But, unfortunately for him, the process does not stop there. Human nature is not like clay; it doesn't simply stay in whatever shape you pat it into; it goes on developing on its own. If you bring up boys and girls, men and women, as the Nazis have brought up the German people for the last ten years, then you can bring them to a condition of passionate, enthusiastic, zestful fanaticism. But they don't stay like that. That passes, and instead they come to have a feeling of futility, and they end as completely disillusioned cynics without standards of any kind, except the crudest materialistic ones. This seems to be what is happening now in Nazi Germany. All the evidence I have been able to accumulate from broadcast propaganda, from newspapers, from neutral travellers in Germany, and from other sources, confirms this.

On the short-term results Hitler's judgment seems generally to be accurate; it is on the long-term results that things turn out differently from what he expected—*Broadcast in the BBC's Empire and North American Services.*

Battle to Open up Europe

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

INFORMED opinion here regards the progress of the war from now on as largely a matter of progress in transportation.

Facilities have been completed to place Allied production far beyond the hopes of Axis production. Fresh American manpower is coming in by hundreds of thousands every month to add to the veteran Allied forces already in the field.

A year ago the Axis was deriding President Roosevelt's call for 8,000,000 tons of new shipping in 1942, saying that we would be several years building 8,000,000 tons. We built somewhat over 8,000,000 tons in 1942. We plan to do twice that or better this year, and will.

THE PROBLEM OF THE U-BOAT

That is the optimistic side. The pessimistic side is that a considerable number of ships built last year will go to the bottom of the ocean this year unless we are more successful in dealing with German submarines than we have been.

American officials regard the submarine as the only serious unsolved problem of the war. Even the submarine, devastating as it can be, will not be able to defeat the Allies but can only slow down the progress of the Allied offensive which will be taking shape in the coming months.

Following Tripoli, the war advances into a new phase. For all practical purposes, the battle for control of Africa is over. The Axis has been defeated in its attempt to break across the land bridge of the Middle East. Russia's powerful armies and the tenacious British Eighth Army under General Montgomery have ended the dangerous threat of a break-through in the Middle East. Russia has driven back the German pincers on the north, and the British in Africa have driven back the other prong of the pincers.

The battle for the Tunisia triangle is a new phase. It is not so much a battle for Africa as a battle to open up Europe. It is the Germans' first big defensive campaign in the west. Russia has already put Germany into defensive retreat in the east. Now Germany begins her real rearguard fight in the west.

QUESTION OF TIME

There is confidence in the High Command here that Allied resources will in time knock out the Germans in Tunisia. This confidence is qualified with reservations as to the amount of time that will be required, because of the transportation necessary to get our forces and supplies to the front in sufficient quantity.

Hitler took over from the feeble young republic on January 30, 1933. He has produced in a short time a nation as completely and efficiently mobilized for total war as has ever been seen. Hitler knew that the democracies were not prepared for war and were not even aware of the attack he was organizing. He had everything in his favour that an aggressor could hope to have.

But Hitler was never able to break through the iron ring. In three summer campaigns Hitler has struck his terrific blows—the first summer at western Europe and the last two summers in the east. With his mighty forces Hitler has inflicted severe wounds on the Allies. But they were not mortal.

Hitler begins his second decade as a murderous beast, surrounded but not caught, and in fact still dangerous to approach—but with escape impossible.

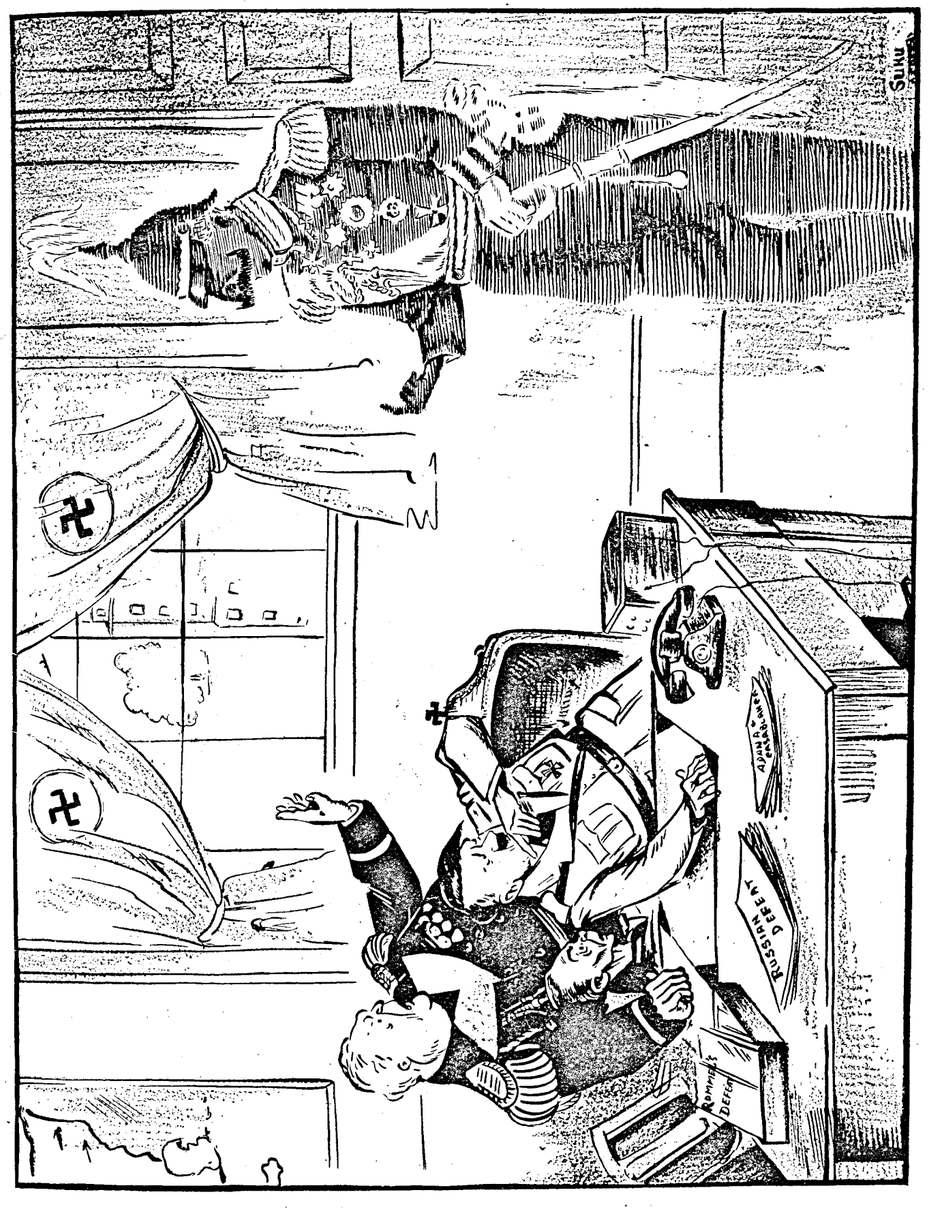
INDIA'S DESTINY

A REMARKABLE PARALLEL

[*The following is an extract from* "The Spectator," *November* 27, 1942. *The italics are ours—Editor,* Madras War Review.]

"The United States would not be in this war to-day if it still recollected the bitterness of its past relations with Britain. Irishmen, both North and South, have no reason to be particularly grateful to Britain so far as its recollection of the past is concerned. We in the North have, however, learned to forget and have chosen, with advantage to ourselves, the pathway of peace and progress. When our brethren in the South learn to eradicate the memory of past bitternesses and decide to walk in friendly co-operation with their fellows, then, and then only, will I have any hope of the successful removal of the dual partition which exists between the North and South and between Eire and Great Britain. *Such a solution, however, can only come from within and is obviously a matter for the people of Eire, who must decide their own destiny and make their own decisions.* To enforce those decisions, either upon North or South, will only lead to undesirable strife and make for still greater dismemberment.

THOMAS BAILIE, M.P., North Down."



DOO "N" ED!

Blockade of Axis Europe

THE Allied blockade of the Axis and Axis-occupied Europe is tightening, writes the *Daily Telegraph* naval correspondent.

The emergency measures resorted to by the enemy for running small quantities of vital supplies through the blockade are being countered. No fewer than three German blockade-runners have been intercepted by our naval forces during the past five weeks.

The first of these was intercepted in the Indian Ocean not far from Australia. She was an 8,000-ton ship and scuttled herself on being intercepted. Little more than a fortnight later the British Admiralty announced that a 5,000-ton ship attempting to run the blockade had been intercepted in the Atlantic.

On January 3, the Admiralty announced the interception of yet another blockade-runner in the Atlantic—a ship of about 10,000 tons.

It had been known for some time and has even been boasted of by the Nazis that they had instituted what they called a service of blockade-runners between Germany and Japan.

The importance of these blockade-runners to both Germany and Japan may be judged from the risks taken and the effort employed.

EVASIVE ROUTE

The evasive route which must be taken, if ships are to have any chance of avoiding interception, is about 23,000 miles, equivalent to a voyage right round the world.

There are few ships capable of that, so if the "blockade-running service" were ever to assume reasonable proportions fuelling facilities, presumably from other ships, would have had to be provided.

This running of the blockade even by occasional ships is of immense importance to the war potential of both Germany and Japan. Japan gets machine tools, ball-bearings and probably a number of German technicians.

It should be remembered that Japan has never built her own machinery, made her own machine tools or ball-bearings and is imitative rather than inventive, so foreign technicians are an indispensable prelude to new developments.

Germany gets from Japan rubber. It is estimated that even 7,000—8,000 tons of rubber would ease the German rubber problem considerably for several months. Germany is also seriously short of fats and she gets edible oils from Japan. She also gets jute, hemp, hides and Chinese tungsten which she uses to harden steel.

All these items are vital for war production of both Germany and Japan and they require comparatively small cargo space.

The Axis has a Shipping Problem too

WHILE shipping remains the United Nations' gravest problem, the enemy's shipping position has itself become very dangerous, observes Oswald Dutch. According to official British communiques, 6,180,000 tons of German and Italian shipping were sunk, captured or damaged from the beginning of the war up to June 1942. In the second half of 1942 German and Italian losses were estimated at another 1,300,000 tons. Hence the total shipping losses of the European Axis Powers already amount to 7,500,000 tons.

This figure is approximately equal to the total tonnage of the German and Italian fleets at the beginning of the war, says Oswald Dutch. At that time Germany possessed about 4,000,000 tons of shipping space (exclusive of inland shipping), and Italy 3,448,000 tons. It is true that Germany has seized part of the Norwegian, Dutch, French, Danish, Greek and Yugoslav fleets. The merchant fleets of these six States amounted originally to 14,170,000 tons.

According to statements by the Allied Governments (excluding the British Commonwealth and the United States), however, after accounting for all losses, about 7,350,000 tons remain in the service of Great Britain and the United States. About 4,000,000 tons were damaged or sunk during battles for these territories or at other times in the course of the war. A cautious estimate thus gives the total shipping from occupied territories now in German and Italian hands at 3,000,000 tons.

STRAIN ON ENEMY RESOURCES

The European Axis Powers need their fleet to maintain traffic in the Mediterranean, in the Baltic and the North Sea, as also in the Adriatic and along the whole length of the French coast. The total tonnage available for these purposes is the 3,000,000 tons just mentioned, and in addition any ships built on the Continent since 1939.

In the peak years of production, a total of 510,000 tons of shipping could be built in Germany, while in Italy the top capacity was 220,000 tons. German and Italian docks, however, as well as those of occupied territories have now been mainly turned over to the construction of submarines and repair of damaged ships. The total capacity of all continental docks for the construction of new merchant ships is estimated at 500,000 tons. The maximum increase in shipping tonnage that the Axis Powers could have registered in the past three years is thus 1,500,000 tons. If we add to this the 3,000,000 tons captured from occupied countries, we arrive at a total of 4,500,000 tons of shipping now at the disposal of the Axis—if anything, an over-estimate in favour of the Axis.

This is not the only shipping difficulty that the Axis Powers have to face. Their greatest losses have been incurred in the Mediterranean. It is, however, impossible to replace lost ships by sending craft from Western and Northern Europe, since the Straits of Gibraltar present an impassable obstacle.

Hard Struggle before Germany

THE German Press and Radio have now disclosed frankly to the public that "Germany is now sustaining for the first time a defeat of importance." Following the careful build-up of the last few days, Goebbels has now lifted the veil.

"It is a question of the future of us all," say Berlin papers with one voice. "For the army it is fight, fight, fight; for the civilians it is work, work, work."

The Stockholms Tidningen Berlin correspondent says that every German now knows what has happened in Stalingrad and what is going on along the whole Russian front and of the loss of Tripoli. Details and place names are still omitted but German readers and radio listeners are no longer left in doubt that matters are grave.

"Bolshevism or victory" is now the rallying cry, revealing Hitler's intention to frighten, first the German people and secondly, he evidently hopes, the rest of the world with the resurrection of the Red menace. It is admitted that Germany in the Caucasus is in retreat and that strategic points of value have had to be abandoned.

Through newspapers and radio, the Nazis now tell the public plainly the bitter fact that the era of blitzkriegs is over and that one hard and defensive struggle, which will demand all they have got to give, now lies before the German people with everything at stake.

Neutral correspondents declare that Berliners have maintained their normal apathetic manner after the recent cold douche of unpalatable facts.

Keeping Axis Disarmed After War

IT is a definite war aim that the Axis shall be disarmed and kept disarmed. President Roosevelt made that an emphatic point in his annual message to Congress, writes the American columnist, Raymond Clapper. When he said he had learned that peace could not be maintained by good intentions alone, the President was talking the practical commonsense that the Axis must be licked by force—which he now regards as a certainty—and that it must be kept from building up another war machine to make a third try for world conquest.

To keep the Axis disarmed will require action by the victor nations. Only the United Nations, co-operating, could hope to keep Germany, Japan and Italy from re-arming, as Germany did after the last war. No one can take the position that the Axis must be kept disarmed and at the same time oppose American participation in the responsibility for seeing that the Axis does not re-arm, says Clapper. Isolation would be telling Germany and Japan to try it again on the first favourable occasion.

POSSIBLE METHODS

President Roosevelt did not go into detail in his message, but military and civilian circles in Washington have been mulling over possible methods. The Axis countries would be forbidden to make aircraft or tanks, for instance, continues Clapper. United Nations inspectors would be assigned to check Axis industrial plants to make sure that parts were not being made surreptitiously. Any violation of the prohibitions against the manufacture of arms in Axis countries would bring quick punishment.

It must be a cardinal principle in any such enforcement that punishment be quick and sure. That is more likely to end trouble that a wavering, uncertain course. Japan in

Manchuria, Mussolini in Ethiopia, Hitler in the Rhineland, and Austria in Czechoslovakia gambled on hesitation and division among other countries. Because of that hesitation they got away with their aggressive moves.

REPUBLICAN LEADER'S WORDS

That is why people who want to see us stick together and stick with our allies to prevent the perpetration of another world war welcome the helpful words of the new Republican Party National Chairman, Harrison Spangler. He says that the American people will not be divided on world peace plans when the treaty is being written to end the war.

"People will want us to sit down with representatives of other nations," Mr. Spangler says, "and work out the best plan the brains of the world can devise to prevent another terrible war."

Mr. Spangler's words will undoubtedly encourage American men who are fighting the war, Clapper observes. Every man in our armed forces will fight harder with the knowledge that back home the leaders of the Opposition party as well as those of the Administration party are determined to follow through and not again boot away the victorious peace won at high cost behind the gun.

We expect to defeat the Axis as completely as Germany was defeated in the last war. But, as Mr. Spangler says, we must work out the best plan to prevent another such war, asserts Clapper. That will not be done unless we are in on it, and the Republican National Chairman recognizes this clearly in moving to bring his party into support of such efforts.

This is certainly the time to follow the old American tradition that politics ends at the water's edge.

Countering Nazi Plunder

VICTORY would be a mockery indeed, if it were not used to assure to the victims 100 per cent restitution by the despoilers. In the looting of the subjugated countries, the Nazis have been as fullblooded as in every other department of atrocity.

Modern history records nothing to compare with the calculated ruthlessness which has marked the pillaging of one after another of the occupied territories. We have it on the authority of Goering himself that whoever starves in Europe, it will not be Germans and we have irrefutable proof of the systematic way in which every conquered region has been stripped to feed the German war machine.

In many cases the restitution will involve the relatively simple, if laborious, procedure, as for example, the restoration of the scores of thousands of Poles and Slovenes who have been evicted without compensation from their homes, farms and factories.

A particularly odious feature of the whole organized banditry, now afflicting the helpless populations of Europe, is the evidence of careful planning in advance of occupation. In Russia, for instance, service battalions followed close on the heels of the German troops in order to make sure that anything lootable was efficiently collected and promptly despatched to the appointed reception centre.

Often, however, the Nazis have resorted to the most plausible disguises to conceal the reality of the plunder. These were abundantly exemplified in a pamphlet published a few days ago by the Inter-Allied Information Bureau on the penetration of German ownership into the occupied territories and the devious means employed to gain control over the local economic system.

In their new declaration, the United Nations make it clear that they have no intention of being hoodwinked by any legal fictions, however, specious. The reservation of the right to invalidate any transaction which can be traced, directly or indirectly, to German origin should afford ample scope for exacting restitution wherever it is due. It was also wise to give notice that the offenders will not be protected from disgorging their plunder or by depositing it in neutral countries—a practice which will become increasingly prevalent as the doom gathers round the criminals.—The *Daily Telegraph*.

SPACE SAVER

The double-tier bed, for Army use, is another introduction from the "Mysterious West" which has puzzled the Indian soldier.

Four corner pieces of timber, with one bed slung low and the top bed a few feet above it, it made its appearance in Britain early in the war.

The idea, of course, is to save space. If you have double-tier beds forty men can sleep in a space where only 20 slept before.

But one Indian soldier, looking around the vast stretch of desert which surrounded his barracks, said that there seemed to him to be plenty of space, but "may be in that land of mystery, the West, there wasn't so much room."

Turkey : Lease-Lend Aid From U.S.

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

THE whole economic interest of Turkey is still centred on the capital levy tax. The whole future of Turkish trade depends on its success or even on the eventual amendments which it might suffer. According to provisional figures, about £(T) 200,000,000 out of the £(T) 430,000,000 the Government had promised itself, has now come in. In the meantime, the original time limits set up for payment have expired, as have the various extensions given later.

Out of 60,000 people who had to pay this tax at Istanbul, only 20,000 have paid. This ratio is also expressed in figures: so far £(T) 100,000,000 of the expected £(T) 340,000,000 has come in at Istanbul. At Izmir—Smyrna—1,700 people have not paid and in Ankara about 600 people have not. The Turkish Government says that it is out to mobilize labour and it now seems clear that it will get about 45,000 people. Among these are many women who will be obliged to do "municipal work."

NORMAL EXCHANGE OF GOODS

The relatively mild winter has not interrupted railway traffic as it did last year, and the exchange of goods is normal. There is still a slight coal shortage in the larger towns like Istanbul and Ankara, but nothing like the shortage we had expected, because the weather has been exceptionally mild in Istanbul with little or no snow. The interior of Anatolia has suffered a bit, and especially the north and central sections, where this winter's earthquakes were felt. The work of reconstruction cannot be continued in the winter, but with the help of the Red Crescent, accommodation and relief for the homeless has been found.

Turkey has signed a series of agreements with Germany through the Turkish Eti Bankasi, which controls chrome and must deliver to Germany a quantity of 135,000 tons of chrome by October, 1944. The actual chrome production for the same period is estimated at 120,000 tons. Turkish deliveries, however, depend on German deliveries of armaments, which have to come in first, and then *pro rata* Germany can obtain chrome but has to ship it herself, whereas German goods have to be delivered c.i.f. Turkish ports.

There are two agreements by which this exchange of armaments with chrome is governed. One is the additional protocol to the Clodius agreement signed in October, 1941, by which Germany is bound to deliver about £(T) 16,000,000 of armaments, and the other is a new credit of RM 100,000,000 (about £(T) 60,000,000) finally signed in December last year but really of pre-war vintage.

As far as can be ascertained in Turkish circles, the Germans have delivered only £ (T) 2,000,000 worth of goods, as foreseen in a separate section attached to the Clodius agreement. This entitles them to something less than 12 per cent of the quantity of chrome they have asked for. For the moment, however, all the chrome stocks in Turkish possession on January 8 were turned over to Britain. That means that all the chrome Germany will now get must be the result of fresh work. It is not until March 31 that we can have a clear picture of what is happening.

SURPLUS TO BRITAIN

It is understood that after the fulfilment of these obligations Turkey will sell the surplus to Britain and so to the United States, where all this chrome goes. The surplus, however, is largely a matter of production. The Turkish Government thinks that it can double and treble production, but the main difficulty is transport from the mines to loading centres for lack of ships and goods trucks. One thing, however, is certain, and that is that Germany will not get much chrome by the time the war is over.

The coming year will see a great improvement in Turkey's air communications. Six large passenger aircraft have been ordered in the United States, it is believed—and they will provide fast services with eastern and north-eastern Anatolia.

On the whole there will be a series of improvements in Turkey's eastern international railway communications. It is hoped that the link with Iraq will be completed during this year and direct communication established between the two countries. The new coast line from Haifa in Palestine to Tripoli in Syria is already handling goods intended for Turkey and has improved the position at Iskendrun and Mersin, where the harbour facilities are still inadequate.

COMPLETION OF MOTOR ROADS

Having in mind the wear and tear of rolling stock, it cannot be said that the position has much improved during the last year. The few hundred freight cars imported from abroad have just replaced those which have had to be scrapped. The locomotive position, however, seems to have been partly improved, and there seem to be no great haulage difficulties across the Toros mountains. The completion of a series of motor roads has eased the local position in some parts of the country.

The Turkish Prime Minister has mentioned in an interview given to a British correspondent that war materials as foreseen in the

Anglo-Turkish Pact and in the Lease-lend Agreement are now pouring into Turkey and that for the last two months the position has been extremely satisfactory. Lease-lend materials are now coming to Turkey direct from the United States without the British guarantee and in the words of the Premier, "the agreement is working extremely satisfactorily." People in the streets of Ankara and Istanbul have already seen the first Valentines and Crusaders, and there are more to come. British and American instructors are now functioning at the Ankara Tank School.

Turkey and Britain: A Tradition

THE following comment by Deputy H. C. Yaltchin on the relations between Turkey and Britain is taken from the Istanbul newspaper *Yeni Sabah* :—

Our friendship with England constitutes the most important of our political traditions. Furthermore the existence and maintenance of Turkish sovereignty over the Straits, Eastern Europe and Anatolia have always formed one of the essential points of British diplomacy. "In the most difficult and critical times in our history the London Government was opposed to the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire; and if the disastrous treaty of San-Stefano was modified, it was due to their intervention and help.

During our visit to London, Mr. Churchill was told that Enver Pacha's son was there, and he expressed a wish to see him. During the conversation he said that he considered Enver Pacha a great patriot, though in the last war the dead general had entered the lists against the Allied Powers.

It is he British character to admire even their enemies, and if we like our British friends, it is because we appreciate this characteristic. Two nations who understand each other and admire each other—two governments who see their mutual interests in reciprocal help—can only have friendly feelings towards each other.

The Turco-British alliance is, then, for us, the product of this feeling and spirit of comprehension.

Turkey's Communications

TURKEY'S neutrality and the need for national defence have led to an extensive improvement of her system of communications during the last three years. The only remaining section of the Istanbul-Baghdad railway, between Mosul and Baiji in Iraq, and a line from Sivas to Erzurum were completed in July 1940. In August 1941, the survey of the projected line from Elaziz to the Persian frontier (575 km.) was concluded as far as Lake Van, the actual construction being completed up to Capakcur in February 1942.

Another line from Diyarbekir through Bitlis to Lake Van, with a ferry boat service across the lake to Van, was planned in May 1940, and work on the road-bed of the Diyarbekir-Cizre line, which will serve the recently discovered oilfield of Ramandag, was finished in February 1942 and rails laid as far as Saman, 70 km. from Diyarbekir. Surveys have been conducted for a line, to be called the Northern Line, from Erzurum to Istanbul.

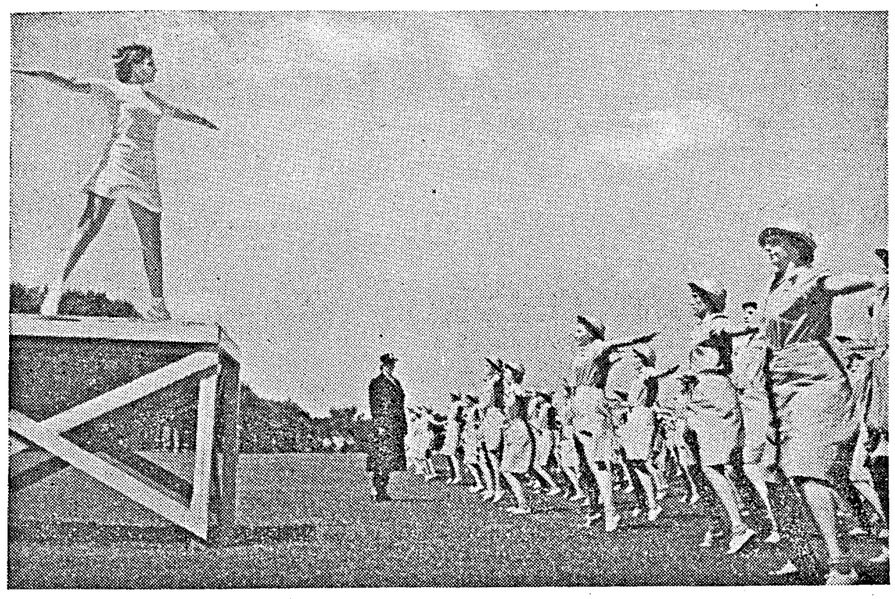
Simultaneously with rail development, there has also been an extension of road and air communications. Out of an approximate total of 3,000 km. of roads constructed under the Republic, 735 km. were completed during 1940, and the necessary credits were provided in the 1941 Budget for the road between Adrianople (Edirne) and Kirklareli to be thoroughly repaired and modernized.

The last section of the road from Trabzen through Erzurum to the Persian frontier and a motor highway between Istanbul and Ankara is scheduled for completion soon, and another road from Bitlis to Kurkaban is under construction. There is also a project for the construction of an asphalted road from Silifke via Mersin and Tarsus to Ulukisla. Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir and Adana are already linked up by an air service and a new service is contemplated to Elaziz where a modern aerodrome has been opened.

Italians' Attitude

"If the British win, we are losers; but if the Germans win, we are lost".

—A popular saying in Italy.



THE U.S. WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS TRAINS TECHNICAL EXPERTS FOR WAR SERVICE.—Under the watchful eye of the Physical Director, and led by one of their own number on the platform, a group of W.A.A.C.s do their setting up exercises, part of the daily routine at the training centre.—U.S. Office of War Information photo.

Russian Armies' Unimpeded Progress

AFTER nearly three months of winter operations and three months of continuous progress, when a good deal of expert opinion considered that at least a pause for reorganization would be necessary, the Red Army is still advancing, writes the *Times*.

More than that, it is ruthlessly penetrating vital points in the enemy's array and on his communication. One road and rail centre after another is being captured. Strongly fortified places which serve as supply centres and pivots for the enemy's manœuvre are being enveloped speedily and subdued.

Not merely is the defence being beaten down, fresh threats of encirclement on a pattern which has already produced brilliant victories are taking form. Russian fighting qualities and physical endurance, great though they be, would have been powerless to carry out a tithe of what has been accomplished without the support of the administrative machinery which has created astonishment by the results it is consistently obtaining.

SITUATION IMPROVED

Though the Russians are rapidly stretching their communications and getting farther from their original base, their situation has in some respects improved, because railways which were previously blocked at Kastornaya, Voronezh, Svoboda and Stalingrad are clear and in all probability largely restored by now. By road transport guns, ammunition and tanks, with their elaborate heavy accessories on wheels, are going up to the front through the snows. And snows are serving the Red Army well for lighter supplies because it had provided large numbers of sleighs.

The enemy on the other hand is evidently experiencing great difficulties with his communications. Only a short time ago, it was being pointed out how great was his advantage in the possession of the rail network of the Donetz basin. That has gone now or almost gone and the Russians are employing the network to threaten encirclement of the Germans in the eastern part of the basin.

SHORTENING OF THE FRONT

Since the opening of the Russian offensive and the envelopment of the German Sixth Army in front of Stalingrad, the enemy has never been able to concentrate an adequate reserve and so never has come within sight of stabilizing the front. The shortening of the front which is already very considerable has

still not yielded the reserve because it has been accompanied by vast losses including the complete disappearance of a number of formations and the evisceration of many others.

It can scarcely be doubted that the German High Command is anxious to shorten the line still further and at the same time to disengage its menaced forces from the Russian clutches.

As matters stand at present it looks as though the Germans will not succeed in evacuating the Donetz basin without leaving a long train of prisoners and booty behind them.

Taking Risks with their Eyes open

THE Red Army launched its great winter offensive by a double blow north-west and south-west of Stalingrad. Since then except for the small Novorossisk bridgehead in the western Caucasus, Stalin's Commanders have reconquered all the territory Hitler's army overran in five months of summer and autumn warfare.

In addition the Soviet armies have advanced at point after point beyond that limit and smashed into the 1941 winter line on which the Germans had counted as an impregnable bastion. Now the entire eastern front is fluid again. In those three months the Red Army has destroyed or captured a large quantity of enemy material.

These captures as I have seen with my own eyes are being immediately turned against the enemy and are helping vastly to solve Russia's problem of bringing up supplies over lengthening lines of communication. Stalin's offensive has almost annihilated the Rumanian contingent, decimated the Hungarian contingent and reduced the Italian contingent at least by half as well as accounting for 40 to 50 crack German Divisions. Lastly, perhaps the most important of all, the Russians have in the words of the *Red Star* brought about "serious changes in the psychology of the entire German Army."

Tactics of double envelopment and annihilation are becoming a decisive method of the Red Army. They have been employed successfully again and again since November 19. Though the German communiques speak self-pityingly of "overwhelmingly superior Bolshevik forces," in fact these encircling movements have been carried out by forces markedly inferior in numbers to those they have trapped. This naturally meant taking risks but the Soviet Commanders rightly realized that a successful offensive warfare must involve taking risks and that the only foolish risk is one which you take with your eyes shut.

Guerilla Warfare on Assam-Burma Border

LAST May the Japanese advance through Burma was halted at the Assam-Burma border, but although that area has provided no headline news, fighting has never ceased. Guerilla activity has been continuous.

This borderland is wild and mountainous, covered with forest, and traversed by only a few tracks. The inhabitants are scattered hill tribes who live by hunting and primitive agriculture. They still use bows and arrows—and they use them against the Japanese, against whom their chieftains have declared war.

More important than these primitive allies are the regular guerilla expeditions of British and Indian troops which raid into Japanese-occupied territory, seeking out the enemy, destroying military installations, and obtaining valuable information. There is a continuous "screen" of guerillas, practically living on the land, and operating for long periods at a time deep in enemy-occupied territory. Through the screen go out fighting and reconnaissance patrols, sometimes consisting of as few as one officer and half a dozen men, equipped with automatic weapons and as much in the way of supplies as can be carried by two or three mules. Often larger columns with more mule transport, even carrying light artillery, go out.

A PATROL'S ORDEAL

A typical patrol was that which set out recently from a small village. For days it struggled along the almost impassable, rough gravel tracks of the dense hill country, plagued by mosquitoes and other insects, and always in peril of deadly ambush. At last it arrived at the crest of a ridge, where it was decided to lie up for a while as three of the men, who for days had been fighting against severe malaria obviously were incapable of proceeding further for some time.

From this ridge one officer and two men set out to investigate reports concerning Japanese activities in a village 25 miles away. This involved crossing a river, and as so often happens in this country, where a stream suddenly becomes a wide river and the river

turns into a roaring torrent, the task proved to be even more difficult than had been anticipated. First, a man had to risk his life in swimming the flooded river with a rope. Then a wire bridge, capable of bearing the one mule with the detachment, had to be improvised. This completed, the detachment cautiously approached the village, only to find that the Japanese had evacuated some hours earlier, having removed every scrap of food the villagers possessed, wantonly killing their cattle, and looting their houses.

BETTER LUCK

Having seen this grim evidence of the enemy's visit, the detachment made its way back to the ridge, rejoined the remainder of the patrol and set out for another village, where it was understood that there were 100 Japanese troops, a number far in excess of that of the patrol. A number of prisoners were captured and brought back for interrogation. After nearly three weeks the patrol returned across the border of India, having gained most valuable information.

The guerilla tactics are making the Japanese occupiers uneasy. Moreover the accurate, detailed information gained by the patrols is contributing to the success of the air offensive over Burma, for the air forces of the United Nations are enabled to pick out the most valuable, and even the most secret, military objectives.

Guadalcanal—A Review

THE complete elimination of Japanese troops from Guadalcanal, which was announced on February 10, recalls the fierce fighting which has taken place in that area.

The United States marines, under Major-General Alexander A. Vandergrift, first established beach-heads at Guadalcanal on August 7, 1942, with the support of naval guns and planes. The next day they captured a Japanese jungle airfield which was renamed Henderson Field and expanded into a large airport, enabling the Americans air forces to dominate the southern Solomons.

The Japanese attempted to reinforce Guadalcanal in the August 8 and 9 battle of Savo Island, in which they landed a thousand crack troops, 700 of which were wiped out by August 21. On August 25, the American Naval and air forces repelled a strong enemy reconnaissance fleet in the eastern Solomons.

Three thousand Japanese troops stormed the ridge west of Henderson Field with heavy sea and air support from September 12 to 14, an action in which half of the Japanese forces were killed and the rest captured.

In the battle of Cape Esperance on October 11 and 12, a navy task force sank a Japanese heavy cruiser and four destroyers. The following day the United States Army landed reinforcements at Guadalcanal.

BATTLE OF SANTA CRUZ

In the battle of Santa Cruz on October 26, the Japanese sank the United States aircraft-carrier *Hornet* and the destroyer *Porter*, while suffering heavy damage to two carriers, one battleship and other vessels.

November 13 to 15 marked the great Japanese sea disaster off Guadalcanal, in which a huge invasion fleet was smashed and turned back by United States surface and aerial forces. Twenty-eight Japanese ships were sunk, including 16 warships and 10 more were damaged. On November 30, the Japanese lost nine ships and thousands of soldiers in a night-battle north of Guadalcanal during a futile attempt to land reinforcements.

On January 6, 1943, United States forces opened the Guadalcanal land offensive, seizing strategic heights around Henderson Field.

On January 21, the United States marines were given a respite after five months of heavy fighting and were replaced by United States Army troops under Major-General Alexander Patch, who continued the offensive, capturing Japanese Headquarters at Kokumbona on January 25.

On February 2, the Navy Department said that increased Japanese sea and air activity indicated a "major effort to regain control of the entire Solomons area." On February 6, United States Army troops outflanked the Japanese centre of operations at Cape Esperance and captured Titi.

On February 10, General Patch announced, "There is no longer any vestige of Japanese organized forces on Guadalcanal".

THE BEST WAY

He was taking the customary test for the Home Guard service, when the instructor asked: "What is the best way to immobilize your car?" "Let my wife drive it," came the immediate reply.

said in Quebec that the Germans might concentrate as many as 500 or 600 submarines round Halifax and Newfoundland next summer to harass Allied convoys.

Rear-Admiral Emory S. Land, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, stated that United States, Great Britain and Canada were constructing ships to combat the submarine menace to the limits of their ability.

Mr. A. J. Sabath, United States Congress representative, said: "President Roosevelt is going to be nominated by acclamation of the Democratic National Convention and he is going to be elected (President for a fourth term) by an overwhelming majority. That is the will of the people and it will prevail."

27th Feb.—Mr. Donald Nelson, War Production Chief, said that it would be possible to equip armed forces totalling 11 millions which was the goal set for the end of 1943.

28th Feb.—Admiral Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Pacific fleet, said that American naval might in the Pacific was ready to undertake a drive for positions from which Japanese industrial centres could be brought under direct and devastating attack.

1st Mar.—Mr. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, said that representatives of all the United Nations would be invited to the proposed conference on post-war food problems to be held in the United States.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

26th Feb.—Japanese bombers again attacked an American air base in Assam. Nine Japanese aircraft were destroyed. Allied troops landed in Myebon village near Akyab and destroyed objectives. The Royal Air Force attacked the Thazi railway junction in Central Burma.

27th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked Myohaung, the Japanese-occupied village in the Akyab district. Objectives in the Myittha Valley were also attacked.

28th Feb.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese-occupied village of Minbya. Rathedaung was also attacked.

The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese transport in various parts of Burma, ranging from Mawlu in the Katha district down to Ramree Island of the Arakan coast.

1st Mar.—The Japanese on the Burma Road advanced northward along the west bank of the river Salween, headed for Lushi.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

26th Feb.—The Axis troops evacuated Kasserine. A fresh enemy attack near Ousseltia was repulsed. The Berlin Radio admitted that the German and Italian forces had fallen back in Tunisia. Reuter's special correspondent described it as a "resounding Allied victory."

The Royal Air Force attacked an Axis convoy north of Trapani in Sicily. A large supply ship was sunk.

27th Feb.—Naples and Crotone were raided. Allied troops advanced in Tunisia and gained complete control of the Kasserine Pass. All Axis troops retired to Gafsa.

The German News Agency reported that the Eighth Army was preparing to attack.

28th Feb.—American troops entered Kasserine. Enemy attacks were repulsed in the areas of Jebel Mansour, Bon Arada and Medjez el Bah.

The Eighth Army pierced the defences of the Mareth Line at several places.

Syracuse was attacked by Allied bombers. Railway yards and the seaplane base were damaged.

1st Mar.—The German Radio disclosed that Von Ribbentrop, German Foreign Minister, was in Rome on Hitler's orders from February 24 to 28 when a personal message from Hitler was handed to Mussolini. German propaganda compared these talks to the Casablanca Conference.

Count Ciano, Ambassador to the Vatican, was received by His Holiness the Pope.

Allied troops retook Feriana. The Germans retreated in Central Tunisia. The Eighth Army patrols were in contact with the enemy.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

26th Feb.—The Russians were 160 miles from Kiev. A new important advance was made west of Rostov. Three important heights were captured. A surprise attack was launched on the Moscow front.

27th Feb.—The Russians captured more German strong points on the highway leading to Kiev and the Dineper river. The battle for Orel neared climax. Powerful German counter-attacks were held in the heart of the Donetz Basin.

28th Feb.—The Russian tanks broke into the main German line south of Lake Ladoga. Russian and German tanks were locked in a grim struggle in the streets of an important town in Western Donbas.

The Red Army spearheads thrust deeper into the Ukraine, west of Kharkov, on the road to Poltava and Kiev. The Nazis put up a desperate defence of Orel.

1st Mar.—Moscow announced the start of a new Russian offensive against Hitler's Sixteenth Army on the north-west front. The new drive was under the command of Marshal Timoshenko.

Soviet offensive slowed down along the southern front after three months' uninterrupted success.

2nd Mar.—Marshal Timoshenko's forces smashed through the German Demyansk fortress south of Lake Ilmen. Over 40 German planes were captured.

The Russians launched a new offensive against the sector of the front at Lake Ladoga east of Leningrad.

Mussolini, in a long Order of the Day, addressed to the Eighth Italian Army in Russia admitted that seven divisions were "spent to the point of sacrifice."

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

26th Feb.—An air raid alert was sounded in Basle as well as Berne.

28th Feb.—Britain launched a protest about the building in Sweden of small boats for Germany.

* * * *

SHIPPING

28th Feb.—Four American destroyers were launched at Kearny (New Jersey).

Aircraft carrier *Monterey* was launched in Camden (New Jersey).

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

27th Feb.—The Chinese Foreign office protested to Vichy against the Japanese occupation of Kwangchowwan, French-leased territory in South China.

28th Feb.—The German Radio announced that civil mobilization had been ordered of all Greeks between the ages of 16 and 45 in the German-occupied part of Greece.

The Prague Radio stated that German measures for total mobilization were to be applied in the Czech Protectorate as in Germany.

The Inter-Allied Information Committee published statistics of German terror in nine occupied countries. Among others, 744,000 were executed in Yugoslavia.

The Reich Commissar for Eastern territories ordered the general mobilization of men of the three Baltic countries.

1st Mar.—Seventeen Norwegians, accused of sabotage, were executed.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

26th Feb.—Allied heavy bombers scored a direct hit on a 10,000-ton freighter and damaged two Japanese naval vessels in Rabaul. Lae also was raided.

27th Feb.—President Roosevelt sent a cable to General MacArthur congratulating him on the success of his campaigns in the south-west Pacific.

NOTICE

As Thursday, when we usually go to press, is a holiday on account of Mahasivaratri, items and comments up to Wednesday (March 3) morning only are included in this issue.

United States bombers attacked Japanese positions at Kiska.

Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek broadcast an appeal to the people and armed forces of Siam to rise against the Japanese, reiterating that China had no territorial ambition in Siam.

28th Feb.—According to the Independent French Agency, Japan had decided to mobilize all young men in the "southern regions" under her control, including Burma, Malaya, Sumatra, Java and Borneo.

Colonel Frank Knox, United States Secretary of Navy, disclosed that negotiations were proceeding with New Zealand over an air base in the Pacific on the Island of Upolu in the Samoa area—one of the stepping stones in the Pacific strategy.

American bombers set fire to a Japanese transport and corvette in an attack on Japanese shipping in the Central Solomons. The Japanese retreated in Wan and Mubo in New Guinea.

A sharp defeat was inflicted on the Japanese who crossed the Ching river west of Nanchang.

1st Mar.—General MacArthur issued a warning that the Japanese were reinforcing their troops north of Australia. Reuter's special correspondent stated: "Japan is now poised to strike in what may prove to be an all-out move against Allied positions in south-west Pacific."

Mr. Ford, Australian Army Minister, commenting on General MacArthur's warning, said: "We must make the most of the breathing space we are receiving."

The *New York Times* said that a major offensive against Japan was imminent.

2nd Mar.—A Dutch submarine sank a fully laden 14,000-ton Japanese supply ship in the Straits of Malacca.

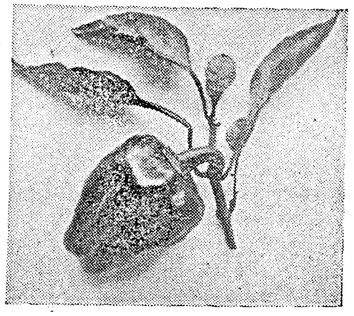
A Japanese convoy of 14 ships was sighted heading for New Guinea. Japanese shipping was bombed in the harbour on Waingapoe Island off Soemba, west of Dutch Timor.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Fruit Vegetables

CHILLIES

Capsicum spp. Family Solanaceæ; *Milagai*, Tam.; *Packcha Marapakaya*, Tel.; *Mulaku*, Mal.



Description.—There are many varieties of Capsicums cultivated as condiments and vegetables. Only two of the common ones are mentioned here.

(1) Green chilli—*Capsicum annum Var. longum* A small shrubby plant; fruits with thick fleshy pericarp.

(2) Bullnose chilli or Bell pepper—*C. annum var. grossum.* A small plant 1–2 feet high with bigger leaves; fruits large, non-pungent, with thick fleshy pericarp. The flesh of the fruit is sweet and used in salads or for stuffing with meat.

Propagation.—Seeds may be bought from seed-merchants, or obtained from selected mature fruits which can be bought in the market.

Cultivation.—Seeds must be sown just below the surface in well-prepared nursery beds, or in boxes or large flower pots, and covered with fine soil. When the seedlings are about 5–6 weeks old, they are transplanted into beds, in rows about 2 feet apart, and spaced about 1½ feet in the rows. Rich well-tilled soil is best for chillies; the soil should also be manured with humus, well-rotted cattle manure and liquid manure. Fruiting starts in 3–4 months, and usually continues for a number of months.

Season for cultivation.—Green chilli—April to June, both on the plains and hills.

"Bell Pepper"—August to September on the plains, and April to May on the hills.

U es.—Green chillies are picked in either the green or red stage and used for seasoning and side-dishes with curries. They can also be soaked in curds to which has been added some salt, and then dried in the sun; so that they can be kept for a number of days, to be fried in oil and used with rice and curry.

Bell Pepper is used as a vegetable—for making curries, for pickling, for stuffing with meat or fish; or it is even chopped up and used in salads and for sandwiches.

General Analysis.—Green chilli: water 82·8 per cent; mineral 1·0 per cent; protein 2·9 per cent; fat 0·6 per cent; fibre 6·8 per cent; carbohydrate 6·1 per cent; calories per lb. 200; calcium 0·05 per cent; magnesium 0·036 per cent; phosphorus 0·161 per cent; iron ·002 per cent; Vitamin A—I.U. per 100 gm. 8,000; Vitamin B I.U. per 100 gm. 41; Vitamin C—mgm. per 100 gm. 162·5.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1943 No. 27

Mrs. Barkel

A BRILLIANT VICTORY

MR. CURTIN

The Victory was achieved by General MacArthur's brilliant concentration rather than by overwhelming numerical superiority A comparison between the use of only 136 aircraft carrying a total bomb weight of 226 tons against the convoy with Friday's Essen attack and 1,500 tons of bombs dropped in 40 minutes placed the Bismarck Sea battle in the correct perspective

Australia's entire air strategy was designed to establish shore bases and make it impossible for Japan to reinforce centres menacing the Commonwealth

We have pride in our notable achievement. Never before have our forces on so many fronts caused such justification for the belief in final Victory

Mr. CURTIN, Prime Minister of Australia

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
On the Moscow Front—1812 & 1943	4–5
"Out of Evil Cometh Good"	7
Ten Years President of U.S.: Roosevelt's Work reviewed	8
At the White House—A Singular Assembly.	12
Anglo-American Aid to Russia	14
Sweat can beat steel	15
The Melitopol Line	16
New Russian drive to Kiev	17
Russia's Food Problem	17
Turkey's "Defensive Security"	17
Diary of the War	20

SAVE MORE FOOD

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S APPEAL

We invite the special attention of our readers to the following appeal issued by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, some time ago:

As the public are aware, there is a shortage of certain kinds of foodstuffs, notably sugar. It is necessary to conserve stocks and avoid waste so that all may get their fair share as far as possible.

His Excellency the Governor therefore wishes to invite the co-operation of the public for this object, and appeals to them to help by curtailing, as far as possible, large-scale public and private entertaining at festive and social gatherings and by restricting the number of guests to a minimum. A restriction on the number of guests at public tea-parties will be particularly helpful, as it will result in a considerable saving of sugar.

His Excellency does not, however, wish there to be any curtailment of entertaining of the troops who are defending our homes, and would be glad if those persons and associations who have so generously undertaken the entertainment of troops would continue their efforts which are so much appreciated.

His Excellency the Governor is confident that the public will respond to his appeal and voluntarily impose this sacrifice upon themselves, so that the limited supplies of foodstuffs may not be wasted.

Have you a Camera?

A NEW PRIZE COMPETITION

There are many Madrasis now on active Military service, earning good pay from which they are saving money to spend after the war. It is important for the welfare of the soldier and his family that these savings should be usefully and productively spent, for instance, in rural reconstruction and post-war development schemes.

Our Sepoys want to know what they can best spend their money on, and we propose to show them.

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

The Editor wants photos of—**(1) A well being sunk, (2) A finished well in use, (3) Terracing of fields, (4) Fruit topes, (5) Vegetable gardens, (6) A small shop, (7) Poultry keeping, (8) Improved cattle, (9) House-building, (10) A wedding, (11) Any other subject which you consider that a Sepoy might like to spend money on.**

A first prize of Rs. 20 and a second prize of Rs. 10 will be given for the best photographs submitted. Prizes of Rs. 3 will be given for the best photos in each of the above groups.

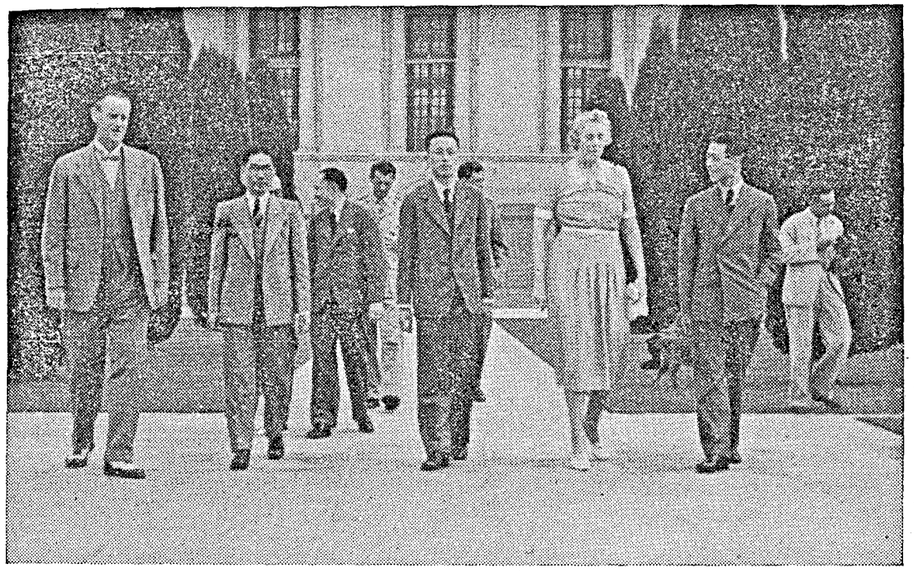
The Editor reserves the right to withhold prizes in any group in which the required standards of quality are not satisfied.

No photos can be returned to senders.

All entries must reach

THE EDITOR, MADRAS WAR REVIEW,
VICTORY HOUSE,
MADRAS,

by March 31st.



CHINESE MISSION MEETS VICEROY.—The Chinese Educational Mission arrived in Delhi on March 1.

His Excellency the Viceroy and the Marchioness of Linlithgow gave a luncheon in honour of the Mission. Picture shows the party having a stroll in the grounds of the Viceroy's House.

Running Commentary

Failur of Rommel's New Offensive—Honours of First Round to Allies.

ROMMEL started a new offensive against the Eighth Army on Saturday last (March 6). He made two all-out attempts to smash through GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S positions before the MARETH LINE. His attack ended in complete failure and cost him a heavy toll of men and armour. His attempt, after the initial repulse, to split the Allied forces also failed. A frontal attack from the direction of the MARETH LINE itself was also thrown back. "The first round of the new Rommel battle", says *Reuter's* Special Correspondent at Allied Headquarters in NORTH AFRICA, "ended in a clear win for the Eighth Army. ROMMEL lost heavily in men and tanks and material, without achieving the slightest improvement in position." According to the Algiers Radio, ROMMEL'S forces were severely mauled by the Eighth Army.

The renewed fighting in TUNISIA has lasted more than three weeks. The steady and solid resistance of the Eighth Army has held up the Germans whose attempt to exploit their early success failed completely. ROMMEL'S original object was evidently to postpone the Allied attack which was thought to be impending, or it might be that he wanted to take a risk when he found that things were going well for him. "The boldness of the stroke, the quick following up, and precipitate retreat", says *The Times*, "are characteristic of this clever but erratic commander."

The defeat of the erratic commander will be viewed with greater apprehension by the Italians, for the driving-out of the Axis from TUNISIA means that ITALY will come into the danger zone of Allied

(*Continued on page* 6)

"Time-Bombs From America"—I

Another place to open up a SECOND FRONT might be at Our Own Front Door.

On The Moscow Front—1812 & 1943

HISTORY repeats itself. So often has this saying been repeated that it almost jars on the ear. But what else can be said of the recent happenings on the Moscow Front? Does not Marshal Timoshenko's drive remind one of Marshal Kutusoff's, and is not Hitler's position more or less similar to that of Napoleon, in 1812? Napoleon had at least Empress Marie Louise to write frank and revealing letters to about his experiences of Russia and Russian winter, but Hitler has evidently none with whom he can share his experiences, which must be many times more bitter than that of Napoleon.

Napoleon's Confession

WRITING about the Russian campaign three years later, at St. Helena, Napoleon said,

> "I had gone to fight men in arms, not angry Nature. I defeated their armies. But I was unable to conquer fire, frost, numbness and death. Fate was stronger than I."

WHAT Napoleon had to contend against a hundred and thirty years ago—"scorched earth," biting cold and an army that knows its job—Hitler has had to grapple with in the vast expanse that is Russia. Napoleon entered Viasma on August 29, 1812, but the Russians had burnt the bridges and set fire to the town. When he entered Moscow on September 14, he found the city on fire.

> "It is incredible," he exclaimed, "It is a war of extermination, an atrocious form of tactics that has no parallel in the annals of civilisation"!

HITLER found this same tactics employed in an even greater degree, and on a vaster scale, by the Russians. Fire and frost, numbness and death—he has had more than his share of each of them, but it is the strategy of the Red Army that has baffled him, the strategy which symbolises his fate, the strategy of encirclement and extinguishment.

At Smolensk—Napoleon and Hitler

ON his way back from Moscow, Napoleon reached Smolensk on November 9. He saw a scene of utter desolation. The city was filled with thousands of sick and wounded. His supplies were running out, and two Russian armies were hurrying from different directions to cut off the line of his retreat. Therefore he thought it necessary to move quickly before the last road to safety was closed. He left Smolensk on November 14. The dwindling remnants of his 150,000 men marched on and on, till they crossed the river at Borisov and escaped, before the Russians launched a double attack on November 28.

HITLER seems to be in Smolensk, Germany's biggest base in Russia, in 1943, a hundred and thirty-one years later, with no better chances of success. It is believed to be his own headquarters, and it is towards this that an important Russian thrust is heading. This is part of the great Russian offensive launched by Marshal Timoshenko.

IT was twelve days ago (March 1) that the Soviet Information Bureau, announced for the first time that Russian troops under the command of Marshal Timoshenko launched an offensive against the German 16th Army and captured 302 inhabited localities, including Demyansk, north-west of Rzhev. The Russian troops broke the strongly-fortified line of enemy positions in a number of sectors, and threatened the German troops with double encirclement. But the enemy sensed the danger and began a hurried retreat westwards. Marshal Timoshenko's forces smashed through the German "Demyansk Fortress," south of Lake Ilmen.

Marshal Timoshenko's Perfect Timing

REUTER'S Special Correspondent in Moscow reports that the Germans were surprised by the speed of the attack and abandoned large quantities of arms and even motor transport. He says,

> "WHAT was a pistol pointed at a vital link in the Soviet positions has now been turned against the Germans. The Germans, no doubt, had schemes for Demyansk, but once more M. Stalin's strategy has rendered the German plans worthless. Marshal Timoshenko struck with perfect timing, just as the great Soviet offensive along the Southern Front was beginning to slow down after three months of uninterrupted successes."

WE have already referred to the secret of these successes, viz., the policy of doing many things at a time and doing everything well. After great successes in the Southern Front by means of simultaneous pressure on widely separated German strongholds, the centre of gravity of Russian counter-attack has shifted to the Moscow and Leningrad Fronts. It seems as though the successful experiment conducted in the limited area of the Southern Front is now to be tried on the two other battle fronts of Moscow and Leningrad. This has already met with important successes.

THE capture of Rzev, a big German hedgehog position 110 miles northwest of Moscow, on March 3, immensely increases the importance of Velikiye Luki which was retaken by the Russians last autumn. The Russians are now attacking on a broad front in the area between Velikiye Luki and Kholm. Velikiye Luki is 30 miles from the railway, the capture of which would isolate Hitler's armies round Leningrad from those on the Moscow Front.

Hitler's 700-mile Front Cracking

HOW the policy of simultaneous pressure on a number of widely-separated German strongholds is being carried out by Marshal Timoshenko will be clear by a reference to the map of the Moscow and Leningrad Fronts. The great Russian general is developing an attack towards Staraya Russa in the north; he has captured Gzhatsk, and is making a two-pronged sweep towards Viasma and Smolensk. It may be stated that Hitler's 700-mile battle front from Staraya Russa to Orel, which is stated to be the toughest part of Hitler's defence line in Russia, is bending and cracking under the weight of the blows of the Red Army, and that the Moscow front base of Smolensk in particular is in danger.

Along Napoleon's Road of Retreat

SOVIET forces are now driving west from Gzhatsk along the same road by which Napoleon retreated in 1812. They have captured SYCHEVKA, 40 miles north of Viasma, and Viasma's fall is imminent. Of the quadrangle opposite Moscow, three points are in Russian hands—Velikiye Luki, Rzhev and Viasma. It is only a question of time when what was for some time Napoleon's, and what is now Hitler's headquarters will fall into Russian hands. The capture of Smolensk will mean the removal of the threat to Moscow.

THINGS are happening at a fast pace on the Moscow Front and this may be due to, what Wickham Steed calls, the new disease that has caught Hitler's forces—*Stalin-g aditis*—the fear of the fate that overtook Field Marshal Paulus and his Army, the fear of the line of retreat being cut.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

attack. It may be pointed out that the mountains of TUNISIA are like an extension of southern ITALY and SICILY into AFRICA. If the sea floor of the CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN were to be lifted half a mile higher, ITALY, SICILY, MALTA and TUNISIA would become a continuous land belt linking AFRICA with CENTRAL EUROPE. The danger to ITALY from a powerful hostile army assembled in TUNISIA is, therefore, obvious.

This fact was well known even to the ancient Romans. That was why they fought Carthaginian Hannibal till they were able to raze the walls of Carthage—which was only a few miles from what is now modern Tunis—to the ground.

* * * *

Tunisia, the Bridgehead to Europe: Allied Decision for "Grand Slam."

So far as the Germans are concerned, they considered the Anglo-American invasion of TUNISIA as the beginning of a drive, not merely against ITALY, but against the DANUBE and GERMANY herself. When the Germans decided at the last moment to seize TUNISIA, the bridgehead into EUROPE, they must have acted on the calculation that the risk of eventually losing the bulk of Tunisian army was worth taking, if, by so doing, they could hold off the Allies from SOUTHERN EUROPE during the critical stage of the struggle on the Russian front.

But let us look at the situation from the point of view of the Anglo-American forces based on ALGERIA. The distance from ALGIERS to TUNIS is roughly the same as that from LONDON to BERLIN, and so, it was *not* the intention of the Anglo-American forces to take TUNIS soon after landing. Their idea was to spend the winter months in training and consolidating the position from ALGIERS back to DAKAR. But when it was found that the German U-boats could not succeed in impeding the Allied landings and that the resistance of the French forces in WEST and NORTH AFRICA abruptly ceased, the Allied Command decided to play for "grand slam" immediately. That was why the First Army rushed headlong towards TUNISIA. Originally, arrangements were made on the basis of needs of an army of occupation, but these had to be adapted to meet the needs of an army conducting a lightning invasion.

BONE, a key port, was captured soon. Paratroops were landed on airfields deep in CENTRAL TUNISIA ahead of tanks and infantry, and the First Army was well on its way to TUNIS, before it encountered the first German contingents who were overwhelmed by our forces. The breakneck speed of the First Army's advance thinned the battalions and armoured formations into detachments which had out-run their communications.

* * * *

Tunis in Sight—But the Rains Came!

The British had passed through TEBOURBA and were within sight of TUNIS 12 miles away by the end of November, but a fort-night earlier the Germans had started strengthening the sea and air bases of TUNIS and BIZETRA. The enemy's resistance stiffened and from the airfields of SICILY and NORTHERN TUNISIA came the Luftwaffe squadrons to bomb our shipping and stores in Bone Harbour. We were within sight of TUNIS. But the rains came! Our tanks and transport vehicles were bogged and the Germans who outnumbered our forward parties began to push them back. TEBOURBA was lost, and the enemy was gaining strength daily. The First Army had, up to this point, conducted its operations with audacity and brilliant improvisation under extremely difficult conditions. But the attempt failed—by the narrowest of margins!

The Germans saw two armies from opposite sides of AFRICA rapidly converging on TUNISIA. The First Army had taken the risk of out-running its strength in its attempt on TUNISIA. The Eighth Army's entry into SOUTHERN TUNISIA was delayed as long as possible by ROMMEL who, in his withdrawal across LIBYA, picked up troops and equipment as he went and gained time for VON ARNIM in the north, by delaying the progress of the Eighth Army. What would have happened if the Allied Command had been able to push really strong armoured formations with an effective air cover from the mountainous region to the centre of TUNISIA and eastwards across the coastal plain?

(*Continued on page* 19.)

"Out of Evil Cometh Good"

By SIR GERALD HODGSON

A few weeks ago I was staying in a private house in Calcutta when the Air Raid sirens sounded the alert. It was 10 o'clock on a clear moonlight night, and, so far as that particular household was concerned, this is what happened. Our host and hostess quickly changed into their uniforms and, in a few minutes, had left the house to take up their posts, he as special constable, and she as nursing sister at a nearby first-aid post. Meantime, all the servants had trooped into the dining room, which was their refuge, and, in a very few minutes, had removed all the crockery and glass from the room, opened the windows and closed the jhilmills. This done, and the lights well dimmed, we all sat, and waited, and talked.

It so happened that on that particular occasion three Japanese bombers had come over the coast and tried to reach Calcutta, but all three had been shot down long before they could get anywhere near the City. So the alert was both short and uneventful; but, when the All Clear sounded at the end of an hour's waiting, I found I had specially noticed two things. Firstly, that all the members of that household knew just what to do when the alarm sounded—and had done it quickly and without fuss—and secondly, that there had been much comfort in the thought that the Calcutta A.R.P.—the wardens, the messengers, the rescue parties, the first-aiders, the hospitals, the staff in the control rooms and report centres and the fire-fighters were all the time standing by ready to come to the aid of their fellow men and women should they need help—just as they had done during the previous raids.

BEFORE THE BLITZ

You remember how, in the early days and months of the war, some of us—perhaps it would be true to say most of us—were inclined to look upon the members of the Civil Defence Services as men and women who, though harmless enough, were really taking the war rather too seriously. The war was then very far away, and in those early days anyone who suggested that it was as well to be prepared against the day when the war might come closer to India, was looked upon as rather a crank, and indeed, almost as an alarmist. I have no doubt many people in Calcutta felt much the same then too, and this feeling was by no means peculiar to Indian cities for we are told that in England the A.R.P. services were looked upon as rather a nuisance in the early days before the air blitz started.

Well, the war *has* come closer to us now and closer still to Calcutta, whose citizens, as I have pointed out, have already had good reason to be thankful for the presence and efficiency of their Civil Defence Services—and by Civil Defence Services I mean the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, the Red Cross, the Fire Services and the A.R.P.

So, too, there is now comfort in the knowledge that we in Madras, and in the larger towns in the Province, have a well-trained A.R.P. organization, an efficient fire-fighting service, and many thousands of trained first-aiders—capable of giving a good account of themselves should necessity arise.

We realize now that these organizations could not have been built up in a week or a month, and that it has needed much hard work and extensive organization to bring them to their present state of discipline and efficiency.

Of course, we all hope that South India will not be bombed; but "hoping" isn't going to stop the Japanese, and bombing is still a possibility against which it would be foolish not to be prepared.

PUBLIC AND CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES

And so it is that the Civil Defence Services are receiving much co-operation from the public to-day than ever before. And I think people are giving that support for two main reasons. Firstly, so that our defences against enemy aerial attack, if it comes, may be as nearly one hundred per cent efficient as possible, though there are still some who do not yet realize that the Civil Defence of a city does not begin and end with the Civil Defence Services and cannot be complete without the full co-operation of every individual citizen. And secondly, because every member of these services is learning now, in more ways than one, to be a better citizen not only to-day but in the post-war India as well. For instance, they are learning the value of team work and of confidence in each other—and, better still, of confidence in themselves—the confidence which sound training gives. They are learning too of the satisfaction which is to be derived from thinking of other people rather than of themselves and from being able to help their fellow men by the application of their specialized knowledge.

The cynic may say that this picture is overdrawn, but the fact is that the qualities I have mentioned have been put to the test already on many occasions in Madras, and in each case the Civil Defence Services concerned have reacted splendidly. Here is one example:

ACCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR—A.R.P. TO THE RESCUE

A few months ago, whilst some men were working in the harbour premises in Madras, a heavy log of timber slipped and pinned two of the coolies against a wall. They were both very seriously injured. One had a compound fracture of the thigh with a torn main artery which bled profusely, and a broken leg as well. The other man had a compound fracture of the leg. Both men were suffering from severe shock and the first man would have died from loss of blood within two minutes of the accident unless someone applied first aid in less than that fraction of time. The co-workers of these two men were greatly shocked at what they all said was a very unpleasant sight, and, having no first aid training, could do nothing to help. Fortunately, two members of the Port A.R.P. First Aid Service, trained by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, were working in an office nearby, and hearing the commotion ran out to see what it was all about. These men cannot have enjoyed the spectacle either—it was their first sight of bad casualties—but they knew their duty, and they at once faced up to it. They must have been very promptly on the job because they had stopped the first man's hæmorrhage within less than two minutes of the occurrence of the accident and then, having completed their first aid, they got both men quickly off to hospital. The report of the doctor at the hospital was that the first aid given was exactly what it should have been.

VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING

That is certainly a good example of the practical result of the training these men are getting, but it is by no means an isolated one. There are many more instances where the A.R.P. services have demonstrated that in an emergency they are not only willing to take responsibility and act quickly, but are capable of putting their training to practical use; and furthermore, that that training is sound.

The old saying that "out of evil cometh good" is true. The war has resulted in thousands of men and women taking training, which they would not otherwise have taken, in first aid or home nursing, in fire fighting or rescue work, whilst at the same time acquiring knowledge and qualities of character which cannot fail to stand them and their country in good stead long after the war is over. Bombs or no bombs, raids or no raids, the contribution which the Civil Defence Services are making to the common cause demands the support of every one of us.

—A talk recently broadcast from All-India Radio, Madras.

Ten Years President of U.S.

Roosevelt's Work Reviewed

SINCE President Roosevelt was inaugurated on March 4, 1933, the United States Federal Government has developed a greater responsibility for the American people as individuals.

President Roosevelt brought to the White House with him the proposition that the Federal Government, in the last analysis, is responsible for the alleviation of the economic difficulties of the people.

The President's philosophy is: Everyone is entitled to a measure of security; insuring this is the legitimate function of the Government. The opportunity to work must be open to all. Education must be provided. Protection against sickness and old age is essential.

The President considers that these safeguards are in no sense charity. He is sure that, with these objects in mind, methods can be found.

At the time of his inauguration, following the unprecedented electoral vote of 472 to 59 in the national elections in 1932, President Roosevelt assumed the leadership of a country which was suffering under the worst financial depression in its history, with 12,000,000 unemployed.

Under the President's direction in 1933, Federal spending took a variety of forms—work relief, public works, public housing, rural electrification, the Tennessee Valley Authority. Farm purchasing power was stimulated by crop loans and production control.

The Wagner Act, which used Federal authority to guarantee to workers the right to organize without employer interference and to bargain collectively for higher wages and shorter hours, was another expression of the President's desire to augment the purchasing power of the nation from the bottom up.

With all this came such reforms as stock market control through the Securities and Exchange Law, rejuvenation of the anti-trust laws and tighter control of banks and other financial institutions.

Gradually a body of new legislation which extended Government control and financing into business, industry and agriculture was built up. Together, the agencies which administer these laws exercise enough control to make possible a form of Government planning.

(*Continued on page* 10)

BATTLE OF THE BISMARCK SEA

TEN YEARS PRESIDENT OF U.S.

Roosevelt's work reviewed

(*Continued from page* 8)

President Roosevelt's programme indicated that the Government could, by supplementing private economy, guarantee full employment in the future.

Reviewing the first session of Congress after his first inauguration, President Roosevelt said: "We were determined to help all those who needed help for recovery; we were equally determined to institute reform wherever reform was necessary to insure permanent in recovery."

On August 14, 1935, the Social Security Act was passed, providing old-age and unemployment insurance; aid to the needy, aged, dependent children and the blind; programmes for maternal and child welfare, vocational training and health. Throughout the President's administration the scope of this Act has been enlarged.

Other outstanding acts of President Roosevelt's administration are:

MARCH 24, 1934.—The Tydings-McDuffie Act, providing for Philippine independence after a ten-year transitional Commonwealth Government with a Philippine chief executive.

MAY 31, 1934.—The Senate ratified a treaty which ended the Platt Amendment (this amendment permitted United States intervention in Cuba).

JUNE 18, 1934.—The Indian Reorganization Act, giving 380,000 American Indians and Eskimos in the United States and Alaska added protection, aid for rehabilitation and a Magna Carta for self-government.

JUNE 27, 1934.—National Housing Act, which, together with later laws, provides better housing and loans which enable low-income families to own their homes and keep them repaired.

JULY 13, 1934.—The President created the National Resources Board to plan the best use of the nation's resources—succeeded by the National Resources Committee and the National Resources Planning Board.

MAY 1, 1935.—President Roosevelt created the Resettlement Administration for soil conservation and relief of low-income farmers.

MAY 6, 1935.—Works Progress Administration was created.

MAY 11, 1935.—Created the Rural Electrification Administration to electrify rural communities.

FOREIGN POLICY

From 1933 to 1939, when the war broke out in Europe, the United States Government, under President Roosevelt, directed much of its energies towards the improvement of international relations and thus towards the prevention of a breakdown of world peace.

In his inaugural address on March 4, 1933, President Roosevelt dedicated the United States to a policy of the Good Neighbour—"the neighbour who resolutely respects himself and, because he does so, respects the rights of others—the neighbour who respects his obligations and respects the sanctity of his agreements in and with a world of neighbours."

The foreign policy of the United States during the decade of President Roosevelt's leadership moved within the framework of a gradual evolution of public opinion—away from the idea of isolationism which was expressed in "neutrality" legislation.

Above all, the President, although he keeps the public informed, has been guided at all times by public opinion instead of foisting his own will upon them.

That the President saw the war coming and spoke freely to the people of the world of his knowledge is demonstrated in the following statements:—

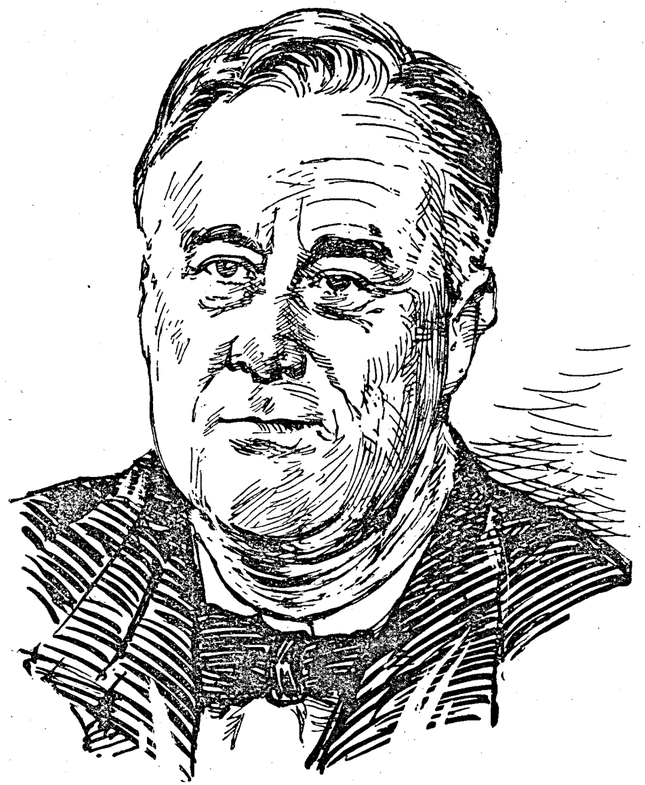
May 16, 1933 (speaking to Congress).—"It has become increasingly evident that the assurance of world political and economic peace and stability is threatened by selfish and short-sighted politics, action and threats of action."

January 3, 1934 (speaking to Congress).—"In other parts of the world—there is the fear of immediate or future aggression and, with this, the spending of vast sums on armaments and the continued building up of defensive trade barriers prevents any great progress in peace or trade agreements."

November 11, 1935 (soon after Italy invaded Ethiopia).—"The dangers which confront the future of mankind as a whole are greater to the world, and therefore to us, than the dangers which confront the people of the United States by and in themselves alone."

October 5, 1937 (in his "Quarantine the Aggressors" speech in Chicago soon after Japan renewed, her war on China).—"Without any declaration of war and without warning or justification of any kind, civilians, including women and children, are being ruthlessly murdered with bombs from the air. In times of so-called peace, ships are being attacked and sunk by submarines without cause or notice. Nations are fomenting and taking sides in civil war in nations that have never done them any harm. If those things come to pass in other parts of the world, let no one imagine that America will escape . . . War is contagion, whether it be declared or undeclared."

January 4, 1939 (speaking to Congress after Munich).—"The war which threatened to envelop the world in flames has been averted, but it has become increasingly clear that peace is not assured."



September 3, 1940 (telling Congress of the "destroyers for bases" trade with Great Britain).—"This is not inconsistency in any sense with our status of peace still less is it a threat against any nation. It is an epochal and far-reaching act of preparation for continental defence in the face of great danger."

December 29, 1940 (talking to the nation).—"Our experiences of the past two years have proven beyond doubt that no nation can appease the Nazis. No man can tame a tiger into a kitten by stroking it. There can be no appeasement with ruthlessness. There can be no reasoning with an incendiary bomb. We must be a great arsenal of democracy. For this is an emergency as serious as war itself."

January 6, 1941 (speaking to Congress).—"When the dictators are ready to make war upon us, they will not wait for an act of war on our part."

May 27, 1941 (after declaring an unlimited national emergency).—"When your enemy comes at you in a tank or a bombing plane, if you hold your fire until you see the whites of his eyes you will never know what hit you . . . "

December 8, 1941 (to Congress).—"Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by the naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan . . . With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounded determination of our people—we will gain an inevitable triumph—so help us God."

December 15, 1941 (the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the American Bill of Rights).—"We have made a covenant with each other before all the world that, having taken up arms in the defence of liberty, we will not lay them down before liberty is once again secure in the world in which we live . . ."

"We have learned that we cannot maintain peace at this stage of human development by good intentions alone . . . The United Nations can and must remain united for the maintenance of peace by preventing any attempt to re-arm in Germany, Japan, Italy or any other nation which seeks to violate the Tenth Commandment, 'Thou shalt not covet.'"

At the White House—A Singular Assembly

TWICE each week in the roomy outer lobby of the Executive offices of the White House in Washington, there gathers an assemblage so singularly American that it often startles foreign visitors to the Capital.

It is the semi-weekly meeting of the Washington newspaper and radio correspondents—never less than 100 of them, often more than 300—with the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Every Tuesday afternoon and every Friday morning the journalists crowd into the private office of the nation's elected leader, ply him with searching and significant questions, and obtain a frank and open report on the country as it is affected both by the war and by its manifold domestic problems. Only information which would aid or comfort the enemy is withheld.

There is a healthy examination, by both the President and the press representatives, of the state of the nation, and from those conferences emanate the dispatches to newspapers and radio news broadcasters all over the country—indeed all over the world—which recount the day-to-day progress of the war and the variety of newsworthy developments in America.

RADIO AND PRESS CONFERENCE

There are two ways in which President Roosevelt has given the people a keen insight into the affairs of the United States. First, he has made wide use of the extraordinary radio broadcasting and reception facilities throughout the nation. Hardly a family in America is without a radio reception set or a neighbour who will share one with them. President Roosevelt's famous " fireside chats " in peace time, and his radio reports to the nation since the outbreak of war, have served to bring the average American citizen a complete report of the activities of the Administration he has elected to govern him.

Second, President Roosevelt, far more thoroughly than any of his predecessors in the White House, has utilized the unique channel of information to the public made possible by the custom of the semi-weekly press conferences.

The newspaper men and women begin assembling about half an hour before conference time, in the lobby of the Executive offices, which form a wing of the White House. They while away the time until their meeting with the President, lounging in the big comfortable leather-covered chairs and couches that line the walls, or standing in groups exchanging opinions on the news of the day.

The hour for the conference is now at hand —and newspaper edition time for many of these correspondents is close. In nearby Washington offices and distant cities, editors are keeping telegraph wires open, holding up the presses, waiting for the President's news. The impatient newsmen mill about the lobby.

A SIGNAL

Now the President sounds his buzzer. He is ready for the press. One of the White House attaches claps his hands twice—a signal over the ears that the President is waiting for the correspondents.

The correspondents, as they crowd into the room, remain standing. Only the President, his Press Secretary, Stephen Early, the press conference stenographer, and two or three White House aides are seated. Occasionally the President has a guest at the conferences. On his first visit to the White House Winston Churchill was introduced to the press and was given a tremendous ovation when, so that all the correspondents could see him, he hopped up and stood on a chair.

CORDIAL HOST

As the correspondents stream into the room, the President leans back in his swivel chair, his long cigarette holder at an angle, emphasizing the strong line of his chin. If it is summer he may be in shirt sleeves, one of which bears the monogram F.D.R. He exchanges pleasantries with the first arrivals, greeting most of the men by their first names; noting, perhaps, the new hat of the one of the women reporters, or jesting with an old friend for putting on weight.

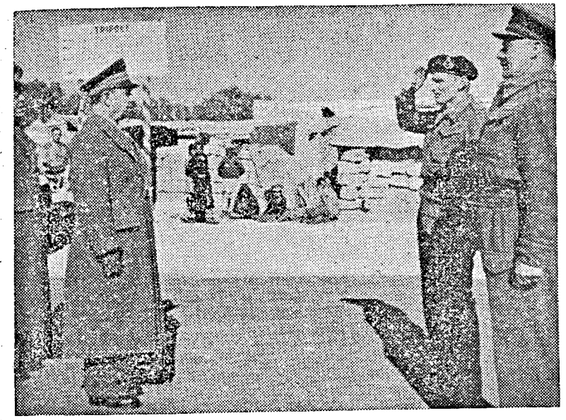
As the last reporter enters the room, a White House aide gives the traditional signal " All in ", and the conference begins.

The President may open the interview by announcing some new policy or executive action. He may comment on the most important development in the news of the day, or he may simply say " No news to-day ", and invite questions from his audience. These questions are all oral. The queries range from national and international affairs of great moment to issues local to some small corner of the nation.

Soon the questions are flying fast and furiousy. It takes an agile mind to deal with this barrage. But the President meets the inquisition head-on and makes no effort to conceal his pleasure in dealing deftly with some delicate query. He regards the rough-and-tumble exchange of repartee as a test of his own mental alertness, and frequently at the end of a conference, he will turn to Stephen Early and ask: " How did I do? "

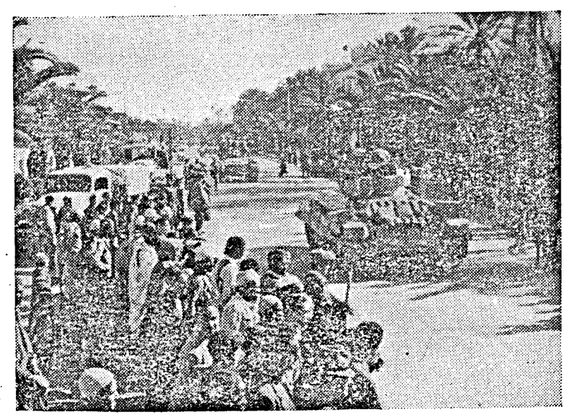
(*Continued on page* 14)

THE EIGHTH ARMY ENTERS TRIPOLI



At the Castel Benito Gate into Tripoli, the Lieutenant-Governor of Libya, Commander Sen Marco, the Prefect and Lord Mayor of Tripoli, met General Montgomery. He dictated his terms and the city was formally surrendered. The Italian Police were to remain in control, and British Military Police would co-operate with them. There would be no interference with the civilian population, but no treachery would be tolerated. The local authorities were to supply food, water and light to the civilian population.

Men of the Gordon Highlanders march into Tripoli behind their Pipe Major and piper. The harbour is seen in the background.



Valentine tanks passing through the streets of Tripoli, watched by crowds of British troops and local inhabitants.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE—A SINGULAR ASSEMBLY

(*Continued from page* 12)

FOUR CATEGORIES

The information given to the press by the President at these conferences falls into four categories. The bulk of the news may be attributed to the President in the third person. The text of his remarks may be used but not in direct quotation. Thus the reporters may write: "President Roosevelt said to-day that he will ask Congress for a new army appropriation next week."

Occasionally the President permits direct quotations. When this is done, a prepared statement is issued at the White House. The third category of information is the "background" data the President supplies the press, for use without being attributed to him. And frequently helpful information is given in reports "off the record," as confidential background not to be published at all, but merely for guidance, so that the press will understand a given situation.

There is a fifth category of the statements made by the President, that in which he answers an ill-advised question by a humorous exaggeration. Thus, when United States Army bombers raided Tokyo and other Japanese industrial centres, President Roosevelt, asked where the planes had been based, replied "Shangri-La." "Shangri-La," as all the reporters well knew, is a mythical country created by the novelist James Hilton in a widely read book of fiction called "Lost Horizon."

But back to a typical conference. The last question has been asked. There is a moment's pause and then one of the older reporters, acting as spokesman for his colleagues, says: "Thank you, Mr. President."

This is a signal for a surge even more hectic than the push to enter the room. For now the correspondents, particularly those representing telegraph news services, rush to the telephones in the press room, a comfortable little office in one corner of the executive offices, reserved for the use of the newsmen.

A dozen or more reporters are assigned constantly to the White House by the press associations and larger metropolitan newspapers. These men meet daily with Secretary Early, who informs them of White House doings. They may also question each visitor to the President as to the purpose of his visit.

Anglo-American Aid to Russia

By LUIS ARQUISTAIN

SEVEN thousand tanks, 4,000 aeroplanes and 17,000 guns, which, according to the recent statement made by M. Stalin, the Germans have lost during the three months of the Russian counter-offensive this winter are very impressive figures. They suggest indirectly the enormous amount of war material which the Soviet army had to use to achieve such a great destruction of German forces.

We do not know the figures of the Russian war production but their output must have remained very high in spite of the loss of their best industrial centres during the German advance. Recently, other figures have been published which help to explain the present offensive power of the Russian army. According to Mr. Alexander, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Great Britain and the United States sent to Russia from October 1941 to the end of 1942, 6,000 tanks, 5,600 aeroplanes and 85,000 lorries. This is nearly as many tanks as those lost by the Germans and 1,600 aeroplanes more.

The enormous number of lorries supplied also explains the extraordinary mobility of the Russian army in spite of the loss of vital rail communications and rolling stock.

There must be added to these supply figures hundreds of thousands tons of machinery, tools, ammunition, foodstuffs and small arms that have also been sent to Russia. The exact total figure, according to Mr. Lyttelton, Minister of Production, had reached up to July to over 190,000 tons of the 250,000 tons promised. It may well be supposed that by now the promise made has been completely fulfilled.

GREAT BRITAIN'S CONTRIBUTION

Of the consignments mentioned above Great Britain alone supplied 2,974 tanks and over 3,000 aeroplanes. This implies a very large tonnage for transport and a considerable number of warships to convoy the merchantmen over such dangerous routes.

Thanks to these immense Anglo-American supplies added to her own, not to mention the inestimable valour of her own soldiers, Russia has been able to inflict on the Nazi military colossus one of the most serious defeats that any army has ever suffered. The importance of this co-operation does not lie only in the quantity but also in the order of preferential priority.

While Russia was receiving these materials, making it possible for her to prepare her victorious counter-offensive, the British army under Auchinleck had to retreat last summer to the Egyptian frontier because of lack of armaments.

In so far as there has been priority in the distribution of war material and reinforcements, this has probably not been in favour of the African theatre of war. During the last few days we have reason to believe that the Allied retreat in some sectors of the Tunisian front was due to the superiority of enemy armaments.

Yet it is known that there has been a gigantic increase in Anglo-Saxon war production. Even as far back as March 1942, the United Kingdom was producing double the number of tanks compared with August 1941. In June 1942, the production of tanks, lorries and other mechanised vehicles was at the rate of 257,000 a year. In August 1942, the British army had at its disposal half a million vehicles whereas at the beginning of the war it only had 45,000.

It is, however, certain that up to the end of 1942, production had not reached a sufficiently high level to supply everything necessary for the various fronts and that in allocation, the Russian front was one of the most favoured. The current year will be a year in which the Anglo-American production will not only be sufficient but will exceed all demands. Meanwhile, Hitler is choosing to supply his African forces even at the cost of sacrificing his armies in Russia. For Hitler, at the present moment, the Anglo-American campaign is more vital than the Russian. By holding up the Allies in the Tunisian sector, he hopes to gain time to extend his defences along those coasts of Europe most exposed to future invasion.

HITLER FEARS EUROPEAN REVOLT

He fears that as soon as the Anglo-American armies put their feet on the European soil the whole occupied western and southern Europe will rise as one man against him. Hence his desperate attempt to prolong the war in Africa.

The latest news is that Hitler is concentrating troops along the French coast of the Gulf of Lions from Marseilles to the Pyrenees. Some consider that this is a new threat against Spain. My own opinion, which I have repeated many times, is that neutral Spain is what at the present time would be most convenient for Hitler.

As in Russia his greatest desire in the rest of Europe is to shorten his internal lines in order more easily to be able to defend them. But this is equivalent to "locking the stable door . . ."

Sweat Can Beat Steel

By SAMUEL GRAFTON

LET us note that the Russians won their remarkable successes in street fighting—at Stalingrad, Rostov and Kharkov—without using those modern weapons, the tank and the airplane. The big street fights have been won by sweat and on foot.

This is a blow to the conception that man's fate is being determined exclusively by machines that cost a lot to build and make a great deal of noise.

It is now the official Russian theory, expressed by several commanders in press interviews, that the tank is useless in fighting within a city. It has been decisively defeated time after time by adequately armed men on foot. One Russian commander tells, with something like a snicker, how the Germans, blindly relying on tanks, tried to use as many as 400 at one time in crowded, narrow streets, only to be jammed, stalled and beaten back by unmounted and unarmoured men.

BAFFLED ENEMY AVIATION

In Stalingrad, the Russians baffled enemy aviation by the expedient of deliberately pitching their lines so close to the enemy as to make bombing too risky. We might, by straining a little, say that many Germans were lost in big cities partly because of their old-fashioned, conservative reliance on tanks and airplanes.

Thus does the brilliant strategic conception of last year become the brasshat ism of to-day. The Germans are being whipped by superior conceptions, just as they whipped the French by the same means. Among the new ideas, big and little, which were recently uncorked by the Russians, is the one that a city can lose its usefulness as a residence centre and as a production centre without losing its usefulness as a fortress.

It has been said that ideas are weapons and, at Stalingrad, one idea for which a use was made was to direct artillery fire from a radio station, snugged up against the enemy lines and therefore difficult for the enemy to shell, while keeping the Russian artillery on the far side of the Volga River and therefore out of reach of German tanks.

HAND TO HAND FIGHTING

Among the "modern" ideas from which some of the shine has been taken in Russia is the one that the soldier of to-day never

really makes a physical contact with the enemy, that he rides in a splendid, remote, Wagnerian glory in vehicles of steel, blitzing, surprising, surrounding and encircling. It would be folly to deny the value of armour and motorization; the Russians made vast use of both and would have been lost long ago without them. They also walked their feet off; the German Sixth Army at Stalingrad was encircled with the help of one Russian Army which is reported to have walked 200 kilometers.

As for contact with the enemy, the Russians have liked it as close as possible, often hand-to-hand; so close, it is reported from Stalingrad, that German and Russian soldiers would sometimes find themselves jumping into the same shell-hole to dodge a blast.

It is a remarkable fact that the most decisive battles of this most modern war have rehabilitated hand-to-hand infantry fighting and the long walk through snow.

The Melitopol Line

By The Military Correspondent of *Daily Telegraph*

THERE is nothing definite yet to indicate where Hitler hopes to stabilize the Russian front.

There are two factors which must govern the German strategy of withdrawal. First, the line must provide for the deepest possible outpost zone in the south in front of the vital Rumanian oilfields of Ploesti.

Second, the line must be shorter than that which the Germans hold at present, thus permitting an economy of force.

As to the first of these factors, it is estimated that the Germans' minimum requirements for full-scale mechanized war on the Russian front, together with such side issues as the campaign in Tunisia, are 11 million tons of oil per year.

Of this, they reckon to obtain 6 million tons from the Rumanian fields, 4 million from the home production of synthetic oil, balancing their budget as to the remaining one million by miscellaneous expedients such as the use of producer gas.

GERMANS AND THE CRIMEA

It is quite clear, therefore, that Hitler, now that his dreams of Caucasian oil have vanished, cannot afford to permit Russian bombers to be based any nearer to Ploesti than he can possibly avoid.

This conclusion immediately raises the question: Do the Germans intend to stay in the Crimea?

If they do, then the line which they must intend to hold is that from Melitopol to Zaporozhe which covers only the railway into and out of the Crimea. From Zaporozhe such a line might run along the Dnieper in front of Kiev and thence through the Pripet marshes to Minsk and Riga.

This would be a shortened line, very much shortened when reckoned in the saving of troops which the Germans would effect in the Pripet sector.

If the Germans cannot hold this line—and the Russian thrust towards the Dnieper bend at Dnepropetrovosk already seriously threatens it—then they could find even a shorter line from Odessa to Kiev and thence to Riga as before.

PLOESTI AND SOVIET BASES

But this very big withdrawal to this line would involve either the evacuation of the Crimea or its complete isolation, together with the establishment of Russian air bases within 350 miles of Ploesti.

We may be sure, therefore, that the Germans will hold the Melitopol line forward of the Crimea if it is humanly possible.

We may be equally sure that they have already prepared a line to which they may now withdraw.

This is a precaution which they do not neglect even at a moment of victory: witness their preparation of the Aisne line in 1914 when they were still advancing to Marne.

To the Troops!

You want to be amused?
You want some light music?
Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras,*
211 or 60·98 metres,
Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

Russian Drive to Kiev

THE Russian push due west to the still distant Kiev should be coupled with the German reported opening of the offensive in the Sukhinichi area, 75 miles north of Bryansk.

Elaborating on this attack, Berlin said that heavy air battles are raging, the Russians having mobilized a big air umbrella for their land offensive.

It may be that our Allies have decided that the time has come to begin an offensive designed to encompass the upper as well as the lower reaches of the Dnieper. The enemy has committed all his reserves of men and metal that he can lay his hands on to stop the Russian drive. To a considerable extent, he has succeeded doing so, though whether this is a permanent or only a temporary success the next week or two will show. At any rate the Russians may have calculated that he has now to hold the Smolensk-Bryansk-Orel-Konotop salient with the men he has on the spot. This seems quite likely to be the explanation for the two new Russian thrusts both of which are prospering.

FROM NARROW TO BROAD GAUGE

In the Ukraine and the Donbas, German counter-attacks are continuing with undiminished fury and at high cost to the enemy. But their undoubted success in keeping a way of escape open for the retreating German army is not alone due to the strength of the enemy attacks. During the past week, there have been many flurries of light snow over the battlefield which have slowed down Soviet tank and motorized coloumns by reducing visibility to nil. Another handicap to the Russians has been the necessity to change back the many hundreds of miles of captured railway from narrow to broad gauge to take their supply trains.

—*Daily Express*—Moscow correspondent.

Russia's Food Problem

THE recapture of the northern Caucasus and large parts of the Ukraine promises to relieve some of the important bottlenecks in Russia's war economy.

The relief will be more marked in agriculture than in industry. In the northern Caucasus alone, the Russians have regained a vast granary, some 30 odd million acres.

What this means to the Russian food position can be seen from the fact that last year's expansion of sown area in the east, which was to make good the temporary losses in agricultural areas, amounted to no more than 5,000,000 acres.

Apart from cereals, the northern Caucasus used to produce 30 per cent of Russia's tobacco and almost the whole of the remainder was grown in Crimea.

With the recapture of some Ukrainian territory, the Russians get back their sugar and beet.

The first measures taken in the regained areas are preparations for the spring sowing. Tractors and agricultural machinery formerly evacuated are being sent back to the liberated country side.

MOST IMPORTANT ASSET

The metal industries of Kharkov, Rostov, Stalingrad, Voroshilovgrad, etc., have been evacuated to the east together with their skilled and semi-skilled workers during the Russian retreats. In spite of much boasting, the Germans achieved very little in restoring such minor factories as had not been evacuated. It is doubtful whether the Soviets will decide to move, for instance, the Stalingrad and Kharkov tractor plants from Sverdlovsk and Chelyabinsk in the Urals back to the old sites.

Apart from the destruction in the fighting zones, which would impede production, the very process of a retransfer would cause undesirable dislocation and delays in the output of arms and munitions. Transport position, on the other hand, would be improved by partial re-shifting. Farther the armies advance, larger grows the distance between the production centres and front lines. It is, therefore, likely that factories producing lighter types of armament will once again be "leap-frogged," this time to the west. The most important economic asset is, of course, the Donetz coal.

—*The Observer.*

Turkey's "Defensive Security"

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

THERE has been much speculation about Adana. One thing is certain—that Turkey has not been asked to enter the war on the side of the United Nations, that never was there throughout the conference the slightest hint of that. Nor had Turkey to bind herself in any way to do so at a later date.

For the first time in many war years, Turkey has not insisted on having the words "neutrality" or "other existing obligations and friendships" included in the text of the communiqué issued after the conference. Instead we find that Britain and the United States will do everything to reinforce Turkey's "defensive security."

What is meant by Turkey's "defensive security"? To well-informed observers in Ankara these words have more than their immediate meaning. It is obvious that when great people like Mr. Churchill come to Turkey to talk to the President of the Republic, he has something really important to say. And when a full communiqué is issued it means that decisions have been taken. We have several clues on which to work. In the first place, the words "defensive security." Then Mr. Churchill himself has told us from Cyprus that the danger to the Middle East having passed, the Tenth Army can now be released for duty elsewhere. Thirdly we know that history has a habit of repeating itself.

GUARDING THE MIDDLE EAST

Two years ago, an unarmed Turkey, watching the German steam-roller levelling South-Eastern Europe, was waiting with anxiety as the German menace approached its borders. On March 1, 1941, German troops marched into Bulgaria and were preparing to attack Greece. Turkey was awaiting her turn with resignation, but with the determination to stand and fight, not to go down in shame and dishonour. Turkey did not have much of a chance against the formidable aggressor which was the Germany of 1941. But her diplomats got to work and Turkey managed to avoid war. Turkey stood like a barrier against the aggressor and helped to guard the Middle East against the Axis.

It looks as if Turkey will now have to repeat her part. She has not been asked at Adana to enter the war but decisions have been taken to reinforce her defensive security. The danger of attack from the Caucasus has passed, and so has the danger from Libya. Mr. Churchill, although he has not mentioned Turkey, has made it understood that there is no chance of Turkey ever letting the Germans come through Anatolia. By doing so he has more than defined Turkey's attitude in the future.

TURKEY OF TO-DAY

Hitler, however, is like a cat shut up in a room with a man chasing it with a stick. You know what cats do in these circumstances. They scratch and hiss, and then they jump and attack the pursuer in a desperate effort to be free. The tamest cat becomes wild and dangerous. Hitler may also become dangerous and, seeing that the game is up, he may attack anywhere. Anywhere means also Spain and Portugal, or any other neutral country like Sweden or Turkey. But if Turkey is reinforced, he would think twice about it. The Turkey of to-day is not the Turkey of 1941; reinforced immediately from the huge arsenal of the United Nations, she is a formidable enemy, especially to a country like Germany whose forces are steadily weakening. By keeping Germany away from the Middle East, Turkey will have not only looked after her own defensive security, but after that of the whole Middle East. If the peoples of Iraq and Persia can return to their normal peacetime occupations a minute sooner than others, it will be due to Turkey. So much for the strategic side of the talks, of which we really do not know much.

The political side is also extremely interesting. In the communiqué we see that agreement has been reached on certain post-war problems as they interest Turkey in the so-called "Turkish sphere of interest." In order to reach such an agreement, it is obvious that Turco-Russian relations have been cleared and straightened. This is extremely important, because it takes away from the Axis the only trump card they possess against Turkey. Von Papen will shake his brains in vain to produce another bogey.

TURKEY AND THE BALKANS

Turkey, we know, is greatly interested in the future political configuration of the Balkans. The Prime Minister, M. Sarajoglu, told the correspondent of a British newspaper recently that Turkey would welcome any suggestions from Balkan countries or about the Balkans which might open the road to a new co-operation of the Balkan States with Turkey. Turkey's policy in the Balkans, he said, had been one of the main pivots of her foreign policy before the present war and might still remain so after this war, provided of course that the Balkans remained an independent bloc.

If assurances have been given to Turkey at Adana in this respect—and it looks so, for otherwise Turkey would not have agreed even on the tentative lines on which I presume the problem was discussed—then we can assume that Turkey will be called to play a very important part in this sector of the European continent by reorganizing and leading the Balkan nations. Turkey is best fitted to do so, because she has remained the only sound, powerful and independent political organism in South-East Europe. Not only will she be fulfilling an important mission as far as the Balkans are concerned, but she will also be complying with directives laid down in the Ataturk's political testament. It must not be forgotten that while he lived the Ataturk always told the Turks to look towards the west.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 6)

ROMMEL would have been isolated from ARNIM'S forces; his communications would have been threatened in the rear, while he was facing MONTGOMERY in the front. This, however, did not happen, because superior Axis communications enabled ROMMEL to make the attempt at splitting his opponents.

* * * *

India and the War—Sound Economic Position Disclosed by Central Budget.

INDIA'S Fourth War Budget was discussed threadbare in the Indian Legislative Assembly and the Council of State for a number of days. A few general points stand out clearly as a result of the discussions. They are as follows: Though INDIA is bearing an increasing burden on account of the war, her financial position is fundamentally sound. The revenue deficit of Rs. 94·66 crores for the current year and a prospective deficit of Rs. 60·28 crores for the next year on the basis of existing taxation, will no doubt entail considerable hardship and sacrifice, but there are also long-term benefits. The problem of agricultural indebtedness is not so much of a problem now, on account of the rising agricultural prices; INDIA'S external debt is almost gone; and INDIA has large funds with which she can finance the improvement of her industries in future.

In splitting up, for the first time, the Defence expenditure into revenue and capital account, the Budget gives a better showing of the financial situation. The capital expenditure for Defence in 1942–43 amounted to Rs. 49·14 crores, and the importance of this will be realised when it is pointed out that aerodromes, outlay on industrial expansion, and units of the Royal Indian Navy constitute permanent assets of immense value to post-war India.

In his speech introducing the Budget, SIR JEREMY RAISMAN said, "Our sheet-anchor in the present emergency must be more and more borrowing." It may be stated that the total investments in Defence Loans and provincial loans amounted to Rs. 93 crores for last year. The total investments since the beginning of the war aggregated to Rs. 267½ crores. The Finance Member has appealed to the public to defer private expenditure to the utmost of one's capacity and transfer the surplus to Government in the form of loans. By responding to this appeal to the greatest extent possible, the public will be helping the Government to solve the problem of high prices of essential commodities. As regards inflation, the Finance Member pointed out that at no time did the Government resort to credit inflation and that the present temporary situation was due to an increase in the volume of purchasing power impinging, for a time, on a stationary or diminishing volume of consumable goods. Regarding the food problem itself, the Central Government have announced that they will be purchasing food grains worth Rs. 75 crores in 1943-44 on behalf of Provincial Governments.

Another notable feature of the Budget is the constitution of a Reconstruction Fund. Referring to this, Mr. C. E. JONES, Finance Secretary—he was formerly Secretary of the Finance Department in Madras—said in the Council of State on Wednesday (March 10) that INDIA would welcome such a Fund, because it would ensure a systematic and orderly flow of her capital needs in the post-war period, which will be a period of acute scarcity the world over. The Fund will finance a programme of post-war reconstruction, which will include the rehabilitation and re-equipment of industries in INDIA.

There has also been a good deal of discussion over the accumulation of sterling balances. As the Finance Member pointed out, the sterling balances will be available as a reserve to pay for capital goods which BRITAIN will be supplying for INDIA'S industrial expansion and it would enable INDIA to trade as one of the principal commercial countries of the world.

★

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

3rd Mar.—There was a one-hour gun duel across the English Channel.

Lord Leathers, Minister of War Transport, stated in the Lords: "The British policy is to build ships carrying the maximum cargo with the greatest possible safety."

Aircraft of the Bomber Command laid mines in enemy waters and attacked objectives in Western Germany. Railway and other targets were also attacked in North France and Belgium.

4th Mar.—There were two raids (a Nazi reprisal for the heavy raid on Berlin by the R.A.F.) when bombs were dropped in East Anglia, the Home Counties and London area.

The R.A.F. made a heavy raid on Hamburg (Germany's second biggest city and her biggest U-boat building centre). Objectives and targets were also attacked in Northern France, Holland and Knaben in Norway.

5th Mar.—Admiral Boehm, Commander of the German fleet in Norwegian waters, was dismissed.

6th Mar.—The R.A.F. attacked objectives in Western Germany. Goering's Air Ministry Building in Berlin was damaged during a raid. Dunkirk area was also bombed.

7th Mar.—Objectives in Brest and Lorient were attacked by the R.A.F.

The German Radio admitted: "The last British raid on Berlin has caused important damage in the German capital."

8th Mar.—The R.A.F. bombed Heligoland and American aircraft attacked targets at Rouen and Rennes.

London's "Wings for Victory" effort reached the total of £44,677,135, including a million sterling from the Imperial Chemical Industries.

One E-boat was destroyed and others scattered in a short naval action off the east coast of England.

9th Mar.—The R.A.F. attacked Nuremberg and objectives in Northern France.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

3rd Mar.—Addressing a mass meeting in New York, Madame Chiang-Kai-shek said that the greatest task confronting the United Nations was to safeguard themselves against "retrogression into another dark age."

Members of the Higher Council of the American Democrat National Committee recommended to President Roosevelt that he should be the Party's candidate for the 1944 Presidential election (for the fourth term) if the war was still on.

General H. S. Arnold, Chief of the United States Army Air Forces, declared: "We must make provisions for a wide-scale bombing of Japan itself—bombing to ensure total destruction of the enemy on his own home soil."

Admiral Sir Percy Noble, Head of the British Admiralty Delegation in Washington, declared that the success of the anti-submarine campaign was encouraging.

The former U.S. Ambassador to Japan and now Special Assistant to the Secretary of State, speaking at Atlanta (Georgia), declared: "We must watch vigilantly for dangerous signs of a German or Japanese peace offensive designed to let us win the war but lose the peace."

4th Mar.—The U.S. Government sent a note to Great Britain, indicating its wholehearted concurrence and co-operation in any steps towards immediate aid for Jews in Europe. [The British Government undertook to receive in Palestine up to 29,000 Jewish children with a proportion of adults.]

Col. Knox, U.S. Secretary of the Navy, disclosed an operating force plan, calling for a Navy "big enough to dominate all the seas"—a programme for building up personnel to the strength of two and a quarter million by July 1944.

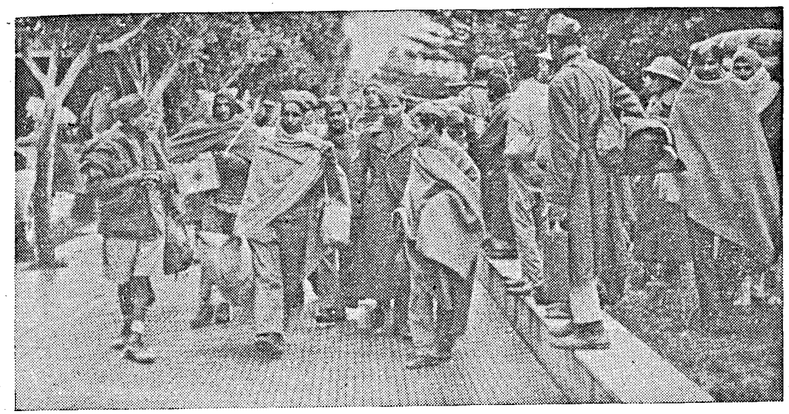
5th Mar.—Mr. Patterson, acting Secretary for War, disclosed that more than 70,000 aircraft bombs of 1,000 pounds or larger were produced by American industry in January.

6th Mar.—Col. Frank Knox, U.S. Secretary for Navy, disclosed that 150 warships and 1,400 navy aircraft were produced in February.

Madame Chiang-Kai-shek urged that the United States should send an expeditionary force to China to show the world that the United States meant business.

7th Mar.—The *New York Times*, commenting on recent Allied successes said: "Except in minor phases, the offensive has been wrested everywhere from the Axis."

8th Mar.—The Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Sumner Welles, said that one of the elements of the United States policy was the unconditional surrender and complete disarmament of Japan.



On January 23 the Eighth Army occupied Tripoli. Indian prisoners of war captured during the fighting around and in Tobruk escaped from the cage when the Eighth Army were nearing Tripoli. Picture shows them preparing to go back to the base.

9th Mar.—Mr. Henry Wallace, Vice-President of the United States, said that unless the Western Democracies and Russia came to a satisfactory understanding before the war ended, a World War III would be inevitable.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

3rd Mar.—The R.A.F. attacked objectives at Sagaing.

Ten enemy fighters appeared over Chittagong but turned back before the R.A.F. could engage them.

4th Mar.—The United States Office of War Information said that India was being strengthened with the aid of Lend-Lease as the source of supply for the Allied armies in China, India and the Middle East.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Cranborne (Leader of the House) said that air transport to China was being increased but "no radical improvement could be expected until the reconquest of Burma made the Burma Road to China once more available. That must remain the primary object of our strategy."

5th Mar.—One enemy supply vessel was captured in the mouth of the Mayu river and prisoners were taken. United States aircraft bombed enemy installations in the Rangoon area. Pazundaung bridge was also hit and damaged.

6th Mar.—The R.A.F. attacked the railway yards at Thazi junction. One enemy fighter was destroyed.

7th Mar.—Mandalay railway station was attacked by the R.A.F. Buildings were demolished and fires were started.

8th Mar.—The Tenth United States Air Force sunk or damaged three Japanese merchant vessels in Rangoon river. The R.A.F. attacked Auktaungbyin, 40 miles north of Akyab.

9th Mar.—Small Japanese units infiltrated westward from the Kaladan river and took up positions along a forest ridge between Kanzauk and Auktaungbyin.

10th Mar.—American aircraft attacked Prome. According to reliable sources, the Japanese had concentrated large forces in Burma.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3rd Mar.—It was revealed that Rommel had developed defences along the Mareth Line in greater depth. Allied forces advanced beyond Sbeitla.

Palermo harbour was bombed.

4th Mar.—Axis armies retreated on the whole of Central Tunisia, having suffered enormous losses. In the Beja and Bon Arada sectors, the Axis lost about 40 assault tanks.

American aircraft attacked Messina in Sicily.

Mussolini withdrew the Italian army from Russia (as a sequel to Ribbentrop's visit to Rome).

An enemy convoy was attacked in the Central Mediterranean. According to a British Admiralty Communiqué, seven Axis vessels were destroyed and nine damaged.

5th Mar.—French forces under General Juin, Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in North Africa occupied two important points in the Gapsa area. General von Arnim's attack on Beja was broken. Three German attacks were repulsed. Two Axis bombers were brought down by the R.A.F. over the sea near Malta.

It was officially announced in London that since Italy came into the war, 527 Axis vessels were sunk or damaged by Allied aircraft in the Mediterranean alone.

6th Mar.—The American troops took Pichon. Nazis were driven back to Faid Pass, gateway to the Central Tunisian plain.

7th Mar.—Rommel, who started a new offensive, failed to penetrate General Montgomery's line at any point.

8th Mar.—Rommel's attack on the Eighth Army ended in complete failure and cost the Germans a heavy toll of men and armour. The French troops occupied Redeyet.

It was revealed that as a result of R.A.F. raids, over 6,000 houses were destroyed in Genoa.

9th Mar.—The French troops occupied Tozeur. Axis troops were repulsed near Tamera. Palermo in Sicily was bombed. Axis aircraft raided Tripoli.

10th Mar.—Axis troops were contacted in Sedjenane area. It was reported that Mussolini was preparing to evacuate Sicily.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

3rd Mar.—The Nazis evacuated Rzhev, an important point in Moscow Sector. Lgov and Dimitri-Lgovsk were captured by the Russians.

4th Mar.—The German Radio admitted that the Red Army had made "local breaches" in the flanks of the front surrounding Orel. The Russians launched a new drive in the direction of Smolensk.

The Helsinki Radio said: "What we want is peace with security. As Moscow keeps silent, we are unable to know what Russia wants."

5th Mar.—Russian troops closed in on Vyasma. Marshal Timoshenko launched an attack on Staraya Russa. In their advances beyond Rzhev, the Russians captured 52 more towns and villages.

A new Finnish Government was formed with M. Edwin Linkomies as Prime Minister and M. Henrik Ramsay as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

It was revealed that since the start of the Russo-German war, the Red Navy had sunk 771 German merchantmen and warships and damaged 216 other vessels.

6th Mar.—The Russians advanced on Vyasma and Smolensk. The German Radio reported a new Russian attempt to land from the sea at the Black Sea port of Novorossisk.

7th Mar.—The Nazis withdrew in Ilmen area. The Russians captured Gzhatsk.

The Moscow Radio announced that by an official decree, M. Stalin had been created Marshal of the Soviet Union.

8th Mar.—The Russians captured Sychevka, north of Vyasma. The enemy lost in killed alone about 8,000 officers and men. The wedge driven into the German lines at Sevsk, threatening the Briansk-Kiev railway, was widened.

9th Mar.—The fall of Vyasma was imminent. Several Nazi counter-attacks were thrown back west of Rostov.

10th Mar.—The Russians evacuated Krasnograd, Lozovaya, Pavlograd, Krasnoarmeiskaya, Kramatorskaya, Barvenkovo, Slavyansk and Lissichansk. In the regions south and west of Kharkov, German troops suffered heavy losses.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

8th Mar.—President M. Ismet Ineunu was unanimously re-elected President of Turkey by the Seventh Turkish Grand National Assembly.

* * * *

SHIPPING

6th Mar.—A Brazilian passenger ship *Affonso* and a Brazilian freighter *Brasiloide* were torpedoed.

7th Mar.—An American cruiser *Astoria* was launched in Philadelphia. Two ships, the *Blueridge* and the *Rocky Mountains* were launched in Kearney.

9th Mar.—A number of German cargo ships scuttled themselves at Marmagoa (owing to differences among the crew on the question of making a dash to Singapore).

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

5th Mar.—Germany's Man-Power Chief, Sauckal, arrived in France to take charge of recruiting workers for Germany.

6th Mar.—Eight German officers and men were killed in Oslo by Norwegian patriots. Mass arrests of farmers were carried out.

8th Mar.—According to the Morocco Radio, General Giraud, the High Commissioner for North Africa, dismissed M. Bouni, the departmental head in North African administration. General Giraud announced that the Vichy Anti-Jewish decrees were invalid in North Africa.

9th Mar.—Disorders broke out in Belgrade and Zagreb.

A Fighting French spokesman said that the Nazis had embarked on a policy designed to exterminate the French race.

Twenty-three German officers were killed by guerilla fighters at Lille.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

3rd Mar.—There was a daylight raid on Port Darwin. Four Japanese ships were sunk or damaged by United States bombers off New Guinea.

4th Mar.—The Battle of Bismarck Sea was fought and won by the Allies. The victory was of such completeness as to assume the proportions of a major disaster to the enemy. The Japanese entire force which consisted of 22 vessels—12 transports and 10 warships (cruisers and destroyers)—was completely destroyed. Fifty-two enemy aircraft were shot down; 15,000 ground forces (destined to attack New Guinea) were drowned or killed.

The Chinese counter-attacked in North Kiangsi, pushing the Japanese 80 miles eastward.

5th Mar.—The remnants of the enemy convoy of 22 ships were wiped out. Twenty-seven more Japanese planes were shot down. The "Suicide Alley"—Itiaz Straits between New Britain and New Guinea, was, according to an Allied pilot, "a tangle of sinking boats and drowning Japanese." Ship after ship went down and the Japs in lifeboats were machine-gunned. Reuter's special correspondent rounded off his report with: "The sun went down on a scene of chaos."

Japanese positions in Kiska were attacked.

The Japanese were pushed back on all fronts in China. Four hundred of them were killed in North Kiangsi province.

6th Mar.—It was revealed that 151 Japanese warships had been sunk in the Pacific since Pearl Harbour.

Two Japanese destroyers were sunk in the Solomons.

7th Mar.—Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, said that victory against the Japanese convoy in the Bismark Sea was a major one.

The Japanese began a general retreat from the west bank of the Upper Salween and in China's Yunnan province.

American aircraft heavily bombed the Japanese air base at Munda.

8th Mar.—A Japanese bomber was shot down over Darwin.

9th Mar.—The Japanese troops captured four towns west of Shasi.

General MacArthur issued a warning that Japanese air forces in south-west Pacific were increasing in strength.

Japanese bombers sank an Allied merchantman in Oro Bay.

10th Mar.—Admiral Thierry D'Argentien, a member of the French National Committee and High French Commissioner in the Pacific, said that the Japanese did not want to take Australia but only to isolate it from the rest of the world.

Japanese aircraft bombed the aerodrome at Wau in New Guinea.

THIRTY-SIX YEARS AFLOAT

Thirty-six years' service in the Royal Indian Marine and Royal Indian Navy is the proud record of Commissioned Boatswain Shaikh Jainoo, who was awarded the Order of British India and the title of 'Bahadur' in the New Year's Honours List.

For nine years, until 1915, he served in one ship, R.I.M.S. "Minto", receiving successive advancements in rank until he became Sukhani in 1913.

When war broke out in the following year "Minto" was ordered to the Red Sea on patrol duty and on one occasion was sent to intercept the German cruiser "Konigsberg."

Promoted to warrant rank, he was employed as an instructor in a training ship for boys from 1925 to 1933, and afterwards went afloat in "Hindustan" and "Investigator." He became a Commissioned Boatswain in 1938, and since the present war started he has served in H.M.I.S. "Bahadur", the Senior Boys' Training Establishment of the Royal Indian Navy at Karachi.

His long and meritorious service is a splendid example to boys beginning their careers in the Navy.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Leguminous Vegetables

BEANS AND PEAS

1. Egyptian Kidney Bean.

Dolichos lablab, L. Family Legumniosae; *Avarakai*, Tam.; *Chikkudikaya*, Tel.; *Amarakka*, Mal.

Description.—A strong-growing climbing bean with trifoliate leaves. It occurs in several varieties with white, pink, or purplish flowers. Pods are flat and broad with warted or wavy margins.

Propagation.—The seeds which can be obtained from any seed-merchant are sown an inch deep in soil which has been dug up with well-rotted cowdung and ash obtained by burning dry leaves.

Cultivation.—The seeds must be planted about 3-4 feet apart. Keep the soil damp. The plants are then allowed to climb over a trellis. The pods can be picked from the third or fourth month after sowing; the plants continue to produce pods for more than a year.

Season for cultivation.—On the plains, sow during May to June or when the rains cease. On the hills, from April to June.

Uses.—The tender pods are used a great deal for curries. Since the plant produces fruits almost all the year round, there is no need to store the pods.

General Analysis.—Water 83·3 per cent; mineral 0·8 per cent; protein 4·9 per cent; fat 0·4 per cent; fibre 1·8 per cent; carbohydrate 8·8 per cent; calories per lb. 300; calcium 0·32 per cent; magnesium 0·035 per cent; phosphorus 0·098 per cent; iron 0·007 per cent; Vitamin A—I.U. per 100 gm—540; Vitamin B—I.U. per 100 gm—25; Vitamin C—mgm per 100 gm—40·6 per cent.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1943 No. 2

SECOND TO NONE

MR. AMERY
Secretary of State for India

India has raised a million and a half volunteers. Her divisions showed themselves second to none in all the hard fought battles in the Middle East. She had already played the part of the main arsenal of the Middle Eastern campaigns and is now preparing to play an even greater part in the supply and equipment of forces destined to relieve China and bring Japan's ephemeral conquests tottering to the ground

Mr. AMERY, Secretary of State for India, in a speech at Birmingham on March 12

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Russia: the German Counter-offensive	4-5
The Red Cross	8
Traditions of the Soviet Officers Training School	10
Anglo-American Relations with Russia	12
Rommel's Immediate Problem	13
A Road Back to Java	14
Ruler of 100 Islands for two months	14
Hitler's Prestige Falling	15
Axis Resources Forfeit in Africa	15
War Against all Germans	16
Prospects in the I.A.F.	17
Diary of the War	18
Rama Deepa	22
Villagers' Railway Protection Scheme	23

THE TASK AHEAD OF US

"We have accomplished the imperative task that lay on us after the fall of Malaya and Burma, to secure India from the threat of a major attack from the east by sea, land or air. This involved concentrating on a tremendous construction programme of aerodromes, communications, anti-aircraft and coastal defence; the organization and training of new forces to replace those we had lost; and much other work. We can say now that India is in a position to meet and defeat any attack against her soil. We cannot yet say that India is safe. She will not be until we can drive away and make powerless that cruel, aggressive treacherous enemy that still threatens our security and our peaceful development and that of our great Allies, America and China, who fight with us in this eastern theatre. That is the task ahead of us. That is where the equipment of which you will see samples in this exhibition will be used for. That is why we still require large number of Indian youth and especially educated youth in addition to those who have already so freely volunteered. It is no light task, but it is an essential one for the future of our civilization."

—GENERAL WAVELL, *in opening the War Services Exhibition in New Delhi, on March 16.*

◆ ◆ ◆

FUNDAMENTAL JOB

"The important thing is to take precautions to make sure that this time Germany and Japan—Italy is not a problem of the same size—are never able to start this business again. That seems the fundamental job of statesmanship. I do not think we should adopt the same attitude as last time. I do not think, to take Germany as an example, that we should seek to set up a new Government and then just trust to luck. I think we should take precautions both in respect of Germany and of Japan".

—MR. EDEN, *at a Press Conference in Washington, on March 13.*

◆ ◆ ◆

To the Troops!

You want to be amused?

You want some light music?

Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras,* 211 or 60·98 metres,

Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1943 No. 28

Chiang Kai-Shek on China's Future.

GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK broadcast an appeal to the Chinese people on Saturday (March 13), the eighteenth anniversary of the death of the father of the Chinese Republic, Dr. SUN YAT SEN, and the fourth anniversary of the founding of the National and Spiritual Mobilisation Movement. In his appeal, the great leader of the Chinese people laid emphasis on the need for leading a more austere life in keeping with the wartime needs of today, and said,

> "You have not been painstaking and thrifty enough. You have not struggled hard enough. China's destiny lies in your own hands, and you must, in this time of emergency, redouble your efforts to complete the mission of national rejuvenation."

A similar emphasis on the country's future has been laid by the Generalissimo in his new book, *The Destiny of China.* He says in that book that China's humiliation in the past century was due to moral decay under the Manchu dynasty and obstacles relating to foreign relation and if China was to advance, she must depend mainly on internal reconstruction, for which the Marshal advocates a 10-year plan based on intensive development of communications and heavy industries calculated to put China in the forefront of industrial Powers. It may be pointed out that the Chinese Government, under the leadership of the Marshal, have been devoting a considerable part of their attention towards the development of heavy industries. Eight years ago, they established a body called the "**National Resources Commission.**" This functions as a branch of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, and is entrusted by the National Military Council with the work of developing, operating, and controlling important mining and electrical enterprises. It has already a record of notable works to its credit. It must not be understood that the appointment of the Commission

(*Continued on page* 6)

"Time-Bombs From America"—II

If none of us shirks,
Democracy works.

Russia: the German Counter-offensive

THE Russians have evacuated the City of Kharkov on March 15, almost exactly a month after they captured it from the Germans. This is a heavy blow for the Red Army, because the whole Russian line in the south down to Rostov is likely to be affected by this. The Germans have fully exploited the abnormally early thaw on the Russian front, and succeeded in halting the southward drive of the Russians by powerful counter-attacks. It seemed as though the eastern face of the Donetz sector was about to crumble before the Russian thrusts, and the Germans were threatened with closure of their exit from the north. The German plan at that stage was to keep the eastern exit open, while their forces inside the Bend were making a fighting withdrawal. But the temperature rose, the ground softened, and there was a slow-down of the Russian advance all along the line. It was at this time that the Germans, strengthened by reserve divisions and armoured formations, which were perhaps drawn from the Crimea, rushed into the western Donetz area and began a furious counter-offensive in the north-east. Violent and fluctuating battles went on in the area occupied by the Russians last month, south-west of Kharkov; The object of the Germans in launching this fierce counter-offensive, taking advantage of the thaw, was to drive a wedge between Russian forces in the region of the lower Donetz and those advancing from west of Kharkov. For the time being, the Germans have been saved from a catastrophe even greater than that of Stalingrad by halting the Russian drive down to the Sea of Azov. They have, in fact, repeated the same movement which drove Timoshenko across the upper Donetz last summer. The German counter-offensive has outflanked the Russians and succeeded in recapturing Kharkov.

IT was a very rash move, but the Germans risked it. If it had failed another German army would have been pushed forward to join the forces defending the Gorlovka region in a salient which was threatened with envelopment.

Russian Strategy

RUSSIAN strategy after the thaw has set in seems to be to halt the German drive as far as possible and transfer their main offensive efforts to the north, till conditions are favourable in the south. They have achieved substantial successes in wiping out salients around the towns of Demyansk and Rzhev. This is perhaps the beginning of a series of blows which will continue until the thaw reaches the northern sectors. Their plan seems to be to weaken the enemy by engaging him at widely-separated centres, and keep his forces evenly spread along the entire front, so that when the general offensive starts in the summer, they will be able to have better advantages.

WHAT would have happened if the frost had continued for the normal period? The Russians would have swooped down to the Azov coast and brought off an encirclement which would have been even more spectacular than that of Stalingrad. Their disadvantage in being checked at a late stage in their southern offensive lies in the fact that their communications were stretched over an immense area of recaptured territory and they were badly in need of an interval for reorganizing their supplies and reconverting the railroad tracks to the Russian gauge.

Caucasus: Defensive Arc

DOWN in the Caucasus, the Germans have succeeded in maintaining a defensive arc opposite the Kerch Straits which was intended to serve as a screen behind which the remaining German divisions were to evacuate to the Crimea. This defensive arc also helps to protect the German army in the Ukraine. It is only when the Russians have the naval base of Novorossisk in their hands and command the Kerch Straits that they would be in a position to launch "combined operations" against the south coast of the Crimea and the Azov seaboard.

IT was expected that the German hold on the Ukraine and Crimea would be threatened, as the 1943 campaign developed, by three converging drives centred on Kharkov, Rostov and Novorossisk. But Kharkov has fallen. Hitler had thrown in vast reserves in the Donbas region. It is reported that the Germans re-equipped eight tanks and five infantry divisions and flung twelve fresh divisions from Western Europe into the battle. A number of towns had to be evacuated by the Russians.

Object of the Germans

THE object of the Germans now seems to be to drive the Russians away from the upper reaches of the Donetz river. This would help them in securing a more or less continuous line of defence running from Kharkov to Taganrog on the Sea of Azov coast. This would postpone the Russian threat to Dnieper.

Russian Difficulties

THE difficulties of the Russians in the battle of Kharkov were the presence of numerically superior enemy forces and the shortage of tanks and heavy guns on their side. This is only to be expected, for the Russians had advanced 400 miles from Stalingrad without the help of convenient roads and railways. The early setting of the thaw added to the difficulties, as reinforcements could not be rushed to the advanced positions in the Ukraine. It seems a matter for surprise, when all these difficulties are taken into account, that the Russians have been able to achieve so much.

AS regards the Central Front, the capture of Vyasma, the great enemy hedgehog guarding Hitler's main base at Smolensk has uncovered eastern approaches to the City which is now being threatened by the Red Army. It is stated that the advanced Soviet units are less than 50 miles away from the place. It is only to be expected that the Germans will concentrate all their energy in defending Smolensk, for the loss of Smolensk means practically the abandonment of their entire position in the Central Front.

★

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

supersedes or extinguishes, in any way, opportunities for private enterprise. On the other hand, private enterprise is encouraged by the Government. The National Resources Commission is concerned mainly with the development of heavy industries in which the ordinary investor is not generally interested, for heavy industries require large capital and take some time to show their dividends. But a Government waging a long war cannot afford to ignore the development of heavy industries.

* * * *

Liquid Fuel Industry in China. One of the most remarkable successes achieved by the Commission is the development of the liquid fuel industry—in particular petroleum products. About eight or nine years ago, geological surveys were conducted in the province of Kansu for oil fields. The Commission undertook the work of drilling and oil refining. Fourteen oil wells were sunk, three of which yield large quantities of oil. Refineries and three sets of *shell* stills have been set up in this area. Special equipment from the United States to enable production of 64 per cent gasolene has also been erected. Plants for the production of the ethyl-alcohol were erected in Szechwan, Kansu and Sikang. The Szechwan plant, it is stated, manufactures absolute alcohol fit for use in aviation. There is an oil cracking plant in Chungking, which refines even tung oil in such a way as to serve as a gasolene substitute in some special cases.

* * * *

Exploiting Mineral Resources of China. Another aspect of the work of the National Resources Commission is that of explo ting the mineral resources of China. There are three tungsten mines working under the supervision of the Commission in the province of Kiangsi. Various ore units have been established for the improvement of the quality of the tungsten ore. The Commission has set up two steel-making plants, one in Chungking and the other in Kunming. There are also two electrolytic copper refineries. One is in Chungking; it treats fairly crude metal which comes from the north-western parts of Szechwan. It is stated that the work of the refining done here is so satisfactory that the final product attains quite a high degree of purity. The other refinery is at Kunming, and it achieves similar results in the crude copper obtained from the Yunnan area.

Szechwan has also got the Iron Works which were formerly at Hanyang. Soon after the Sino-Japanese war broke out, 40,000 tons of equipment were transferred from Hanyang to the interior of Szechwan in the same way as some of the Russian heavy industries were transferred to the Ural regions. Recently three new blast furnaces were set up, and a special iron smelting plant has been constructed, from which it is hoped to obtain a special type of iron known as "sponge iron," which will be valuable for war industries.

* * * *

From an Agricultural Country to an Industrial Power: China's Achievement. A good deal of work is being done by the Commission in regard to Machine Industry. It established the Central Machine Works in Hunan, but later, this had to be transferred to Yunnan on account of the Japanese war. The Machine Works produce turbo-generator sets, boiler plants, gas engines, machine tools, and even textile machinery. There are two branch factories in Szechwan and Kansu, which supplement the work of the Central Industrial Organisation.

The Commission has established four different factories attached to the Central Electrical Manufacturing Works. Each of the factories specialises in a particular branch of manufacture. One produces wire and cables, another vacuum tubes and lamp bulbs, a third telephones and accessories, and the fourth power machinery. It may be mentioned, incidentally, that the men of the Chinese army are widely using portable telephone sets and radio parts. There is a radio manufacturing works in Kweilin which is eight years old. Broadcasting equipment and radio phone sets are produced only for the Government, but receiving sets and speech-amplifiers are made for general use.

The Commission has, under its control and management, a number of power stations which supply electricity in the south-west and north-west provinces. Recently an extensive hydrographic survey was undertaken, and it is expected that great results will acrue from it. But the main difficulty at present is with regard to importation of suitable machinery for starting more elaborate electrical works.

It would be seen from the above facts how China, a predominantly agricultural country, has made vast strides in the field of industrial production. China did not wait for some one to come and help her out of her difficulties, which were further complicated by the war. She became acutely conscious of her own position, her limitations and drawbacks, and she resolved to stand on her own feet. This does not mean, however, that outside help has not given a fillip to Chinese industrial progress, for highly industrialized countries like Britain and America have voluntarily given to China aid in her hour of trial, and the Lease-Lend provisions have helped the Chinese war effort to a very great extent. But the point is that China herself realized the needs of the times and took the initiative in building up her industries on a great scale.

* * * *

R.A.F.'s unprecedented Bomber Offensive. Last Friday (March 12), British bombers launched a very heavy attack against Essen. During the previous week there was also a 1,000-ton bomb raid. The famous Krupps Works which cover some 800 acres and form one of the largest industrial concentrations in the world, received serious damage. The attack was pressed home with the greatest determination. It is officially described as a "very heavy and concentrated attack"—a phrase which is used only of the biggest R.A.F. raids. During this month (March), there has been a number of heavy attacks on important industrial towns of Germany. The month opened with the 70th heaviest raid on Berlin and the 96th raid on Hamburg. The Luftwaffe was stung into attempting a meagre "reprisal" against London. The R.A.F. raids on Munich, Brannau (the Nazi party headquarters) and other important industrial targets have also caused serious damage.

During the previous month (February), heavy R.A.F. raids were carried out on Wilhelmshaven (four), Lorient (four), Cologne (three), Spezia (two), Turin, Milan, St. Nazaire, Hamburg, Bremen and Nuremberg. The American Air Force mounted heavy attacks on Wilhelmshaven, Dunkirk, Brest and St. Nazaire.

In January heavy raids by the R.A.F. included five on Lorient, two on Berlin, two on Essen and one each on Bordeaux, Dusseldorf, Emden and Hamburg. The American Air Force carried out heavy attacks during this month on Wilhelmshaven, which was the first American raid on German soil, Lille, Brest, Lorient and St. Nazaire. A fortnight ago (March 4) the United States Flying Fortresses opened a chapter in their daylight offensive by attacking an *inland* target in Germany—the famous marshalling yards at Hamburg. The bomber squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Force made their debut in January. On February 24 they carried out a raid on Wilhelmshaven, in which not a single aircraft was lost. This testifies to the skill and efficiency of the Canadian air crews.

* * * *

"The Second Front"—Hitler's Counter-measures. What is the significance of the unprecedented air offensive now being carried out on important towns in Germany and occupied Europe? This will be better understood by a consideration of the strategic background of the air war. The United Nations have not made any secret of the fact that they are going to launch a large-scale offensive in Western Europe some time this year, and the Germans are giving wide publicity to their counter-measures against the great offensive. They are (1) the U-boat offensive, (2) the fortification of the European coastline, and (3) the conscription of labour in the occupied territories. As regards (1) it is obvious that Germany's U-boat warfare is dependent on flow of reinforcements and the efficient working of U-boat repair and supply bases. As for (2) the fortification of Europe is dependent on the efficiency of communications, namely, inland waterways and railways. The third counter-measure, viz., conscription of labour, can be effective only if factories remain intact.

The air attacks of the R.A.F. on key centres are intended to hinder these three German counter-measures.

★

The Red Cross

By MRS. G. G. ARMSTRONG

PROBABLY most people heard last week the special appeal which was being made for help in the work being done by the All-India Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John; but many people who talk about Red Cross work have only a very vague idea of what that work actually is. The story of the Red Cross begins about 80 years ago, with a young Swiss doctor named Henri Dunant, who was so much shocked by the terrible sufferings of the wounded after the battle of Solferino, that he determined to do everything in his power to prevent such suffering for the future. So the Red Cross Society was founded, originally and primarily to relieve the sufferings of the wounded in battle; but mercifully battles are not there all the time, and so the work of the Red Cross was extended to cover the relief of every kind of suffering and disaster all over the world, and almost every civilized country has its own national Red Cross Society. The Red Cross symbol has no special religious significance; it commemorates the fact that Henri Dunant was Swiss and that Switzerland is the original home of the Society. The Swiss national flag is the square Geneva Cross, white on a red ground, and so the new Society adopted as its emblem the Geneva Cross, red on a white ground. Under the Geneva Convention, this symbol of the Red Cross is reserved solely for work for the relief of suffering, and may on no account be used to cover any work for the fighting forces. That is why it is laid down that the Red Cross must not be fired upon nor bombed; though the Germans and the Japanese have not respected this convention, the Red Cross symbol is still sacred, as covering only work of mercy and relief.

JOINT WAR ORGANIZATION

But what is this Indian Red Cross work which we are being asked to help, not just for one week, but steadily? Here and in England, two bodies, both devoted to the relief of suffering, have joined hands in the Joint War Organization of the Red Cross and St. John. The training of First Aid and Nursing workers has always been the great task of the St. John Ambulance Association; the Red Cross has also trained nurses, but in India it has always concerned itself primarily with the supply of every kind of necessary equipment for the military hospitals. As the armies of India have expanded, so the need for hospital equipment has increased. There is a standard Government equipment for these hospitals, but every one who has had anything at all to do with hospitals knows what a difference there is between the minimum equipment you can rub along with, and what you need for the comforts of the patients. It is the work of the Red Cross to bridge this gap, not only in India itself, but wherever there are Indian troops, in North Africa, in Iraq or wherever they may be. Many people have a vague idea that Red Cross work is just rolling bandages, and making gauze dressings. Bandages are useful, of course and the hospitals want plenty of them; but they want much more expensive things than that. They want sterilizers for those dressings, electric heaters, invalid chairs, leg cradles, extra pillows and bed-rests, all kinds of crockery, glass and enamel ware; they want recreation for the men during the long weeks of sickness and convalescence, wireless sets, gramophones, books and games. We cannot say "Oh, the bare minimum is enough for them," even though that minimum would have been wonderful for the soldiers of Henri Dunant's day. All our standards for hospitals are higher now, and it is our business, in gratitude to the men who have helped to keep us here safe and unwounded, to see that the hospitals which nurse them back to health are as well equipped as they can be made. The money subscribed to the Indian Red Cross goes mainly to Indian hospitals, since a generous contribution has been received from the British Red Cross to cover the cost of supplies to hospitals for British troops.

SUPPLIES TO PRISONERS

But the war work of the Red Cross is not limited to the equipment of hospitals. The wounded are not the only sufferers in war-time; there are also the prisoners. Ever since Dunkirk, the British Red Cross has been organizing the despatch of supplies to prisoners in Europe; parcels of food and clothing

MRS. G. G. ARMSTRONG

have been packed and despatched weekly to all the prisoners-of-war camps, by way of Geneva, the home of the Society and the headquarters of the International Red Cross. Special parcels for Indian prisoners are packed at India House in London and despatched in the same way and of these the Indian Red Cross has, for a long time, been bearing the greater part of the cost. The problem of prisoners in Japanese hands has presented a much greater difficulty; for a long time no supplies at all could be sent and it was even impossible to get any news. The International Red Cross at Geneva, which forwards letters through the Red Cross Postal Message Service to all the enemy-occupied countries in Europe, could not help for lack of co-operation on the Japanese side. Nor could the Red Cross organization for tracing the missing do very much; in Europe it works through Red Cross representatives in the enemy countries themselves, who make the enquiries, but in the Far Eastern countries there are so few Red Cross representatives that little could be done. But even in Japan there is a Red Cross Society, and it is now possible to post letters to prisoners of war, c/o the Japanese Red Cross, Tokyo. It is still not possible to send individual parcels to the Far East, but bulk cargoes of food, clothing and medical stores are now being sent by the National Red Cross Societies of India, America and Britain, and we know that some of these, at any rate, have arrived safely and been unloaded. There are some quarter of a million prisoners, military and civil, in Japanese hands, and to send help to them is a costly business. But we have much to be thankful for in our own continued immunity from invasion, where others have lost everything they had; any shortage of food here is a very small thing compared with their lack of everything. Because we have not suffered the horrors of war, it is incumbent on us all to send a thank-offering to the Red Cross Prisoners of War Fund.

MADRAS'S SHARE

These two main lines of work, supplies for military hospitals and for prisoners of war, are the two great needs for which the present appeal is being launched. What share has Madras been taking in this work? We have not been forgetful of the suffering in other countries; donations have been sent to the Lord Mayor's Fund for Air Raid Victims, the Chinese Red Ross, the Red Cross Aid to Russia Fund. As regards the Indian work, Madras has assumed responsibility for supplies to all military hospitals, casualty clearing stations and Field Ambulances at present stationed in this Province. Ordinarily these would be supplied from a local depot, staffed and financed by the Central Organization; but we have established our own local depot, working in collaboration with the Central Organization and the military authorities are making no call upon the Central Funds in this respect. Hospital supplies made by Madras working parties have also been provided for shipment to Iraq and to Malaya, for which Madras was, until the end, the storage and shipping depot. Madras has also been able to send so far, a little over ¾ lakh to the Central Prisoners of War Fund.

But this is not enough. If you could send a parcel to your own son as a prisoner of war, you would not send him just one parcel and say "That's enough for him." Every time you would have sent him a parcel, send the money to the Prisoners of War Fund; if you send it to the Governor's War Fund earmarked for prisoners of war, it will be forwarded. And if you are a wealthy man, what could be better, as thank-offering for your safety, than to provide a sterilizer or a wireless set for some hospital, or equip for it a recreation room which will bear your name and remind the men there that you have not forgotten what you owe them for keeping you safe? And if you are not wealthy, still you can do something; one place has organized an "Anna a Week Fund," which has brought in quite a lot of money.

The great thing is that we should not be satisfied with a little easy sympathy for the wounded and the prisoners, with being very sorry about it and doing nothing more. There is no excuse for anyone to say "But what can *we* do?" The Red Cross is there as the answer.

—*A talk broadcast from All-India Radio, Madras*, on March 15.

Feeling our Strength

At this moment when we are beginning to feel our strength, we are beginning to make the enemy feel it too. At the same time, we must assume that a lot of hard work lies ahead. We have a long way to go and setbacks and disappointments are absolutely certain before we can hope to win the war and peace in the East and West.

—MR. EDEN, *at a Press Conference in Washington, on March 13.*

Traditions of the Soviet Officers Training School

By L. VEPRITSKAYA

YOUNG men in military uniform stand in a line. It is the morning roll-call of the inmates of the school. The Commander calls out a name, and a student replies, " Present!"

" Kokorev," cries the Commander.

" Died the death of a hero," comes the reply followed by a dead silence.

Such is the tradition of one of the oldest Red Army schools organized twenty-five years ago, when the best student replies for the dead comrade, a former student of the school. The students are acquainted with the biographies of their fellow-students killed in action in defence of their homeland. They know their features, for their portraits adorn the walls of the school.

LENIN'S INITIATIVE

The Moscow Red Banner Infantry School, named after the supreme Soviet of R.S.F.S.R., has a long history. It was formed in the year 1917 on the initiative of V. I. Lenin, and then bore the name of the " Moscow Revolutionary Machinegun Training School."

In 1918 the first graduates of the school went to the fronts of the Civil War in Russia. In 1920, twenty-six students were surrounded by the White Guards. They fought until they had spent their last cartridge. The enemy took them prisoner and led them for execution. Standing before a ditch dug in the ground, young soldiers sang the 'International.' The squad was fired at but, wounded, continued to sing. A monument was erected in Kremlin in the memory of the courageous warriors.

They were the first officers of the Revolution to demonstrate to the enemy how heroes, true to their ideals, die.

The school was visited by Lenin. On one occasion he made a speech before a gathering of students. When the great leader of the Russian Revolution died the students stood in the guard of honour and were then detailed to stand on guard at the Mausoleum.

In those days of grief the school was visited by Joseph Stalin. The students will remember for the rest of their lives his speech on Lenin —the mountain eagle.

The disciples of the school fought in the snows of Finland and have distinguished themselves during the present war.

THE HEROES

Lieutenant Mikhail Zvonorev led his company to action six times despite his wound, and did not leave the field of action until he was again severely wounded. He rose to his feet in the heat of the battle and hurled hand-grenades into the midst of the enemy.

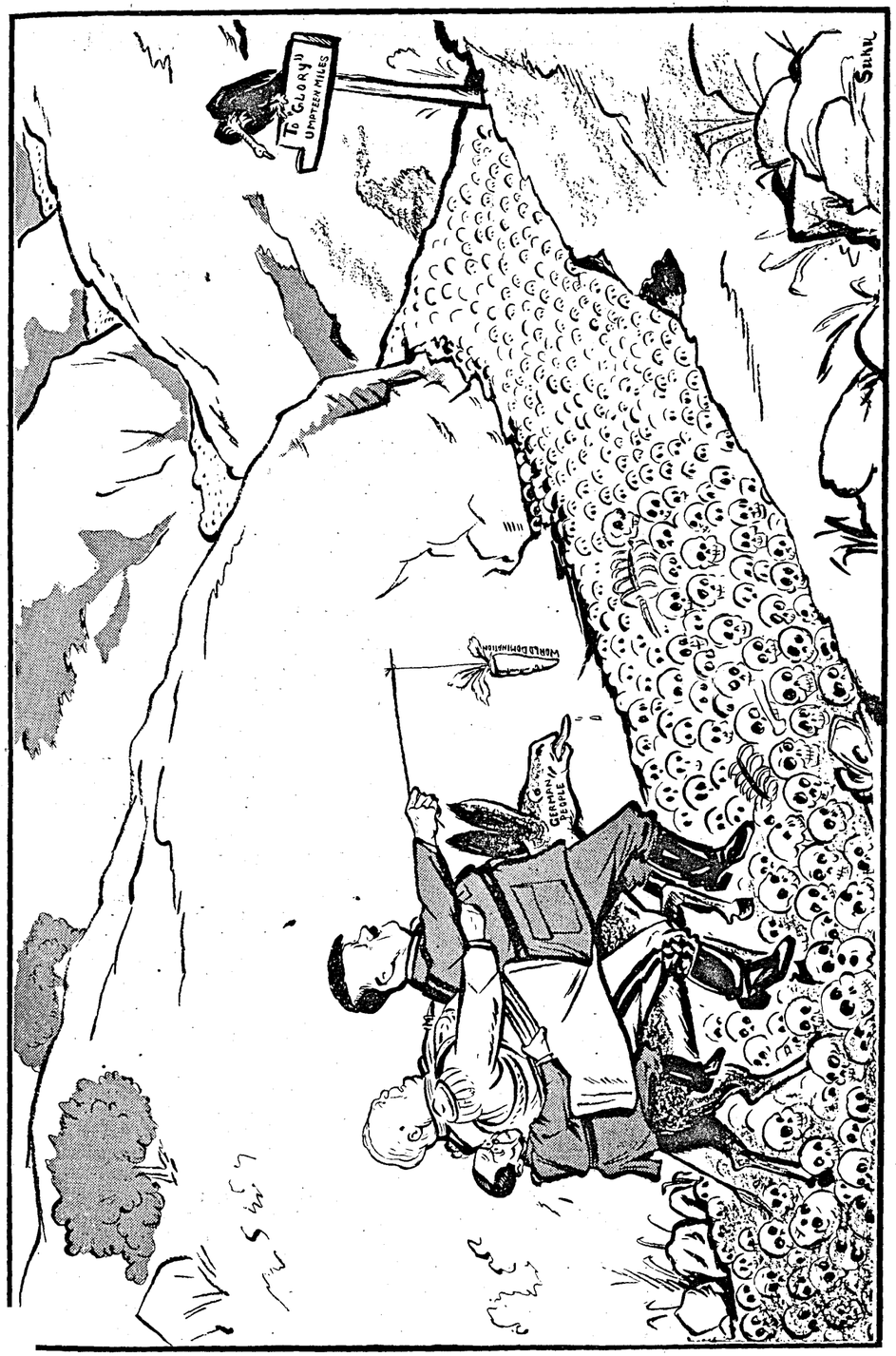
He perished, but the enemy paid dearly for his life. The school is proud of him, and many others of its brave comrades.

In October 1941, when the Germans were at the gates of Moscow, many of the students and commanders of the school fought in the army of General Rokosovsky defending Moscow. Two German regiments threatened to encircle a certain Russian unit which was under the command of one of the students of the school. The Russians broke through the encirclement after a fierce battle inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. The Germans lost over one regiment of soldiers in killed and wounded, in addition to a large quantity of armaments.

GENERAL RODIMTSEV

The title of " The Hero of the Soviet Union " is awarded for exceptional valour in the execution of duties at the front. None who has studied the defence of Stalingrad will ever forget the name of the hero of the Soviet Union, General Rodimtsev and his guards units. This talented general is also a disciple and the pride of the school. The commandant of the school is the hero of the Soviet Union, Major-General Mladentsov.

The students are studying their hardest to master the most up-to-date weapons of war and the science of warfare. Brought up on the old traditions of the school, they will apply their knowledge on the field of action where they will take up the command of various units.



" THE PATH OF GLORY " !

Anglo-American Relations with Russia

THERE is a small minority of people in this country who, undeterred by the thought of playing into Hitler's hands, are still impressed by the "Bolshevik bogey," just as there is probably a small minority of Russians who still believe that British capitalism is a standing menace to Soviet Russia. Unfortunately, the harm done by these minorities depends, not on their numerical strength or on their influence—which is insignificant—but on the amount of suspicion which the mere fact of their existence can excite on the other side.

TWO-EDGED WEAPON

Hitler's Bolshevist bogey propaganda is a two-edged weapon more cunningly forged than appears at first sight. If he fails—as he has already failed—to induce Britain and America to abate an iota of their determination to crush and obliterate Hitlerism and all its works, he still hopes to sow distrust between his eastern and western foes by fanning Russian apprehensions that Britain and America will presently seek to rob Russia of the fruits of her victory. Hitler's chances of making mischief have been swollen by official hesitations, both in Britain and in America, to recognize that Russia will at the moment of a victory so largely due to her outstanding effort, enjoy the same right as her allies to judge for herself the conditions which she deems necessary for the security of her frontiers.

A study of the historical background serves to illuminate the character of Russian apprehensions and make these apprehensions comprehensible to her allies. Russia as well as Germany was excluded from the last peace settlement, and the corollary was an attempt to build up security to the east of Germany on the basis of a combination of minor States under the aegis of the Western Powers. Excuses can be found for those who committed this cardinal blunder in 1919. There would be no excuse for advocating its repetition to-day. The sequel irrefutably proved that security in that region cannot be assured for any nation by any grouping of minor countries, or by support given to any such grouping from the west. In the words of our correspondent, "no Western Power, however great, can safely act on the eastern flank of Germany except in genuine and close understanding with Russia." The mere threat of intervention there by the Western Powers produced the Rapallo Treaty of 1922, just as the Franco-British undertaking to Poland given independently of Russia in April 1939, led to a German-Russian agreement in August of that fatal year.

SHEER MADNESS

It would be inexcusable—and, in the long run, suicidal—if British and American statesmen failed to read the lesson which these facts convey. To suppose that Britain and the United States, with the aid of some lesser European Powers, could maintain permanent security in Europe by a policy which alienated Russia and induced her to disinterest herself in continental affairs, would be sheer madness.

These considerations point to two essential tasks which must engage British diplomacy at the present time. The first is to develop the spirit of growing confidence in the relations between Britain and Russia. Success in this task will no doubt depend as much on military achievement as diplomatic skill. But it will in no circumstances be complete or lasting unless an ungrudging and unqualified agreement is attained between the two countries on future conditions of security in Europe. The sole interest of Russia is to assure herself that her outer defences are in sure hands; and this interest will be best served if the lands between her frontiers and those of Germany are held by governments and peoples friendly to herself. That is one condition on which Russia must and will insist.

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY

The other task of British foreign policy is to interpret to the United States the common interest of Britain and Russia in European security and in the means of attaining it. As Mr. Herbert Morrison said in his recent speech: "We may be able to play a part in developing and cementing relations of friendship between our two great allies—the Russians and the Americans." But this part cannot be passive. The issue of security in Europe will be settled only if those who possess military and economic power on the largest scale and are prepared to exercise it within the confines of Europe, organize that power in common for the fulfilment of common purposes and for the benefit of all. Russia's military achievements in the war have shown conclusively that no such organization can exist for a moment without her, and that those concerned for future security in Europe, both great and small, have an imperative need for her.

This is the message of the events of the past 18 months in Europe. It must be the decisive factor in shaping future British policy on the Continent; and one of the main concerns of British statesmanship must be to reinforce the efforts of American leaders to promote American understanding and appreciation of it.—*The Times.*

Rommel's Immediate Problem

THE whole Tunisian campaign is governed by considerations of time. Rommel and von Arnim are fighting to postpone a situation which can be clearly foreseen, in which every coast of Axis-controlled Europe is exposed to the threat of an Allied landing. They face odds of three or four to one, which cannot be appreciably affected by the inflow of reinforcements by air at the rate of about a thousand men a day.

Such a campaign, in which the commander of an inferior force threatened from several sides attempts to make mobility compensate for lack of numbers by striking rapidly at each of his convergent adversaries in turn, has occurred many times in military history. The difficulty is always to throw adequate power into any one blow because of the never-ceasing anxiety that in the meantime the next opponent to be met will have made his advance irresistible. This was the experience of Napoleon in his brilliant but finally unsuccessful campaign of 1814.

NOT HARD ENOUGH

There are already signs that Rommel, for all his tactical ingenuity, is unlikely to overcome the inherent disadvantage of a similar strategic situation. He struck hard in the centre, but—it now seems—not quite hard enough. On this part of the front Allied forces are for the most part back in their original positions. They have admittedly suffered substantial casualties, but they have also inflicted losses on the enemy which, even if they are smaller, he is much less able to afford. Their plans have been temporarily diverted. But they have not been compelled to relax their pressure upon the eastern plain through which Rommel's precarious communications run; and the capture of Pichon, commanding the road to Kairouan, the thrust to the Faid Pass, and the advance of the Fighting French from Gafsa to the shore of Chott Djerid and the rear of the Mareth Line, all keep alive the threat ultimately to squeeze the enemy between a superior army and the sea. There is good reason to think that Rommel has miscalculated the value of his stroke; for it has cost him considerable price, and has not sensibly eased his position; if he has gained any time, he has probably not gained very much.

On the northern extremity of the battlefield von Arnim's attack has been vigorous and has won territory, but, according to latest Allied announcements, the intensity of the hostile offensive has died down, and the First Army has gained the initiative, although to regain the initiative several miles to the rear of its original positions does not disguise the occurrence of a local setback. Essential roads, it would seem, are still covered, and here too the heavy losses incurred by the enemy without attaining his strategic objectives may be expected to tell severely against him in the long run.

EL ALAMEIN TACTICS

Rommel has decided to strike first in the hope, it may be presumed, of throwing Allied plans out of gear and so delaying rather than preventing their execution. These were his tactics at El Alamein, although they did not then save him from a crushing defeat. The enemy has attempted two successive assaults with large forces of tanks and infantry, both of which are stated to have been effectively held. The phrase would be consistent with the retirement of our lighter forces before the onslaught and unbroken resistance by the main body. From the announcement that the enemy has lost 21 tanks (since known to be 50) without destroying one of ours, it looks as if his armoured forces have been drawn into unequal combat, as once before, with anti-tank artillery with which the Eighth Army is known to be powerfully equipped.

In that kind of fighting he is likely to suffer heavily in a section of his army that has never recovered from the devastation wrought at El Alamein; and even if he can improve the ratio of casualties, the heavier the fighting the more the balance must swing against him. On the other hand, little as he can afford a fight to the finish in the south, he can perhaps even less afford to let the Eighth Army pass quickly through the narrow gap covered by the Mareth defences. Once that pass is forced, he himself will have to lengthen his line facing the south while on his western flank, Allied armies, whose recent local reverses were reverses attributed to lack of concentration, will have an opportunity to contact theirs. His immediate problem, as in breaking off the westward offensive, is once more that of economy of force. He has to decide how much energy he dare expend in his delaying attack in front of the Mareth Line without disproportionately weakening his power for defence of the Line itself. In any event, the Eighth Army, with their thorough knowledge of their adversary and their own strength and their veteran judgment in this kind of warfare, are little likely to be perturbed by any devices remaining at Rommel's command. But they also know that they themselves are fighting for time and time is of the utmost value to the Allied cause far beyond North Africa, and that although victory is certain, no effort can be excessive that will ensure that it is also swift.
—*The Times*, on Mar. 8.

A Road Back to Java

"WE have started to build a road back to Java, and now it needs only to be paved," declares Major-General L. H. Van Oyen, Commanding the Netherlands East Indies Air Force, in an article in the *Daily Telegraph* describing the progress made in the 12 months since Java fell in reorganizing the N.E.I. Air Force.

The Netherlands Air Force units now under his command are stronger and better equipped, he says, than they were when the Japanese swept down to the Dutch East Indies. Some of his men escaped when the gallant but hopeful fight ended and they are taking to the skies again, not only with new equipment but reinforced by a great number of younger men whom they have trained as pilots, gunners, observers and technicians.

General Van Oyen relates that on the fall of Java they withdrew to Australia, where they found nothing but sympathy for the Dutch East Indies. Australian and American forces both offered them all co-operation in reconstructing their air force. But Australia lacked the facilities to train them all, so the United States stepped in.

The Dutch asked for and were given facilities at American bases for training their bomber and fighter crews for future operations. As a result, a Royal Netherlands Military Flying School was set up in May last at the Jackson army air base. Thanks to the magnificent co-operation of the Americans, the Dutch have been able to do a very good job, says the General. They have been given a thorough course of instruction here and at other American bases. A great number received their wings last month. The School will remain at full strength until the middle of the year, after which special classes will be held for those who started late and are still coming in.

Dutch boys are getting better training than they dreamt possible a year ago, continues General Van Oyen. A recent graduation class won its spurs in a mass flight across the United States in January. Flying twin-engined planes, they spent a week in individual and formation manœuvres which took them to Los Angeles and back over unfamiliar ground in bad weather. They will soon be playing their part in one or other theatre of the war where already their comrades have been in action—over the islands north of Australia, over the North Sea.

Ruler of 100 Islands for two months

THIS story is about Jacob Hezekiah, a courageous Aru islander, who led a successful putsch on behalf of Queen Wilhelmina and installed himself as ruler of about 100 islands in defiance of the Japanese Emperor, cables the *Daily Express* Melbourne correspondent.

When the Japanese occupied Java, Hezekiah was teaching in a school in the Aru islands with Dobo—recently plastered by Allied bombers.

At first the Japanese did not bother about Dobo. But one day, 100 husky Quislings in Japanese service—local fishermen from the Kai islands who had fallen for Japanese blandishments—arrived, armed with swords and iron rods, and overpowered Dobo's Dutch colony of four and also the small local constabulary force.

They took the captives in boats and sent them to Ambon. And then the Kais declared themselves as representatives of Japan's "New Order."

Apart from their personal dislike of the Kais, the Aru islanders do not take kindly to the "New Order." Hezekiah straightway held a local "Casablanca conference" with the headmen of a number of villages and lusty Timorese who had settled in the Arus for pearl-fishing. A revolt was planned with Hezekiah as the ring leader.

While the Kais slept the sleep of the unjust one night, Hezekiah and his followers entered their huts, and overpowered them. A few escaped but were rounded up in the jungle within a week.

Some of the Arus were all for summary justice and execution of the Kais but Hezekiah insisted on legal processes. The Quislings were tried and some were executed.

Hezekiah ran the island kingdom for two months to everybody's satisfaction until a new Dutch Controller arrived and Hezekiah returned to his 48 pupils. Peace was soon broken when a destroyer and an armed merchantman one morning stood off Dobo and lobbed shells.

A landing party followed. It proved too formidable for the small Dutch garrison which has been brought by the Dutch Controller. Hezekiah decided that it was time for him to get out as it might have been awkward for him and his wife and seven children, along with the survivors of the garrison. They left the islands by a means which at present must remain secret.

Hezekiah is now working on a Malayan newspaper, published by the Dutch—but he yearns to get back to his school-room.

Hitler's Prestige Falling

MANY Germans in Germany are now denying that they are sympathetic to the Nazi regime, according to travellers arriving in Istanbul, and this is true also of the German minorities living in satellite States like Hungary and Rumania, cables the *News Chronicle* correspondent in Istanbul.

The fact that the Germans are insisting on "German" and not "Nazi" State indicates that Hitler's prestige in Germany is falling. A couple of years ago, German minorities in Hungary and Rumania were fanatical Nazis. Nothing indicates the crumbling of the Nazi domination more than the fact that in Hungary alone 700 Germans recently resigned from the Volksgruppe (National Group) there when asked to join the German army and the Premier declared that any German joining a "foreign army" would forfeit Hungarian citizenship.

Rigorous camouflage measures in Berlin have not encouraged the depressed German nation. Vast masses of green camouflage netting are now stretched over the principal streets and buildings and all artificial lakes have been boarded over to prevent them from giving guidance to R.A.F. planes.

According to these travellers, the thinking public in Germany are now convinced that only a military Government can save Germany and Marshal von Rundstedt is considered as the obvious leader. Apparently, despite all propaganda efforts, Rommel is extremely unpopular with the German masses. He is considered the only man who is 100 per cent pro-Nazi. The Germans still hope that von Papen may yet play the role of future peace negotiator and, according to these reports, his prestige in Germany is high for this reason.

The only Nazi leader still retaining his popularity is Goering who is now given the disagreeable task with Goebbels of breaking bad Russian news to the public. The Gestapo's hold on the country is, however, still immensely strong and anyone daring to grumble or complain against the regime in Berlin is instantly arrested. The Germans still hope for a compromise peace and these hopes are skilfully fostered by Goebbels's propaganda.

Axis Resources Forfeit in Africa

By NORMAN CRUMP

THE military results and possibilities of the entry of the United Nations into French North Africa need no elaboration. I am discussing here the economic implications; in particular what material resources the Axis have lost, and what the United Nations will gain.

First and foremost, French Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia are together one of the chief world producers of natural phosphates. In round figures, these countries between them yield 25 per cent of the world's output, Russia another 25 per cent, the United States 25 per cent more; leaving 25 per cent for everywhere else in the world, the production of Axis-controlled Europe is negligible.

Phosphates form one of the most important group of fertilizers. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that Axis-controlled agriculture and food production has depended upon French North Africa in this vital respect. This source of supply is now denied to the Axis. Nor is it likely that the Axis holds large stocks of phosphates at its disposal, for the intensive efforts already made to provide food for the herrenvolk—though not for their victims—must have weighed against any attempt to accumulate stocks. Nor does it appear that the Axis expected this particular blow.

PRE-WAR IMPORTS

In round figures, pre-war imports of phosphates from French North Africa to the United Kingdom alone were:—

	TONS.	TONS.
From Algeria	40,000	50,000
From Tunisia	200,000	225,000
From Morocco	80,000	90,000
	320,000	365,000

Another important product of French North Africa is iron ore. True, the Axis can draw on Swedish iron ore, as well as that produced in Lorraine and other parts of Europe, but nevertheless their source of supply is now narrowed. Moreover, the advent of winter means that the Swedish port of Lulea in the Gulf of Bothnia will soon be closed, so that all shipments will have to be made from Narvik. The British Navy and the Coastal Command can be trusted to keep a watchful eye on all sea-borne traffic out of Narvik, so that it may well turn out that the loss of French North Africa has come at a most inopportune moment for the Axis.

The Axis was also supplied, through North African ports, with grain, oil-seeds and other vital products. The loss of African oil-seeds, with the vital oils which they contain,

will be a particular source of embarrassment to the Axis in view of the food and feeding stuff position of German-controlled Europe.

NEW SUPPLIES FOR UNITED NATIONS

The next question is, "What will the United Nations gain?" First and foremost, there is the matter of ships. Now large convoys of shipping will no doubt go to North Africa to carry there the United Nations' troops and their supplies. But not all ships will be suitable to carry return cargoes. You cannot load iron ore or phosphates into a troopship.

Yet many of the ships will be able to carry return cargoes. The United Nations' forces and the civil population as well will need coal. A collier can easily bring back phosphates or iron ore. President Roosevelt has promised North Africa lend-lease supplies of food and other necessities. These ships will be able to bring back commodities, such as oil-seeds, of which French Africa has an exportable surplus.

Potentially, therefore, the United Kingdom could recover her pre-war imports of phosphates, and also of iron ore. Pre-war imports of iron ore were:—

		TONS.	TONS.
From Algeria	.. ..	1,300,000	1,500,000
From Tunisia	.. ..	450,000	700,000
From Morocco	.. ..	10,000	25,000
Total	..	1,760,000	2,225,000

Whether she does so depends primarily upon the shipping position—the total demand for tonnage and the possibility of other and nearer sources of supply. But the demand for iron ore is so obvious that it will be a reassurance to know that this additional source of supply is now available.

War Against All Germans

By SAMUEL GRAFTON

SOMEONE asked me whether we ought to consider ourselves as warring against the German people or only their rulers. The answer is that we are warring against all who are warring against us.

Hitler is warring against us, and the German workman making artillery shells is warring against us, and even the sweet German jungfrau, daintily stuffing machine-gun belts is warring against us. Therefore, we have no choice in premises: we are warring against all of them.

But cannot a line be drawn between the German people and their bosses? Yes, it can be, but only the German people can draw it, by ceasing to make artillery shells and ceasing to stuff machine-gun belts. They can draw it, in a word, by revolution. Short of that, a line cannot be drawn.

WRITTEN IN WATER

To give any German workman hope that we will treat him with kindness even if he goes on refilling flame throwers until the armistice, is merely to encourage him to go on refilling flame throwers until the armistice. Shall we draw a line between a man who refills flame throwers while hating Hitler, and a man who refills flame throwers while loving Hitler? That would be a line written in water; the only line we can draw is between the German who refills flame throwers and the German who throws them in his boss' face.

To say to the German people, we "understand, we sympathize," that even though they seem to be doing their best to try to kill us, we know that their hearts are not really in it, only reduces the pressure for German revolution. It takes away from the average German any responsibility for German policy. It sets him free of consequences in a world which his country has set afire. It makes him the juvenile of history, the only man in the world who is unanswerable for work done by his own hands.

LICENCE TO DO NOTHING

To question whether we should love or hate the Germans has only one fair, accurate answer. We will love them when they make themselves lovable. But it is not liberalism, it is sentimentalism to treat them as incompetents, in which our attitude remains the same no matter what they do. That merely issues them a licence to do nothing.

But what shall a poor German boy do when he is ordered to stuff a dozen Poles into an execution chamber and suffocate them? Shall he commit suicide? Yes, if necessary, and perhaps kill an officer first. There are no velvet cushions on which the German people can sit out the decade.

The whole German people are our enemies until they drop their weapons against us. They do not need to do that on any specific Friday morning. Of course, a revolution needs to be tactically sound, and a premature or spotty revolution can be worse than none. On the other hand, the German people must not be encouraged to hope that they can delay the process until after the war, and that the consequences then will be precisely the same as if they had not delayed it, and had behaved with brilliant clarity and full democratic understanding. Why open an escape valve of sentimentalism through which the revolutionary process can evaporate? Why treat Germans as if they alone are a people without a problem and without a task?

"YOU MUST DRAW THE LINES"

To the German people we must say: we draw no lines among you. You must draw the lines. We are not interested in what goes on in the backs of your minds; we are interested in overt acts for freedom or against it. We draw no lines in France. The French themselves draw lines between the de Gaulle French and the Vichy French. Shall we be more "understanding" of Hitler Germany than of the Vichy French, and shall we excuse Germans from the racking, terrible decisions which every French peasant has to make?

It is precisely because I believe in democracy that I do not believe in a doctrine of irresponsible peoples. That is Hitler's doctrine even when it is served up with liberalistic whipped cream on it.

Prospects in the I.A.F.

THE Indian Air Force is emerging from a rather troubled infancy into promising adolescence. The future seems to have become much brighter for the force and for its members. Pay is now more commensurate with the educational qualifications needed: the advantages of joining have been made more fully known; disappointment at not having the use of first-class modern aircraft has been dissipated as the flow from factories met urgent demands on the fighting fronts; and it has generally been made understood that official policy is to see that this country has the most efficient air force possible, limited in size only by the number of suitable Indians coming forward to serve in it. Lack of such numbers has lately been the trouble. There has never been shortage of daring youth of India for flying duties, but for ground staff (who have duties of great value to perform) the attractions offered were apparently insufficient to draw the class of men required. The service has now been made more beneficial from the point of view of immediate salary-earning, but satisfactory recruitment will only be obtained when the alterations become widely known.

Livings have to be earned, and for every Indian family able financially to help a son there are perhaps several expecting the son, having finished education, to help the family. The honour of belonging to a force which has already won distinction on active service has not in the past helped a strained domestic budget. Aircraftsmen are now getting from Rs. 60 to Rs. 100 per mensem, N.C.Os. Rs. 75 to Rs. 265, and there is promotion to commissioned rank. Despite the small size of the force about 80 officers have already been obtained from the ranks since 1940. People who, not without reason, have criticized the slow growth of the force should now perform the service of making known the present position. Besides discussing the immediate pay to be earned by young men of requisite physical and educational standards, with an opportunity of attaining any rank those who are good enough to augment the work of air force classes at the universities, recruiting lectures and so on, by personal recommendation, might well touch upon the long-term aspect. Young men in the I.A.F. are given a first-class technical training. Their tests are the same as those of the R.A.F. and are recognized by the Board of Trade.

The recruit has three post-war prospects. First, continuing in the I.A.F. Second, joining the great civil flying services that seem destined to spring up when peace comes. Third, applying the occupation learned to some other sphere of industry where the knowledge, skill and qualifications are the same. The size of the post-war I.A.F. cannot be guessed, nor its opportunities foretold, but of the impending expansion of civil aviation there can be no doubt and it seems obvious that radio experts, metal workers, instrument makers, photographers, electricians and others taught a trade in the force must have an opportunity better than most when their war job is done. The shortage of man-power for India's new arm, and the cause of the corresponding loss of opportunities for India's young men, is largely the fault of parents and others with influence in the matter of choice of career. Their view is too often limited to the civil service and professions. Yet always, and especially after so much destruction and postponement of production of civil requirements the surest way of getting a good living is to be able to make or tend essential things. That dignifying ability, together with service to country, is what is offered by the I.A.F. By April this year the force will be 10 years old. Indians have it in their power to make it become big for its age.

—*The Statesman.*

Diary of the War

ENGLAND AND GERMANY

11th Mar.—Sir Archibald Sinclair, Air Minister, announced the formation of a Royal Air Force Transport Command.

The Royal Air Force swept over the Channel and Northern France.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Leader of the House of Commons, said : " I have no responsibility and no knowledge of suspicions about double-crossing. What I do know is that our Soviet Allies are fully informed of our military position and our military plans."

A small Axis convoy was attacked off the coast of Britanny.

12th Mar.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy attack on the industrial centre of Stuttgart. United States planes bombed Rouen.

According to an American statesman, the State Department had received unconfirmed reports that Hitler was suffering from a complete breakdown.

Nazi planes bombed London area. Five raiders were shot down.

13th Mar.—Two enemy fighters were destroyed by the Royal Air Force off in south-west coast.

The Royal Air Force raided Essen. Krupps works were damaged. Fires were started in Munich. Engineering works near Liege were also attacked.

Doctor Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, at a meeting in London marking the fourth anniversary of the occupation of Prague, said : " We are in the final period of the war. After four years of war, Germany to-day stands on the brink of collapse."

14th Mar.—The Royal Air Force laid mines in enemy waters. Flying Fortresses attacked targets in Western France.

15th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Ruhr. American bombers raided Amiens.

16th Mar.—Two large Axis ships were torpedoed off Terschelling on the Dutch coast.

17th Mar.—Two enemy vessels were sunk at Florel harbour in Norway.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

11th Mar.—Mr. Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador to United States, said : " Although much the largest part of supplies had of course to be provided by the Soviet Union itself, the supplies received through Lend-Lease had been an enormous help."

The State Department disclosed that Japan had refused a further exchange of prisoners on April 1.

Dr. T. V. Soong, Chinese Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking at Washington, said : " Lend-Lease aid to China has not yet been nearly as great as the situation requires."

Mr. Sumner Welles, Assistant Secretary of State, declared that Admiral Standley, United States Ambassador in Moscow, assumed personal responsibility for the remarks he had made that Russia had withheld the facts of American aid.

President Roosevelt presented to the Congress recommendations for a " Beveridge Plan " for unemployment pay, old-age pensions, health insurance and social services.

12th Mar.—The Senate approved the extension of the Lend-Lease Act to June 13, 1944. Russia received help from the United States under Lend-Lease totalling £456,500,000 during the quarter ending March 1. This was £120 million more than what was sent to Australia, New Zealand, China and India combined.

The demand for the establishment of a Supreme War Council as the only solution to avoid friction among inter-allied Nations was made by the *New York Herald Tribune*.

13th Mar.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Washington—a diplomatic sequel to Casablanca. Informed sources regarded Mr. Eden's visit as opening a new era of war-time diplomacy.

14th Mar.—Mr. Anthony Eden met President Roosevelt and the Australian, Canadian and South African Ministers.

Fifteen German members of a Berlin-controlled underground movement in New York were seized by G-men.

15th Mar.—Mr. Anthony Eden conferred with Colonel Knox, Naval Secretary, and Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State.

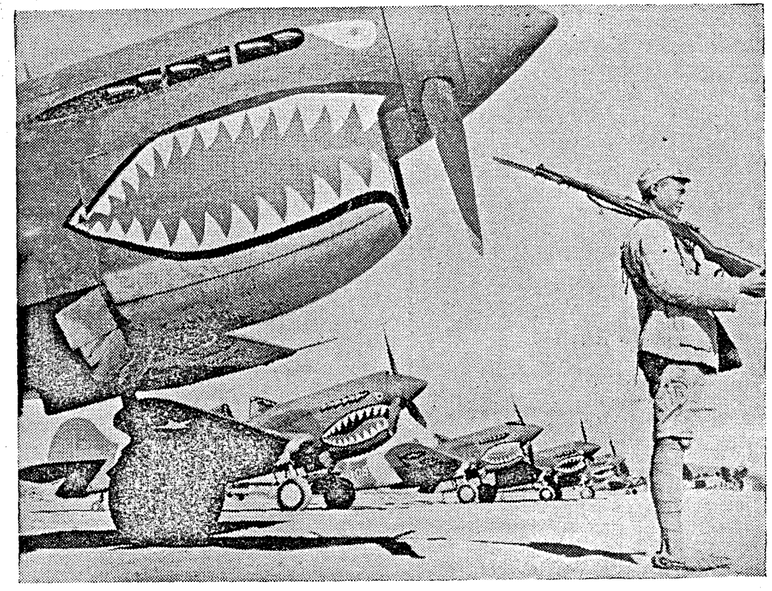
16th Mar.—A proposal for a post-war international police force was introduced into the Senate by Senator Bell as the only practical means of " controlling the plague of war."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

11th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed Akyab.

12th Mar.—United States Air Force attacked the Mingaladon airfield north of Rangoon. The Royal Air Force attacked a Japanese position at Donbaik.



U.S. AIRMEN BATTLE JAPANESE IN CHINA—A Chinese soldier stands guard over a line of shark-nosed U.S. fighter planes at an air base " somewhere in China " manned by U.S. pilots and ground crews. The American pursuit planes have a 12 to 1 victory ratio over the Japanese.

—U.S. Office of War Information photo.

13th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked Wuntho, a station on the Shwebo-Katha line.

14th Mar.—United States Air Force bombers attacked Pazundaung bridge and the Mahlawagon railroad yards in Rangoon.

15th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed Mandalay and Akyab. Heavy fighting broke out in the Rathedaung sector. Objectives in Donbaik area were also attacked.

16th Mar.—Field Marshal Wavell said: " We have accomplished the imperative task that lay on us after the fall of Malaya and Burma to secure India from the threat of a major attack from the east by sea, land or air."

The London *Times*, commenting on the Japanese counter-stroke in Burma, said: " Whatever the result, it does not seem over-optimistic to say that days of acute anxiety for the safety of India are over."

Fighting continued north of Rathadaung. Japanese airfield at Toungoo was bombed.

17th Mar.—Many Japanese were killed and wounded and a considerable amount of equipment captured north-east of Htiswe.

Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's Personal Representative in India, visited Madras.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

11th Mar.—The capture of Gafsa by Allied forces was imminent. General Leclerc's forces stormed and captured the important mining centre of Metlaoni.

It was announced that American casualties in the recent fighting in Tunisia numbered 2,242.

Capt. Randolph Churchill, writing to the *Evening Standard*, called for a truce in the campaign of recrimination against events and personalities in North Africa. " If pushed to extremes, such a policy would create the perfect condition of a bloody civil war in France as soon as she is free."

12th Mar.—Axis troops attacked without success Allied position west of Sedjenane.

General Montgomery, in an interview given to the Soviet News Agency, stated: " The Germans will not be able to change the general military situation. Our preparations may appear slow to many people, but because of that the blow will be powerful and decisive."

13th Mar.—Shipping and harbour installations at Palermo were attacked by the Royal Air Force.

Canadian corvettes in the Mediterranean sank an Axis submarine.

14th Mar.—Axis positions south of the Mareth Line were pounded. An Axis attack on a British position north of Ben Arada was repulsed.

15th Mar.—According to the Algiers Radio, General Giraud told General Catroux that he was ready to receive General deGaulle. General Giraud added: "The moment for the union of all Frenchmen of good faith has arrived."

16th Mar.—The Eighth Army wrested the initiative from the Germans in the Tamara sector. A slight advance was made in the Sedjenane sector. General Montgomery completed his re-grouping movement.

17th Mar.—According to the Algiers Radio, General deGaulle was on his way to meet General Giraud.

The Eighth Army launched an attack on the Mareth Line.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

11th Mar.—The Nazis threw powerful Panzer units to break into Kharkov, the great tractor city of the Ukraine. Russian troops captured Byelini Smolensk region. The Red Army was within 10 miles of Vyasma.

12th Mar.—The Russians took Vyasma and converged on Smolensk. The Germans claimed to have broken into Kharkov.

Writing in *Das Reich*, Goebbels said that the German losses in the east were high enough to cause difficulties and "We have not yet reached the summit."

13th Mar.—Germans succeeded in driving nearer to Kharkov. All German attempts to cross the Donetz below the city failed. The Russians continued to advance on Smolensk and pierced enemy defences.

14th Mar.—To the north of Kharkov, the Red Army was forced to withdraw to new lines at several points.

According to the military commentator of *Red Star*, Italian losses on the Russian front were 60,000 killed, 69,000 wounded and 46,000 taken prisoner.

15th Mar.—The Moscow Radio announced that Kharkov was evacuated by the Soviets.

According to the Vichy Radio, Goebbels admitted that Germany was "losing the best of her blood on the Eastern front."

16th Mar.—The Russians evacuated Kharkov. In the Smolensk region, they occupied the town of Kholmzhirkovski.

17th Mar.—According to the German Radio, Hitler was in a place near the front-line in Russia. The German counter-offensive south of Kharkov was held.

The Moscow Radio told the German people: "In three months of Soviet offensive, your army has lost one million men, of whom 300,000 are prisoners."

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

13th Mar.—M. Falin Rifki Atay, leader of the Turkish Press Delegation to India (just returned to Turkey), declared that from the Khyber Pass to Aleppo, it was obvious that the prestige and power of the British Empire had been reinforced.

* * * *

SHIPPING

11th Mar.—The British submarine P-311 was lost.

12th Mar.—A German supply ship was torpedoed in the Straits of Dover.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

11th Mar.—The Stockholm Radio said that a bomb thrown aboard a German transport ship at Trondheim damaged it severely.

Over 300 separate guerilla operations took place in France during the period from December 20, 1942, to January 20, 1943.

The Chinese routed the Japanese on the west bank of the Salween. It was disclosed that 53,000 Japanese troops were killed in China during 1942.

13th Mar.—The Vichy Radio announced that French main railway lines were to be guarded against guerillas.

Marshal Petain was reported to be ill.

14th Mar.—General Giraud, in a speech at Algiers, gave the people of France a solemn pledge that in everything he was doing in North Africa, he was acting as trustee under the laws of the French Republic.

16th Mar.—Germany gave M. Laval an ultimatum that unless he sent another quarter-million workers to Germany within the next three days, the German army will be called in to supervise the enrolment of workers throughout France.

The Savoyan guerillas rejected the ultimatum. General Cartier organized the "revolt."

THE FAR EAST

11th Mar.—It was revealed that the Japanese were arresting and interning German missionaries in the countries they had occupied in the Far East.

Twenty-two Japanese planes which attempted to attack Guadalcanar were driven off.

12th Mar.—Japanese bases in the Solomons were bombed.

13th Mar.—Allied aircraft bombed the enemy airfield at Lakun. Japanese planes attacked American positions in Guadalcanar.

14th Mar.—General Tojo arrived in Nanking to discuss military, political and economic questions with the Chinese "puppet" President, Wang Ching Wei.

According to the American Navy Department recapitulation of the naval losses in the Solomon Islands, 179 Japanese vessels were sunk or damaged as compared with United States losses totalling 39.

Direct hits were obtained on a Japanese 8,000-ton transport and a 4,000-ton freighter off Wewak.

15th Mar.—It was revealed that the Japanese were massing a new invasion Armada off the Dutch East Indies. United States army planes destroyed a small Japanese vessel in the Solomons and damaged Japanese planes at Kiska in the Aleutians.

Eight Japanese columns were in full retreat on the Yangtse river front.

The Japanese Radio stated that Japan would hand over her concessions in China to the (Japanese-controlled) Nanking Government on March 30th.

According to the German Radio, the Japanese people were being warned to prepare for air raids from Allied bases in China.

16th Mar.—To the intense annoyance of the Germans, the Japanese withdrew numerous troops from Manchurian zones nearest to Russia.

Forty-nine Japanese planes raided Darwin of which 2 bombers and 12 fighters were shot down. Only slight damage was done to Port Darwin.

Japanese positions in Vila and Munda were bombed.

17th Mar.—A Japanese convoy in the vicinity of Aru Island was forced to retire. One Japanese destroyer and 3 ships were sunk by United States submarines in the Pacific.

RETREATING STRATEGY

THEME OF TOKYO BROADCASTS

SPOON fed for years on a diet of "military invincibility," and finding news of recent Axis reverses somewhat indigestible, the Japanese people are now being given a "tonic course" in the principles of Kotai Sentai, Japanese for Retreating Strategy.

Withdrawals in Burma and the South-West Pacific having proved hard to swallow, a military spokesman a few days ago attempted to sugar the pill in a broadcast talk on Kotai Sentai over Tokyo Radio. His remedy for national dyspepsia was as follows:—

Retreats are something which always happens in war operations. In attacking the enemy, one part of the forces fights at the key position on the furthermost front, while the main forces remain far behind.

When found necessary, and in accordance with the progress of the war, these forces at the front retreat to different, or rear positions. Such strategy is called retreating strategy.

It is this strategy which we are now carrying out.

RAMA DEEPA

RAMA DEEPA is a new device for burning vegetable oils or kerosene for lighting. It is simple in construction and easy of manipulation. Vegetable oil lamps hitherto produced have two oil tanks, one above the other with a feeding pipe to supply oil to the wick. They are not suitable for the use of kerosene oil as fuel.

Rama Deepa is a dual oil lamp and therefore its purchaser will be no loser by his investment, even if kerosene comes back into common use. It covers a wide range of lighting devices to serve all purposes—hurricane lantern, table light, platform (railway) light, bed lights and naked flame 'buddi'.

Since some of the models of Rama Deepa are above the means of the poorer classes, the National War Front, Madras, have arranged with Messrs. Rama Deepa Work s Dowlaishweram (East Godavari District) to manufacture, on a large scale, three of the cheaper varieties of Rama Deepa lights, the bed room lantern, the bed light and the naked flame light.

The stamp of the National War Front will be imprinted on each lamp, and retail prices are fixed for the present at one rupee (bed room lantern), nine annas (bed light) and two annas (naked flame light).

A cheap lighting device alone will not wholly solve the problem for the poor villager. Availability of the illuminant and the cost of lighting have to be taken into consideration. With this end in view, various vegetable oils have been tried with the above lamps and the results are given below.

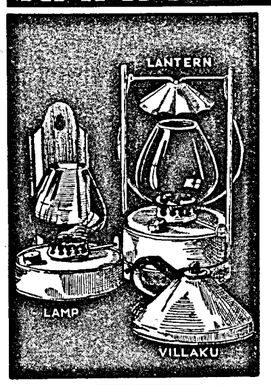
The capacity of the oil tank in the bed lantern and the bed room light is 3 ounces and the duration of light is noted below in the case of each oil :—

3 oz.	of groundnut oil burns for..	21 hours.
,,	pungam (karanji) oil ..	20 ,,
,,	margosa oil	24 ,,
,,	mahwa (Ippa, Illuppah) oil.	20 ,,
,,	tobacco oil	21 ,,
,,	mustard mixed with 25 per cent groundnut.	

Mahwa (Illuppah) oil cannot be used in winter as it congeals like coconut oil.

Margosa oil burns longest, and, assuming that the price of one viss (3 lb.) of any oil is one rupee, costs the user about one anna per week at the rate of 3 or 4 hours per day, making a monthly lighting cost of about four annas.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT
RAMA DEEPA LAMP



BEDROOM LAMP Rs.1-
BEDROOM LANTERN as.9
VILLAKU as.2

NOTE
3 OZS. OF GROUNDNUT OIL (COST AS.1) WILL GIVE 18 HOURS OF LIGHT. THEREFORE, AT 3 HOURS PER NIGHT A POOR FAMILY WILL HAVE LIGHT FOR A MONTH FOR ABOUT AS.5.

DISTRIBUTORS. SRIPADA NARASIMHA BROS. COCANADA

BURN VEGETABLE OIL
SAVE KEROSINE FOR THE WAR

With all the above oils, Rama Deepa lights will burn continuously for about eight hours without adjustment of the wick; the flame dies out only when the last drop of the oil is consumed.

The National War Front hopes that the people of South India will use the vegetable oil available in their locality for their lighting and thus save kerosene for essential purposes. They will thus make a substantial contribution to the self-sufficiency drive, since indigenous, and not imported, products will thus be used for essential needs.

★

Villagers' Railway Protection Scheme

1. *Patrol strength.*—All railway lines will be patrolled at the rate of four villagers per mile per 24 hours. Villagers should not patrol singly at any time, and at night the patrols should be strengthened. These objects can be achieved if the patrol unit is fixed at 2 miles with eight men. Arrangements for shifts, etc., are left to the discretion of District Magistrates. (A possible distribution of the eight men per unit of two miles is as follows: two men for a day shift from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and three men for each of two shifts from 4 p.m. to mid-night and from mid-night to 8 a.m.)

2. *Recruitment.*—The headman of each village through which the railway runs will prepare a roster of villagers suitable for this duty. He may, if necessary, be assisted by a committee of village elders. (This point is left to the District Magistrate's discretion). The Tahsildar accompanied by the Sub-Inspector will visit each village as soon as possible and inspect the men whose names have been registered.

It will be the headman's business (assisted by his committee if one is appointed) to post men for actual duty from this roster according to the mileage of line in his village.

NOTE.—(1) The length of line in each village will not of course be exactly two miles or a multiple of two miles. District Magistrates must fix patrol points at their discretion, observing village limits and the two-mile limits as closely as practicable.

(2) In some cases, although the railway line will actually run through a particular village, the boundary of an adjoining village may approach very closely to the line. In such cases it would be as well to associate this adjoining village with the patrols in order that the principal village should not seek to evade responsibility. The roster may be prepared from both villages, and the adjoining village should be represented (with the headman as one of the representatives) on the committee which might be made compulsory in such cases.

3. *Pay.*—Villagers will be paid for patrol duty at the rate of Rs. 15 per man per month. This will work out at 8 annas per turn of duty. If there are 4 miles of line in a village, requiring 16 men, the headman will be paid 16 × 15 = Rs. 240 at the end of the month, and he will disburse this at the rate of 8 annas per shift.

4. *Inspection.*—Close and frequent inspection is necessary if the scheme is to be a success. Two Special Revenue Inspectors should be appointed for each district for inspection purposes. Their hours of duty and the length of line for which each is responsible will be fixed by the District Magistrate. They will move up and down their length of line as frequently as possible, railway trollies being used if the railway authorities can arrange this. The main business of the Special Revenue Inspectors will be to see that the patrols are actually on duty on the line; and if they find a patrol unit unpatrolled they will at once proceed to the village and set the matter right. They can also check the village rosters and the turns of duty arranged by the headmen, and also settle any arguments about pay.

In addition to this special staff, these villager-patrols should be checked as frequently as possible by railway police, station police and revenue subordinates in the ordinary course of their tours.

5. *Equipment.*—Each patrol should carry a small flag as an identification mark. Flags should be white in colour and crossed diagonally with a red stripe. The men may carry bamboo sticks; there is a shortage of police lathies and these cannot be provided. At night patrols should carry a lantern or country torch. District Magistrates are authorized to provide this equipment and to make a small kerosene allowance to each village, the amount to be fixed at their discretion.

6. *Duties of patrol men.*—Any untoward incident should be reported to the police talayari patrol at once. In addition, one of the two patrol-villagers will run to the village to summon assistance if sabotage is being attempted. (This is an additional reason for the men not patrolling singly.) The villagers should arrest miscreants or suspicious characters and take them to the nearest police station.

7. *Shed construction.*—In some cases the actual village site may be some distance from the railway line. In such cases District Magistrates are given discretion to construct a shed near the railway line which can be used as a camp headquarters by the patrol-men.

8. *Responsibility.*—The value of the scheme depends entirely on the idea of enforcing village responsibility, with the collective fie as the ultimate sanction. This should be made plain to the villagers on the following lines:—

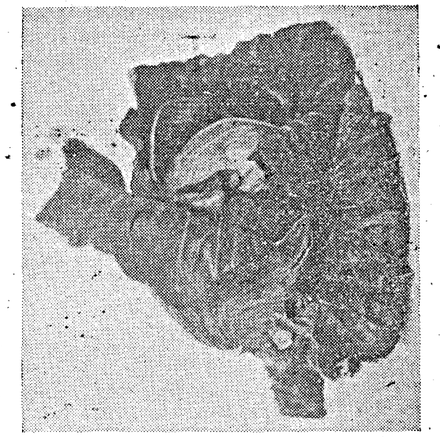
> Government will hold you responsible if your railway line is damaged and will impose a fine on you. To help you to discharge this responsibility, Government will pay for X men of your village to guard the line. You are responsible for selecting these men and for seeing that they do their guard duties properly. If on inspection one of your patrolmen is found absent or neglecting his duty, a black mark will be noted against your village and this black mark will be taken into account when Government fix your collective fine if any damage is caused to your railway line.

9. *General.*—District Magistrates are given full discretion within the general framework of the scheme; and in practice they may provide for an intenser rate of patrolling if they think it necessary in particularly unsettled areas or at particularly disturbed intervals.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Leaf and Stem Vegetables

CABBAGE



Brassica obracea var, Lat.; *Family cruciferae*; *Motta gos,* Tam.; *gosu gadda,* Tel.; *Mutta kos,* Mal.

Description.—A small plant in which only a few of the lower leaves open out; the upper ones overlap one another and remain unopen, forming a globular mass.

Propagation.—Usually from seeds; some varieties produce auxillary shoots, which when planted give rise to new plants.

Plains: August to December.

Hills: March to August.

Cultivation.—Cabbage is grown abundantly at high elevations; but they can be grown on the plains as well when great care and attention is given to their cultivation.

(The picture is that of a cabbage grown in Madras.)

A rich well-drained soil is necessary for cultivation of cabbage. The seeds are sown just below the soil in a well-prepared nursery bed under shade. When the seedlings are 4–5 inches in height, they are transplanted in rows 2 feet apart, being spaced about 1½ feet in the rows; the seedlings are then shaded for a few days. Liberal application of well-rotted manure to the soil produces good results. The heads are usually ready for cutting within 3–4 months.

Uses.—A very popular vegetable, eaten boiled, and also used in the preparation of curries.

General analysis.—Water 92·6 per cent; mineral 0·6 per cent; protein 1·4 per cent; fat 0·1 per cent; fibre 0·8 per cent; carbohydrates 4·5 per cent; calories per lb. 125; calcium 0·071 per cent; magnesium 0·021 per cent; phosphorus 0·042 per cent; iron 0·0007 per cent; vitamin A (traces); vitamin B—I.U. per gms. 25; vitamin C mgm. per 100 gms. 62·5.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1943 No. 2

SOME TIME NEXT YEAR

MR. CHURCHILL

SPEAKING with every reserve and not attempting to prophesy, I can imagine that some time next year—but it may well be the year after—we might beat Hitler, by which I mean, him and his powers of evil into death, dust and ashes

THEN we shall immediately proceed to the other side of the world to punish the greedy, cruel empire of Japan, to rescue China from her long torment, to free our own territory and that of our Dutch Allies, and to drive the Japanese menace for ever from the Australian, New Zealand and Indian shores. That will be our first supreme task and nothing must lure us from it . . .

IT will be our hope that the United Nations, headed by the British Commonwealth of Nations, the United States and Soviet Russia, shall immediately begin to confer upon the future world organization which is to be our safeguard against further wars by effectually disarming, and keeping disarmed, the guilty States, by bringing to justice the grand criminals and their accomplices and by securing the return to devastated and subjugated countries of those mechanical resources and artistic treasures of which they have been pillaged. We shall also have a heavy task in trying to avert widespread famine in the ruined regions

FOUR years seem to me to be the right length of time for the period of transition, and reconstruction which will follow the downfall of Hitler. This plan should cover five or six large measures of a practical character which must all have been the subject of prolonged careful, and energetic preparation beforehand and which fit together into the general scheme

MR. CHURCHILL *in a broadcast from London on March 21*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
The Battle of Tunisia	4–5
Save for Victory and Peace	7
Post-War Economic Relations	8
Plea for a Standing United Nations Conference	9
Freedom of the Skies After the War	10
French Colonies in West Africa	11
U-Boat: Germany's Final Weapon	12
Ploesti Oil-fields—Germany's Life-Blood	14
Sir Alwyn Ezra's Rs. 25,000 for New R.I.N. Fund: Benevolent Association also helped by Ratnagiri Merchants	15
British Consumers' Contribution	16
Women Trained to Fight with Men	18
Fortifying the Balkans	19
U-Boat's Reduced Harvest	20
An Air field in Brazil	20
Diary of the War	21

THE CLOUDS ARE LIFTING

"On the battlefronts, the clouds are lifting. The tide has turned and turned for good, whatever desperate, deadly expedients the enemy may yet resort to in his despair. Victory is coming nearer, however far off it may be. Historic human advance will not be halted—the great light will not be put out. This will be a free and not a slave world and that freedom will surely be achieved by our great faith and good loyalty to it and our total effort behind that faith and loyalty."

— GENERAL SMUTS, *in a broadcast from Johannesburg on March 20.*

◆ ◆ ◆

Have you a Camera?

A NEW PRIZE COMPETITION

There are many Madrasis now on active Military service, earning good pay from which they are saving money to spend after the war. It is important for the welfare of the soldier and his family that these savings should be usefully and productively spent, for instance, in rural reconstruction and post-war development schemes.

Our Sepoys want to know what they can best spend their money on, and we propose to show them.

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

The Editor wants photos of—**(1) A well being sunk, (2) A finished well in use, (3) Terracing of fields, (4) Fruit topes, (5) Vegetable gardens, (6) A small shop, (7) Poultry keeping, (8) Improved cattle, (9) House-building, (10) A wedding, (11) Any other subject which you consider that a Sepoy might like to spend money on.**

A first prize of Rs. 20 and a second prize of Rs. 10 will be given for the best photographs submitted. Prizes of Rs. 3 will be given for the best photos in each of the above groups.

The Editor reserves the right to withhold prizes in any group in which the required standards of quality are not satisfied.

No photos can be returned to senders.

All entries must reach

THE EDITOR, MADRAS WAR REVIEW,
VICTORY HOUSE,
MADRAS,

by March 31st.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1943 No. 29

"Save for Victory and Peace"—Effect of Small Savings on War Economy.

In a talk in the "Common Cause" series broadcast from the A.I.R., Madras, on Monday (the text of which is published elsewhere), Mr. D. W. DODWELL has dwelt at length on the theme "Save for Victory and Peace." He points out that all spending that is not essential for our own efficiency or the welfare of our dependents should be ruthlessly cut out. After paying taxes and meeting immediate personal expenses, the balance of one's income should be used for paying off debts, or given for war purposes, or lent to the Government to be used for the war. He refers to the problem of rise in prices and lays stress on the fact that if the public restrict their purchasing power to the necessary extent by saving and lending to the Government, they would be keeping prices as stable as possible. Lord KEYNES has pointed out that it is far better for the people to save the excess income themselves straight-away and avoid the rise in prices than invite taxation. MR. DODWELL emphasizes KEYNES'S conclusion that if prices rise in war-time, it is a clear indication that the people are not saving enough.

It may be asked whether small savings really have any effect on war economy. They have—and that a very good deal! For it is they that reduce and divert money away from small spendings which, in the aggregate, constitute the most dangerous rival to war production, because they compete for the use of labour, material and shipping. Further, the colossal cost of a modern war is helped to be defrayed appreciably only by these small savings. During the last three and a half years, Britain has raised £5,000 million in national savings alone, such as war loans, gifts to Government, and loans free of interest, which represent six years' average pre-war national expenditure. It is important to note that £1,900 million of this amount comes from small savings, from men with incomes of £300 per annum and less.

The recent inauguration of the "Wings for Victory Campaign" in Britain is in connexion with the great drive for

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Time-Bombs From America"—III

Our Confusion is Hitler's Hope

The Battle of Tunisia

THE Battle of Tunisia has begun in right earnest. General Montgomery's attack on the Mareth Line on the night of March 20–21 is the beginning of a great allout offensive, which will be followed with the closest interest, because the earlier the battle is finished, the sooner the great Allied offensive against Hitler's *Festung Europa* is likely to be launched.

THE Eighth Army has started its attack on a six-mile front between the sea and the main road from Medienne to the Mareth village. It has powerful air support from the Western Desert and Tunisian air forces. Simultaneously the American Fifth Army has attacked from the West. This attack takes the shape of a three-pronged thrust to the Mediterranean. The northerly thrust is along the road to Maknassi. The two other thrusts are on two roads running south-east from El Guettar to the main Gabes road, and the subsidiary track known as the " gum tree " road. The object of this thrust is to cut Rommel's line of escape.

Hemmed in

MAKNASSI which is 40 miles from the coast on the rear of the Axis forces defending the Mareth Line, has been captured by the Americans. This brings them to about 80 miles from the Mareth battlefield itself, where the Eighth Army is at grips with Rommel. Maknassi is on the railway line connecting Gafsa and Sfax. Its capture has narrowed Rommel's escape corridor to a 40-mile coastal strip. *Reuter's* special correspondent in North Africa says that Rommel's forces are now hemmed into an eighty-mile long rectangle with General Montgomery's Eighth Army hurling itself at the Mareth defences, while the Americans are close in at Rommel's back.

THE Eighth Army succeeded in driving a wedge in the defences in the ' best defended portion,' and a famous British force, which is part of the Eighth Army, by-passed the Mareth position and is moving towards the sea to Gabes, to the rear of Rommel's forces. This manoeuvre of by-passing the front line has been frequently used in the Western Desert both by Montgomery and Rommel, and it was therefore not unexpected by the enemy. The Germans were ready to meet this outflanking move, and later reports say that they have, after fierce fighting, stabilised their defence line.

REFERRING to the opening stages of the Battle of Tunisia, the Military Correspondent of the *German News Agency*, Ludwig Sertorius, said on Monday night that the fighting had " assumed such proportions that it is no exaggeration to speak of a big battle " and that the British are doing everything " to bring to full effect their numerical and material superiority."

The First Army

THE correspondent also refers to the First Army. He says, " In Northern Tunisia' the first British Army under General Anderson is still on the defensive, but there is no doubt that it too will play its part in the general offensive plan of the Allies. It is going to join in the fighting at some other stage of operations, perhaps the next stage."

THE Allied offensive plan is evidently to destroy Rommel's forces between the anvil of the First Army and the hammer of the Eighth, and Rommel knows well that his best chance of avoiding destruction lies in dislodging the anvil before General Montgomery deals out his hammer blow. Rommel tried his very best to dispose of the anvil; he failed; therefore he thought that the next best thing was to strike at the hammer, before it struck him. And he struck first, but what happened ?

HE failed to penetrate General Montgomery's line; he had mistimed his attack. If he had struck some time earlier he would have found that the Eighth Army was not really so well prepared. According to the *Daily Herald* correspondent in Tunisia, Rommel was lured into assuming that British positions had not been strengthened during the period immediately preceding his attack. This was because none of the necessary movement of men and material was made apparent to the reconnaissance of Axis aircraft. The correspondent says that one of the most famous Divisions in the Eighth Army was, at very short notice, moved into positions entirely under cover of a moonless night. This he describes as " shock No. 1 " for Rommel's men. " Shock No. 2 " was the position of the British anti-tank gun screen. The measures adopted by General Montgomery to conceal the disposition of the guns of the Eighth Army proved such a great success that when Rommel's panzers rushed headlong they were greeted with such unexpectedly terrific gunfire that the Axis attempt was completely frustrated.

A Stiff Battle

THE failure of Rommel's offensive from the Matmata Hills in front of the Mareth Line does not, however, mean that there is quite an easy task before the Allied troops. The Axis forces have no doubt suffered losses which, according to an Allied Headquarters statement broadcast by Algiers Radio, make the defeat much graver than the previous one, but it must be recognized that Rommel still has the great tactical advantage of interior lines of supply. At the same time, it may be pointed out that he is depending for his supplies on a string of ports which are vulnerable to concentrated air attack.

CABLING to his paper on March 14, the *News Chronicle* correspondent with the Eighth Army said that Rommel's " suicide army " knew that they were doomed; " their future is marked out for them clearly as if it had already happened. They know that Hitler and the Duce have written them off." Nine days afterwards, on March 23, the Morocco Radio gives the report that Hitler has ordered his troops in Tunisia to fight to the last man, telling Rommel and von Arnim to " resist or die." The report also says that Hitler announced in the same message that he was returning to the Russian front.

The German Plan and the Allied Counter-plan

THE Russian front! yes, this is used for propaganda purposes in Tunisia. People may wonder how. It is obvious that German fortunes everywhere appear to be staked on the success or failure of their spring campaign in Russia, and so the story is told that Russia will soon be forced out of the war, or reduced to impotence, and that this will set free a large part of the German forces now engaged there for the reconquest of the whole of Tunisia. Behind the story may lie the truth about the German plan. In fact, Rommel's bid is to gain time, time for which the Germans are prepared to pay almost any price, time to fortify the coasts of southern Europe, time to raise fresh divisions in Germany, time for the spring offensive in Russia.

BUT the Allied plan in Tunisia is *not* to give time to Rommel. That is why General Montgomery is striking the hammer-blow now with all the strength at his command. The main battle will no doubt be the one for Gabes. But before it comes, much hard fighting lies ahead. For the Germans have, according to the latest news, re-established their main line of defence on the Mareth front by strong counter-attacks. The present position has been well summed up by Mr. Churchill when he said, " I do not wish that hopes of an easy decision should be encouraged. On the other hand, I have good confidence in the final result."

★

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

saving. Sometime ago, the "War Weapons Week" and the "Warships Week" were celebrated throughout Britain, and London's contribution alone was well over £170 million. London inaugurated the "Pioneer Week" in regard to the "Wings for Victory" campaign and must have realized its goal of collecting £150 million.

* * *

National Savings Groups: Premier and Chancellor on Post-war Problems.

Scattered all over England, there are about 3,000 little groups of people, the National Savings Groups, who work together to raise enough money for a final distribution of savings certificates among themselves. These people are collecting money not only to bomb HITLER'S manufacturing centres, communications and U-boat yards and strengthen the R.A.F. in numbers and equipment, but also to make savings an important force for victory in peace. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has pointed out that Britain will be in need of savings, as soon as the war ends, to finance the great capital projects of re-housing, re-equipment of industry, social reconstruction, and answer the needs of the people liberated from the Nazi tyranny. "We shall have," said Mr. CHURCHILL in his broadcast on Sunday night, "a heavy task in trying to avert widespread famine in the ruined regions." He also said,

> "We have one large immediate task in the re-planning and re-building of our cities and towns. This will make a very great call on all our resources in material and labour, but it is also an immense opportunity not only for the improvement of our housing, but for the employment of our people in the years immediately after the war."

It is to this larger and ultimately more important objective that the economy of Britain is being steadily and substantially directed. So far as India is concerned, though there may not be grand schemes of house-building after the war, for the simple reason that we have been generally spared the real horrors of war, still the problems of post-war reconstruction are bound to be of more or less serious dimensions, which will require all the energy and intelligence of statesmen and economists to cope with. To the extent the general public assist the Government by saving as much money as they can spare, now itself, to that extent will they be relieving them of a great burden.

Puzzling, but true!

Here is an interesting dialogue between a Hungarian and a Swiss:

"Hungary is a republic, of course, Sir?"

The Hungarian answers: "No, my friend, it is a kingdom."

Q.—"But who is your King?"

A.—"We have no king, Admiral Horthy is the Regent of the country."

Q.—"An Admiral! fine, you have a fleet then?"

A.—"We have no fleet, the rank of Admiral remains in memory of the fleet we once had."

Q.—"Your Kingdom of Hungary is, of course, not at war?"

A.—"You should know that we are fighting against the Russians."

Q.—"I understand, you don't like the Russians who are your neighbours and you want some of their territory?"

A.—"You don't understand at all. We want nothing from Russia, with which country we used to be on good terms."

Q.—"Then may I ask you *why* you are at war?"

A.—"Because we hope that Rumania will give us back Transylvania."

Q.—"But you did not tell me that the Rumanians were your enemies?"

A.—"My good friend, you reduce me to despair! Rumanians are our Allies!"

—*A.I.R., Madras.*

Save for Victory and Peace

By DAVID W. DODWELL, I.C.S.

THIS war is a terribly costly business. Everybody is helping to pay for it in one way or another. We should be proud to make our contributions as large as possible and pay them cheerfully. Should we not all be ready to die to save our country from subjection to the brutal tyranny of Nazis or Japs? Then surely we cannot grudge any lesser sacrifice. Many brave men and women of the United Nations have paid the price of wounds and death to save the world and us from that slavery and many more stand ready to do so at any moment. We should be ashamed to do less than our utmost to back up and hasten the day of victory.

What can we do to help? We must work to the limit of our strength, waste nothing, and use and spend as little as possible for our own deeds. *All consumption and spending that is not essential for our own efficiency or the welfare of our dependants should be ruthlessly cut out.* Whatever is left of one's income after paying taxes cheerfully and meeting the minimum personal expenses should be used for paying off debts, or given for war purposes, or invested in genuinely productive enterprises that will increase the supply of necessary goods, or lent to the Government to be used for the war. In a country at war production is increased as much as possible but a very large part of the goods produced has to be used for war purposes. The people's purchasing power increases as they are paid for all the goods produced, but there are fewer goods for them to buy as so many are needed by the Government for the war. *Prices will rise unless the people save the excess of their incomes over the cost at existing prices of the goods available for them.* It is foolish to argue as to whether the higher prices are caused by more purchasing power or shortage of goods. One might as well ask which blade of a pair of scissors does the cutting!

THE IDEAL REMEDY

Anything that can be done to increase production of useful goods or make them go further by economy and prevention of waste is the ideal remedy. But it is not possible to increase the supply of goods for ordinary use very much in war-time without cutting down the war effort, which is out of the question. Action on the production side alone, therefore, is not enough. The public must also restrict the use of their purchasing power to the necessary extent by saving and lending to the Government in order to keep prices as stable as possible.

Let me illustrate what happens by some rough figures. Suppose the output of goods and services in India in a year is worth 2,000 crores of rupees at present prices. The total income of the people will then also be 2,000 crores. Suppose the Governments (Central and Provincial) buy 600 crores of rupees worth of the output for war and other purposes but raise only 300 crores from taxation and borrow 100 crores from genuine savings. Then the people have 1,600 crores of income left which they mean to spend in the year, but the goods available for them to buy in the year are only worth 1,400 crores at present prices. If the public insist on spending the 1,600 crores, prices must rise. But if they save a further 200 crores of their income and lend it to the Government, the gap will be closed and prices will be stable. This is an over-simplified picture and the figures are only guesses. There are no authoritative estimates on these lines for India. I wish there were!

"NATURE'S REMEDY"

Every one ought to read the brilliant pamphlet called "How to pay for the war" by Lord Keynes, in which he estimated at the beginning of the war what rate of taxation and savings would enable Great Britain to pay for the war without any undesirable rise in prices. Much of his general argument applies equally well to India. He shows that, if taxation and genuine savings lent to the Government are not sufficient to cover Government spending, then we have to put up with "Nature's remedy," which is *a rise in prices. It does not enable the people to get more goods. It only transfers the excess purchasing power to those who profit from the rise in prices.* From them it goes sooner or later to the Government in taxation and savings. If they try to spend it, the rise in prices goes higher. It continues until the Government's receipts from taxes and savings cover what the Government spend. Keynes shows that it is far better for the people to save the excess income themselves straight-away and avoid the rise in prices. Please read the pamphlet yourself. It will convince you that, if prices rise in war-time, we are not saving enough.

If victory is to be won quickly, India and all the United Nations must devote as much as possible of their energy and resources directly to war services. We must manage with the barest minimum of goods and services for ordinary use. Peace-time living standards have to be drastically reduced for all except those who had no margin above what was needed for health and efficiency. Most people are suffering hardship because their income has not risen as much as the cost of living. That is part of the price we have to pay for victory. We should pay a much heavier one for defeat! Please think it

over carefully and conscientiously, and you will admit, I'm sure, that you have some margin over absolutely essential expenditure and that it is your duty to save it. Much spending is purely conventional, that is we spend because our friends expect it and because other people do. All that must go in war-time.

Let us do all we can to create a strong public opinion against all unnecessary spending as well as against waste of every kind! Saving is not merely twice but several times blessed in war-time. It helps to pay for the war and to stop the rise of prices, and is therefore saving "for victory." It will also give you a reserve and greater economic security after the war and you may be able to help your country just as much then by spending what you have saved as you do now by saving it. That is why I call it also saving "for peace."

PATRIOTIC AUSTERITY

Patriotic austerity is a primary duty for us all in war-time. President Roosevelt told the Americans that to meet the needs of war civilian economy would have to be "cut to the bone." Marshal Chiang Kai-shek has just called on the Chinese people to lead an even more austere life than hitherto. "You have not been painstaking and thrifty enough, he says, "and have not struggled hard enough." Think of all that the Chinese have suffered with such magnificent endurance in their mass migration from the east to the west of their vast country to continue the struggle for independence in the mountains. If greater austerity is demanded from them, it certainly is not too much to ask from us who have suffered comparatively speaking so little. We think our rise in prices bad enough, but it is much worse in Chungking. Let us emulate the splendid spirit of unity and resolution of the Chinese and, like them, forget all differences in concentrating on winning the war. If China could do it, India can. That is the spirit that will make the early rescue of Burma certain and so bring to our Chinese friends the weapons and supplies that they need for driving the Japs into the sea. The war is dragging on too long. We can only end it quickly by making a supreme united effort and putting first things first. The right spirit of unity and resolution will not only end the war quickly. It is also the one thing that will enable us to build the new India and the new world of our dreams when we have achieved victory and peace.

—A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on Mar. 22.

Post-War Economic Relations

By NORMAN CRUMP

NO country is entirely self-sufficient. No country can prosper if the rest of the world is depressed. No country can achieve complete freedom from want for its nationals by its own unaided efforts. Whatever plans it makes for the betterment of its own people, sooner or later it has to co-operate with other countries for the fulfilment of those plans. And it can never forget that co-operation means give as well as take.

These are thoughts underlying two important speeches delivered recently—one by Mr. Herbert Morrison in the city of London, the other by Mr. Sumner Welles in Toronto.

Mr. Morrison described three focal points in world economic relations. These were currency, commodities and commerce.

Mr. Sumner Welles said that the United Nations should set up a machinery for a combined study of all international problems under the general heading "freedom from want", so as to formulate constructive plans and recommendations. The United States Government, he said, intended at once to discuss this proposal with other members of the United Nations.

THE OBJECTIVE

Discussion of this kind followed by comprehensive agreements could go a long way to solve the world's post-war economic problems. The objective is general improvement in national standards of living and in national income to a point where the world's capacity to buy and consume equals its war-developed capacity to produce.

Currency and exchange systems must fertilize and not choke international trade. There must be no exchange problem between London and New York any more than there is between London and Edinburgh, or New York and San Francisco. The key is that nations must be prepared to buy as well as sell, and banks of all nations must be prepared to hold currencies of other nations and regard such currencies as cash on all fours with their own currency.

Commodity prices must be kept stable. The industrialist and his workers must recognize that a slump in farm prices destroys the farmer's purchasing power and, with it, the demand for their own products and employment for their own industries. If demand for raw materials and foods falls below productive capacity, the United Nations could fill the gap by buying in order to build up strategic reserves. Raw material producers, on the other hand, should keep in touch with the world's needs. There is a limit, though extended, to the world's needs for most stable commodities. If productive capacity passes that limit, an orderly and elastic regulation by joint agreement may become necessary.

DEVELOPING COMMERCE

Finally, the growth of international commerce must not be interrupted by variations in the economic systems and needs of the members of the United Nations. Russia has one economic system, Britain another, and the United States a third. Britain is seeking to carry out her post-war plans for social security, housing and education, but is at times fearful lest one financial effect of these on her industries might be too great an increase in her export prices. The United States has her relatively high wages and large mass production industries, the latter greatly developed by the pressure of war. The British Dominions and the Latin American countries can now make at home a wide range of industrial products which formerly they imported. The occupied countries must after their liberation re-establish their industries. Their success in remaking their lives will, in Mr. Sumner Welles's words, depend upon the commercial policy of other nations.

Here are the dimensions of the problem. It can only be solved by agreed action on the part of the United Nations. Action must be inspired by high ideals and wide vision. Above all, sectional interests—wherever they are and however important they may be—must not be allowed to block the way.

Plea for a Standing United Nations Conference

By RAYMOND CLAPPER

ALL of the United Nations are to be invited to a meeting which will be held in the United States before long to consider post-war arrangements.

What we hope for from the meeting is not a complete blueprint of the future but the creation of some continuing machinery of the United Nations so that the requirements of the future might be studied. We do not need plans for dealing with the future nearly so much as we need an organization of competent people who are ready to go to work. Without such an organization, even the best-drawn plans will be merely filed away for reference.

A sound, practical analysis of what can and should be done has just been completed by the Commission to study the organization of peace. This is a group of public-spirited Americans, many of them with years of technical experience in international affairs. The Chairman, Dr. James T. Shotwell, is one of the world's foremost authorities on problems of collective security. The group is not official, but its report undoubtedly will be thoughtfully considered in official quarters.

CONTINUING CONFERENCE

The most important recommendation in the report is that the United Nations organize themselves into a continuing conference as soon as possible.

This conference would have nothing to do with the military conduct of the war. On that, the Commission's report makes a wise distinction. The responsibility for conducting the war must rest with the few large nations that are fighting it and which alone have the military resources for waging it. They must exercise full responsibility in military affairs.

But in the post-war preparations and rehabilitation work that must follow the advancing Allied armies, the United Nations as a body can and should assume the responsibilities.

The war is not likely to end in all places at once. We shall have war going on in some places and reconstruction in others. The armies should not have to divert their effort to do wet-nursing in liberated territory. The United Nations Conference should assume that duty. The lack of preparation for it in North Africa has loaded General Eisenhower with headaches which should have been borne by others. With the invasion of the continent, the need for such assistance behind the lines will expand rapidly.

ASSURANCE FOR FUTURE

A conference of the United Nations, organized into a standing body, would serve as the best kind of assurance toward the future. It need be only a temporary, provisional body concerned with rehabilitation and transition work. As the report of Dr. Shotwell's Commission says, the United Nations will acquire a reputation for honest, efficient administration in the interests of the community of nations, if they develop trust and respect, if they establish organs which prove of value to the community; then it may be hoped that peoples and States will want to carry on such a system permanently after the war.

I think we have here a practical route of accomplishment, not in an overreaching blueprint nor, on the other hand, in a halting island-by-island plan that might never arrive anywhere in time but only provide too little, too late.

There is no time to delay. The nations are already making their plans, as they must. The small nations are setting up boundary claims in shrill voices already, and they are trying to play one power against another. If there is to be no United Nations, if it is to be each nation standing alone, then to achieve security, deals must be made and Allies sought by any means that work.

But a strong, continuing United Nations organization now would cushion some of these fears and moderate the claims which are being made. This is the time to set it up.

Freedom of the Skies After the War

WRITING on the formation of the R.A.F. Transport Command, *The Times* observes that the immediate purpose of the new body must be military, but clearly it may have an important bearing on civil flying after the war by stimulating the production of transport aircraft. When Britain was fighting for its life and holding alone the last standing rampart against aggression, there was no option but to continue to concentrate on the production of fighters and bombers. The policy justified itself in the battle of Britain, when "the few" gave the Luftwaffe its Sedan in the English skies, and is justifying itself now when the Bomber Command is attacking German industrial centres with a force, constancy and effectiveness which have no parallel.

Diversion to the production of transport aircraft would have been a hard excuse in the light of present facts and achievements, continues *The Times*. America was not then —and is not now—under a similar desperate impulsion, and has in fact become the Allied air carrier and is likely to remain such until the end of the war, whatever may be done to enlarge air transport services elsewhere.

The Atlantic Charter rightly includes freedom of the seas among its cardinal principles, says *The Times*. It thinks that freedom of the skies will be equally an asset to victory and a pledge of unity for essential international purposes. Given vision to see the opportunity and the vigour to use it, co-operation in the air after the war offers a prospect of most fruitful international action. The aeroplane has so conquered time and space that the setting up of a world authority assuring freedom of the skies and exercising responsibility on behalf of the United Nations on all issues of the organisation of international air transport ceases to be Utopian. As a result of the war, mighty and magnificent forces of men and machines have been created; experience of aviation has developed; new knowledge has been acquired. In the use of the marshalled resources of the Allied air forces, imagination has been shown and a superb spirit of service evoked.

There has been a pooling for war, declares the paper; victory will be fruitless without a pooling for peace. Great Britain, with her worldwide communications, has a pre-eminent interest in reaching an early agreement. There is every reason why she should take the initiative in opening negotiations with other major Powers among the United Nations.

THE ONE MAN

A man was walking along a Berlin street muttering to himself, "And all this trouble for one man".

A policeman overheard him and arrested him. When he appeared before the judge, the latter asked him to which man he was referring. The reply was "Winston Churchill," and the case was dismissed.

As the man was leaving the courthouse he met the policeman who had arrested him.

"What man did you think I meant when you arrested me?" he asked in passing.

French Colonies in West Africa

Condensed from the "*Economist*"

FRENCH West Africa is one of the least developed parts of the French Empire. Adverse climatic conditions, the expansion of the Sahara desert to the west and the scarcity of local labour have been the main obstacles to economic development.

The colonies which form the Federation (Senegal and French Sudan, French Guinea, the Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Nigeria and Mauritania) cover more than one-fifth of the African continent; and their populations account for about 15 per cent of the total of Africa's inhabitants. But their trade has amounted to no more than 5–6 per cent of all African trade; and the capital invested there amounts to only 2·5 per cent of the total investment in Africa, compared with nearly 10 per cent invested in British West Africa.

Financial difficulties have also handicapped the colonies. The payment of debt services used to make up about 40 per cent of French West Africa's expenditure; and the burden of the debts incurred for railway construction was out of proportion to the colonies' income or even to the increase in income, owing to the supply of transport facilities.

STAPLE CROP—PEANUTS

Economic life has developed mainly on the coastal belt. French policy aimed at the development of large scale monocultural areas, based on local peasant proprietorship. Thus, Senegal has specialised in the cultivation of groundnuts. Its output amounted to nearly 30 per cent of the world's total groundnut crop before the war; and Senegal's share in all French West Africa's exports was more than 50 per cent. Groundnuts were the main staple food of the local population; and the export surplus was between 500,000 and 600,000 tons.

In the years of depression, the price of groundnuts fell by about 75 per cent; and the local peasants expanded the area under cultivation deep into the interior of the country to make good part of their losses by a bigger volume of sales. This shift into the interior of the country was further necessitated by the gradual exhaustion of the coastal soil; and it was facilitated by the development of motor traffic which made it possible to transport the nut crops to the coastal railways, especially to the "peanut railway," St. Louis-Dakar.

Shortly before the war, a start was made in the production of nut oil on the spot. But only a small fraction of the crops was processed; the bulk of the harvest went to North Africa and to France to be shelled and processed there.

During the Vichy period, shipping and fuel shortages forced a radical change. Shelling and oil production on a large scale were developed on the spot. Peanut shells were used as fuel by the local railways; and tractors were driven on nut oil.

COCOA, COFFEE AND COTTON

French Guinea and the Ivory Coast have specialised in growing cocoa, coffee, bananas and palm kernels. Most of the French West African cocoa (about 50,000 tons) and nearly all its coffee (nearly 15,000 tons) come from the Ivory Coast; these two items account for 12 to 13 per cent of all French West African exports. Palm kernels and palm oil from Guinea and Dahomey account for eight per cent. The Ivory Coast is also rich in mahogany forests.

Finally, the French Sudan has been chosen as the rice and cotton-growing area. An irrigation scheme for the Niger Valley was started as far back as 1925, and it was more specifically developed by the Office du Niger after 1932. The output of cotton, however, remained at a low level before the war; and its annual export was never more than 5,000 tons.

TRANSPORT EXPERIMENT

West African imports, like those of the French North African possessions, consisted mainly of textiles, fuel oil and agricultural machinery; and, as in North Africa, the falling off in those imports during the Vichy period caused many hardships to the local population.

The railways have been run on wood and oil-cake; and the most crazy experiments have been made to cover the fuel deficit by the use of palm oil and alcohol extracted from bananas, as well as maize and sisal.

Fuel and steel shortages have made the planned expansion of railways impossible. The railway network is still confined to the coastal regions. The main lines connect the Upper Niger with the ports of Dakar and Conakry in the north-west and Bobo Dioulasso with Abidjan in the south. The extension of the Abidjan railway from Bobo Dioulaso to Quagadougou, 1,500 kilometres inland, has come to a standstill.

GOOD MOTOR ROADS

The problem of transport was the main point discussed at the economic conference held at Dakar in October 1942. Great stress was laid

on the need to maintain the regular weekly motor service between Casablanca and Dakar, across the desert. The motor roads there are relatively good, a fact which will certainly be appreciated now, when Dakar serves as a transit point for supplies despatched from the United States to North Africa.

An achievement of which Vichy's colonial administration was particularly proud was the development of an air service between French West and North Africa. The facilities for air transport have now become available for Allied aircraft.

STRATEGIC ASSET

The most important economic and strategic asset of the country is, of course, Dakar itself, with its modern and conveniently situated harbour. The volume of Dakar's commercial traffic ranged from 7,500,000 to 17,500,000 tons a year during the last pre-war decade. Recently, Dakar has been strongly fortified; and its harbour installations are said to have been considerably extended. The growth of the town is also reflected in the increase of its population, which has risen from 90,000 to 120,000.

U-Boat: Germany's Final Weapon

By LORD STRABOLGI

THERE is clear evidence that the German High Command has placed its highest hope in the submarine. The next period of about six months may well be the most important phase in the history of the world for many centuries.

Germany's main effort of attacks is concentrated on submarine warfare because this is the most difficult to counter. Air attack on convoys is not fruitful now as means of defence have improved. The United Nations have acquired ascendency in long-range aircraft.

A lone surface raider is not so good a proposition as she was in the last war when a single cruiser such as the *Emden* or a disguised commerce raider, well handled and heavily armed, could do heavy damage on distant trade routes. Air reconnaissance has narrowed the field for such operations and fewer merchant ships now sail singly.

In the first World War convoys only proceeded under escort for a limited distance but now war vessels accompany merchant fleets much further. This is because submarines now operate further afield.

Japan has made the Pacific a danger area and the Indian Ocean may at any time become one. German heavy surface warships are too few in number to be able to operate on trade routes as a fleet and the Italian navy is confined to the Mediterranean. The Japanese fleet is busy controlling the Western Pacific and the sea routes between Japan and various theatres of war, while the Pacific operations have diverted a great part of American and British strength to this area.

But the main campaign is being fought out in the North and South Atlantic with German submarines. Much of the data required for a full appreciation of the situation is kept secret or is only known to one side. Thus only the German High Command knows the rate of construction and also of losses of U-boats. Both these factors can be estimated, but here there must always be an element of guess work. Similarly, the rate of sinkings or damage of merchant ships is known only to the United Nations.

MERCHANT SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMME

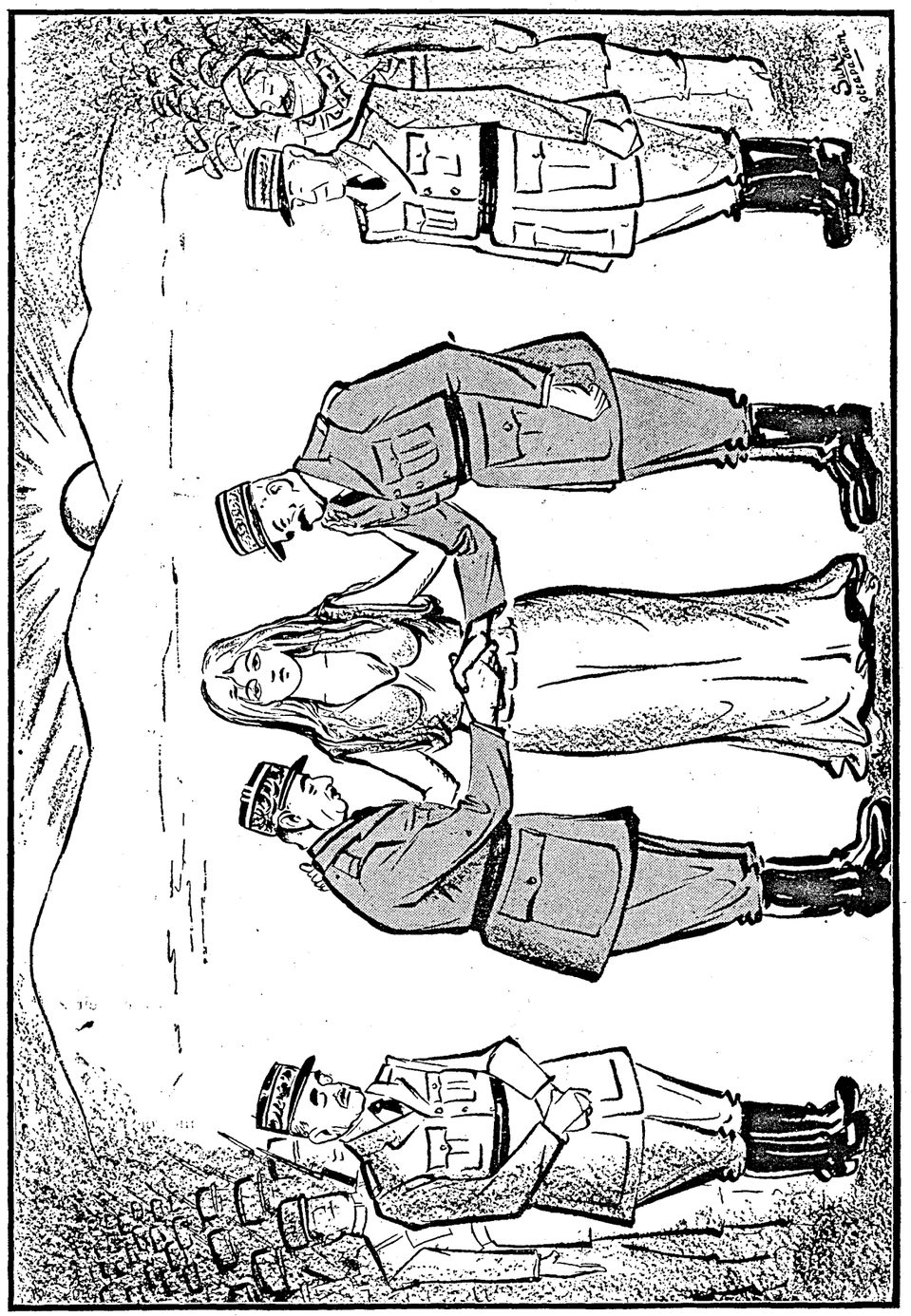
The Americans publish figures of merchant shipbuilding but the output of new merchant ships in the United Kingdom, Canada, India and Australia is not made known. What we do know is that the rate of building has overtaken sinkings and that over the last six months there is a substantial balance in favour of the United Nations. We also know that there are large arrears of losses to be made up and that German submarines are still being built in greater numbers than they are being sunk.

The convoy system is still the best means of defence against submarine attack provided sufficient fast escorts are available. But convoys are slow; their speed is limited by that of the vessels they guard. A U-boat will rarely attack a convoy singlehanded. She calls up the rest of the pack and then a concerted attack is made usually at dusk or under cover of darkness. If, however, U-boats can be kept submerged, they cannot get into position ahead of the convoys in order to attack. To do so, they must use their fastest speed on the surface. With enough fast escorts, and particularly with enough aircraft, submarines can be kept submerged and the main danger is removed. Apart, therefore, from counter-attack by bombing bases and building yards of submarines or capturing and destroying these bases by successful invasion, the problem resolves itself into a provision for more and faster escort vessels and of more long-distance aeroplanes and carrier-ships to act as bases for aeroplanes in the widest parts of the oceans.

MANNING OF SUBMARINES

An important factor is the manning of submarines. The supply of trained submarine

(*Continued on page* 14.)



General de Gaulle and General Giraud will shortly meet at Algiers to cement Free French unity.

U-BOAT: GERMANY'S FINAL WEAPON

(*Continued from page* 12)

crews at the disposal of the German naval staff is a wasting asset. It is known that a large part of the present crews are made up only partly of trained men who suffer severely from sea-sickness. Every submarine must carry a minimum of nine skilled technicians. These are Captain and Second-in-Command, who must be trained navigators and also skilled in the use of the periscope. Both these arts need much practice. She must have two practised coxswains able to control her manœuvres under water, two trained engineers and two torpedo specialists able to look after these complicated weapons and at least one skilled man to look after radio-location instruments and wireless telegraphy. The rest of her crew of fifty or sixty men can be only partially trained, but these nine key men are essential.

A lack of these highly trained submarine experts caused a marked falling off in efficiency in the German U-boat campaign in 1918. It will be a matter for surprise if the same shortage of experts does not begin to make itself felt during the present year.

Ploesti Oilfields—Germany's Life-Blood

By LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

EVENTS in Tunisia have taken a turn for the better after a slight relapse; but in the south of Russia the pulse of progress shows definite signs of slackening. This is mainly due to two causes: first, that thaw has come to Hitler's aid earlier than was expected (although it may not last); and, second, that the German High Command seem to have been able to collect some fresh reserves to throw into the fray in the Donetz basin.

Whether these reserves have had to be taken from the divisions in Norway, in the Balkans or France and the Low Countries is not yet known, or whether they have had to be withdrawn from other parts of the Russian front. This latter supposition is less likely for two reasons: first, that the lateral communications now in German hands are poor; and, second, because the Russians have shown such marked ability to take advantage of the thinning of troops on any part of the front. Pressure has been exerted against the Germans all along the battle line from the Black Sea to the White; and the Russians have shown themselves adepts at hitting first in one place and then in another, thus keeping the Germans from knowing where to expect the next blow.

PLAUSIBLE REASON

It is interesting, therefore, to consider why Hitler seems to have sent all the reserves he has been able to raise to the south, where he might have hoped that thaw would come earliest to his aid. The easiest explanation is that this is the region where he must be strong in order to give the remnants of his Donetz and Caucasian armies a chance to escape the fate which befell Field Marshal Paulus.

But there is, I think, another—and even deeper—reason. German strategy in 1942 failed because it envisaged too many objectives. The advance into the Caucasus before Stalingrad had been taken was a blunder from which the Germans never recovered. But there was a good reason for the diversion. Hitler wanted oil; for two and a half years he had subsisted on his reserves and on the production of the Rumanian Ploesti oilfields. Whilst the Germans held Maikop they never got a gallon. The will-o'-the-wisp had led them on in the Caucasus and had caused their failure on the Don.

HALF THE OIL IS FROM PLOESTI

The importance of the Ploesti oilfields is now greater than ever to Hitler, and he is therefore bound to protect them and their approaches to the last. It is believed that half of the oil he expends comes from Ploesti. It is certain that he could not carry on the war for long with a 50 per cent reduction in this commodity. Ploesti provides the life-blood of the German army and the Luftwaffe; and that is why the northern shores of the Black Sea must be defended inch by inch—even were there no German armies retreating or trying to retreat along them. Ploesti is the joint in Hitler's armour—and one of the plates has been made in Rumania instead of in Germany.

A HUMAN BOMB-RACK

It happened over Tunisia.

The bomber had completed its mission and was homeward bound. A jarring sound was heard. The crew discovered that the metal band holding one of the bombs had shaken loose.

The bomb had not dropped, and it was vibrating with each movement of the plane, likely to explode at any moment.

Without hesitation, two members of the crew climbed into the bomb-rack and, straddling the bomb, held it firmly in their hands.

The bomber landed safely at its home base.

Sir Alwyn Ezra's Rs. 25,000 for New R.I.N. Fund

Benevolent Association also helped by Ratnagiri Merchants

OF great importance to Naval personnel and their dependents is the formation of the Royal Indian Navy Benevolent Association, the object of which is to assist them in time of hardship.

The Association has made a good start. Sir Alwyn Ezra, who has long been a generous friend of the Royal Indian Navy, has magnificently led the way by giving Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow Rs. 25,000 for it. Among other amounts already raised are the proceeds of a special performance held at the Metro Cinema, Bombay, and part of a gift of Rupees 10,000 from 93 merchants and firms of Ratnagiri district in Bombay Presidency. This gift was announced during a public reception held at Ratnagiri in honour of men from the district serving in H.M.I.S. "Bengal" at the time of her successful action.

The Benevolent Association's affairs will be administered by a Council presided over by the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, and there will also be a Relief and Finance Committee.

In appropriate cases relief from the funds of the Association may be granted to past and present officers of the Royal Indian Marine, the Royal Indian Navy, the Royal Indian Naval Reserve and the Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve, and past and present ratings of the Royal Indian Navy (including Special Service and "Hostilities only" ratings), the Royal Indian Fleet Reserve and the Royal Indian Marine, and their dependents.

In the past the Royal Indian Navy has had a Benefit Fund towards which officers and men voluntarily subscribed. Despite donations from various generous individuals and organizations, the financial resources at the disposal of the Royal Indian Navy Benefit Fund have not increased in proportion to the great expansion of the service, the personnel of which is now more than ten times what it was in September 1939. In view of the Navy's growth and the heavier responsibilities the Service now bears owing to the extension of war in the East, it was considered essential that any such fund should be strong enough to meet all potential claims on it. The new Association will, therefore, take over the assets of the Benefit Fund and develop and extend them.

Under the rules, any donor of Rs. 2,000 and over may be invited to become a Vice-Patron of the Association, and donors of Rs. 500 and over but less than Rs. 2,000 shall be life-members. Any past or present Naval officer or rating may become a member by paying not less than Rs. 10 a year in the case of an officer and not less than Rs. 3 a year in the case of a rating.

The Navy recruits officers and men from all over India, and dependents of serving personnel are, therefore, to be found in many parts of the country. Already in one district long connected with the Service—Ratnagiri—merchants and firms have set a splendid example by raising a handsome amount for the Association. It is hoped that in other parts of the country individuals and organizations will extend their support to an institution that means much to many thousands of families whose bread-winners are defending India.

The Navy's arduous work is an essential part of the country's war effort. Naval personnel guard our shores and sea routes, and in doing so run risks inevitable in time of war. The Benevolent Association exists for the purpose of assuring them that, whatever perils or hardships lie ahead, their families' future is secure. It is of national importance that there should be this assurance for men who deserve so well of the country, and the Association, therefore, merits the widest possible public support.

★

SOME MEANING

A train passing through a station where scaffolding had been erected after an air raid. Shouts the guard: "Look Out!"

Frenchman puts his head through the window expecting to see something wonderful and receives a bump on his head: "These Englishmen! They never say what they mean."

British Consumers' Contribution

By OSWALD DUTCH

THE British consumer now pays roughly £880,000,000 a year in taxes without being actually conscious of it. The ordinary citizen knows, of course, that he has to pay annually a considerable slice of his income to the State. He hardly ever realizes, however, that over and above this he pays small sums in taxation to the Government every single day, almost every hour, in fact, payments which in the aggregate amount to colossal sums.

It begins at breakfast time. A cup of tea with a spoonful of sugar is the first contribution to the exchequer. One pound of tea costs 2*s.* 6*d.* at present; the duty on it is 6¼*d.* a comparatively small amount therefore. The retail price of sugar is 3*d.* a pound, and the tax on it is 2¼*d.*, that is exactly 75 per cent of the sale price. If one has time enough after breakfast, one lights a cigarette or a pipe. This again costs a considerable amount in taxation, the lighting of the pipe or cigarette as well as the tobacco. The duty on the individual match amounts to more than half its retail price; in the case of cigarettes it amounts to nearly three quarters of the price. The share of taxation in the cost of a pipe of tobacco amounts to 80 per cent.

Should one wish to refresh oneself in a pub or a bar with beer or a little liquor, one's contribution to the exchequer is considerable. Beer is still cheap in England; it costs 11*d.* a pint, but of this 6½*d.* represents taxation. Whisky, on the other hand, is not cheap. A bottle of whisky costs 23*s.*, of which 16*s.* and ½*d.* is the contribution to the State. To go into details, the citizen pays nearly a penny in duty for every cigarette and nearly a shilling for every glass of whisky.

INDIRECT TAXATION

There was a time when it was thought that the rationing of tobacco in Great Britain would ultimately be inevitable. This was in the autumn and winter of 1941–42. In the Budget introduced in April, 1942, the duty on tobacco was raised by 33⅓ per cent. The immediate consequence was that smokers temporarily restricted their consumption. Within a week the whole shortage of tobacco was made good, and though the average Englishman does not smoke less than he did a year ago, the raising of the tobacco duty has brought about such an improvement in the tobacco market that smokes of every kind are now obtainable everywhere in England in unlimited quantities, and nobody believes now that tobacco will have to be rationed.

The sums paid to the exchequer in the form of these and similar indirect taxes are positively gigantic. On an average £2,500,000 are paid into the exchequer every day under this head alone. The Chancellor of the Exchequer estimated the revenue from indirect taxation in the Budget year 1942–43 at £805,000,000. In the first nine months of this financial year, however, revenue under this head amounted to £860,000,000; it may therefore be assumed that the total revenue from indirect taxation in 12 months will be not less than £880,000,000; probably it may reach the £900,000,000 level. Indirect taxation—disguised taxation—has thus, for the first time, become one of the mainstays of government financial administration and it would be by no means surprising if even larger sums were realized by indirect taxation than have hitherto formed the principal item in all British budgets, that is, revenue from income-tax.

With this form of tax legislation the British Treasury has killed two birds with one stone. It has avoided restrictions in the sale of necessary articles of consumption and at the same time it has indirectly made such consumption goods into an extremely important factor in the financing of the war.

NOT A SOUND WAS HEARD

The sergeant-major felt queer with a bad cold in the head, and his temper was even shorter than ever.

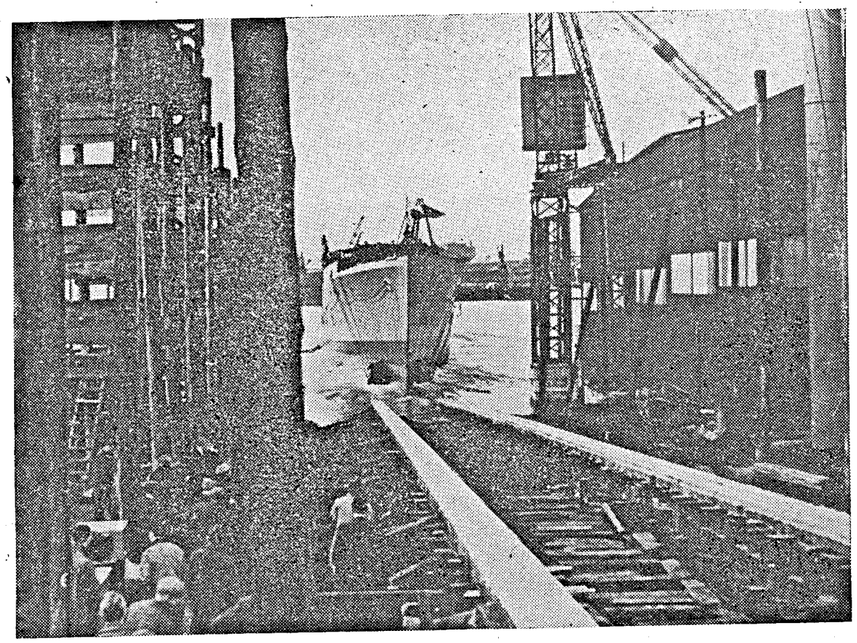
Facing the parade, he opened his mouth, but not a sound emerged, and he got scarlet in the face as he tried to speak.

His neck muscles straining and his eyes bloodshot, he made several more attempts to shout a command.

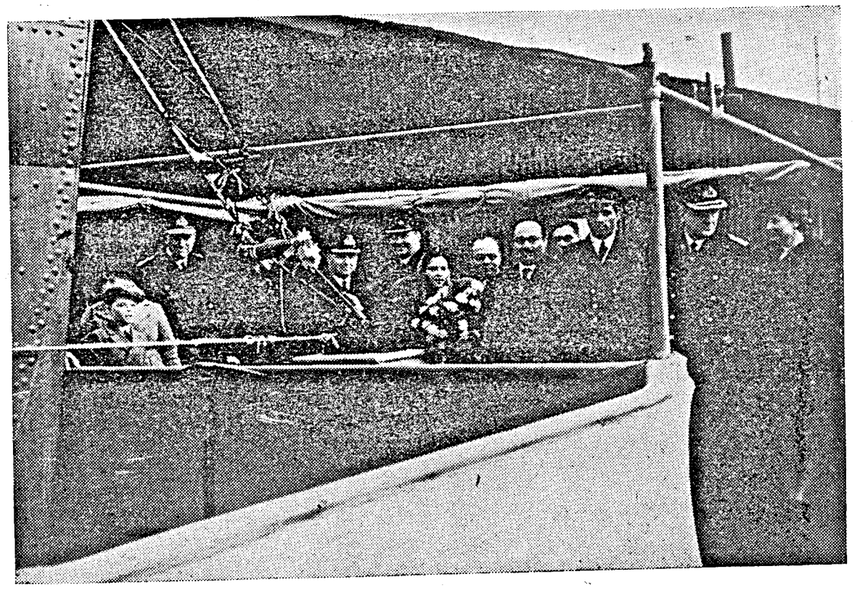
In the silence that followed, a voice came from the rear rank.

"Blimey!" it said, "it's a blooming miracle!"

H.M.I.S. "GODAVARI" LAUNCHED AT A BRITISH SHIPYARD



Mrs. Lall, wife of the Deputy High Commissioner for India, recently launched His Majesty's Indian sloop "GODAVARI" at a British shipyard. Picture shows: The "GODAVARI" leaving the shipway.



Picture shows the official party on the launching platform.

Women Trained to Fight with Men

TURKEY, if attacked, will fight to her last citizen. And when one says "citizen," one means women too.

Turkey is not a very densely populated country. There are only 18,000,000 people, distributed over an area three times the size of Britain. Manpower is Turkey's great problem in war, and that is why all grown-up men and women in Turkey have been made expert in the defence of their country. A young Turk when called to the colours, is a fully trained soldier.

Some six years ago, moreover, special courses were introduced into all girls' schools for training women in various military duties. Criticism of that measure was loud and persistent. Fortunately, there were many who remembered what womanpower had meant to Turkey in her war of independence. They can still recall how mothers, with their children strapped to their backs had carried munitions to the frontline; how women under a hail of bullets had stormed enemy trenches; how others, already dying, had still murmured the words of the Turkish women fighters' song: "Come, sisters! the country looks to us in her supreme agony."

COMPULSORY MILITARY INSTRUCTION

So the measure was passed in spite of critics and croakers. As a result, there is to-day no school in Turkey where girls do not receive military instruction. This is a compulsory scheme. It has given Turkey a vast reservoir of trained women soldiers. In fact, no pupil—and that applies to either sex—can take part in other examinations unless he or she has passed successfully through military training. Topics which Miss Turkey has to study include mapping, topography, military drill and sharpshooting.

These measures, which have helped Turkey to make up for other shortage of manpower, were amplified in 1939 when a law was passed under which every citizen regardless of sex could be called up for military service from the age of 15.

It is from the age of 15, too, that both men and women are admitted to special air training. Under the expert supervision of Sabiha Gokcen, adopted daughter of Kemal Ataturk, several squadrons of "Blue Amazons," as they are called, have been trained. Her Blue Amazons are trained in conditions of complete equality with men. They have learnt how to pilot bombers and fighters, how to navigate, and how to bomb accurately. Soviet teachers have given them special instruction in parachute warfare, and they will be as efficient at sabotaging enemy communications behind the lines as their male comrades.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Turkey, too, has given a great deal of thought to her civil defence services, particularly to gas defence, which is in the hands of the "Kizilay." In the "Kizilay," too, Turkish women play a great part. Turkey's industries, most of which have been planned and established only in the past ten years, have been organized with the view of strategic considerations. Industrial plants from the most vulnerable area of Istanbul will be, or probably have already been, evacuated to inner Anatolia.

Turkey completed her five-year plan most successfully. New cotton factories sprang up in Eregli, Nazilli and Kayseri. Zonguldak and Karabuk became centres of her new heavy industry. Her output of chromium ore—on which von Papen would love to lay his hands—is 30 times that of 1923.

SUPPLIES OF FOREIGN ARMAMENTS

But, in spite of this development, Turkey is still largely dependent on supplies of foreign armaments. She has a standing army of half a million, but its equipment is not up to date. She has also an air fleet of about a thousand planes, but many of these are obsolete. Here is where Britain's help—and Britain's Spitfires particularly—will be valuable.

Turkey's three armies, however—in Thrace, Northern Anatolia and near the Caucasian frontier—are extremely well-trained and are commanded by generals who have proved their leadership. Only eight months ago it would have been extremely difficult to defend Turkey's airfields against an airborne invasion. Now the Luftwaffe must save every plane at its disposal if its much-vaunted spring offensive in Russia is to be mounted at all. And what is more, Allied production and Allied strategy are to-day in a far better position to come to Turkey's aid than they were eight months ago.

Turkey has not proved only a fair-weather friend of Britain; and Britain will remember that, should the dark clouds of Nazi aggression burst over the Ataturk's country.

—*Yorkshire Post.*

★

Fortifying the Balkans

THE view prevailing among Turkish commentators of the situation created by the resounding victories of the Red Army may be summed up as follows—So long as the Germans possessed an overwhelming superiority in manpower, weapons and knowledge of the technique of modern warfare, their occupation of almost the entire European continent from Narvik to Crete and from Brittany to the Caucasus in addition to Libya was a great asset to them. Since they lost that superiority the scattering of their forces over that area has become a heavy liability.

Some of the Turkish commentators are inclined to think that the Germans may be able to make a stand on the line of Melitopol-Dnepropetrovsk - Poltava - Vyasma-Leningrad and that by gathering fresh forces from total mobilization of German population, they may again try their luck against Russia next spring. On the other hand, others envisage the possibility of a German withdrawal all along the eastern front on the line of Riga-Kiev-Odessa and they express serious doubts of a German offensive next spring owing to the menace of Allied attacks on other theatres of war. They are also sceptical of the effects of the German total mobilization.

Russia and the Balkans are closely correlated strategically and should the Germans be compelled to fall back to the west, it is doubtful if they can afford to hold the Balkans and run the risk of being caught in a pincer movement between the Russians advancing from the north-east and the British and American forces from the south-west.

It is thought in some circles that, in such an event, the Germans may withdraw from the southern Balkans and make a stand on the line running across the Carpathians and the Danube towards the Alps. Of more immediate interest is how the Germans intend to defend the Balkans. From the information available here, it is certain that the Germans and the Italians intend to defend Crete and the Dodecanese which have been fortified and strongly garrisoned, but the other Greek islands and southern Greece are thinly garrisoned with only enough troops to maintain their security. It is assumed that should the Allies take Crete and —or the Dodecanese, the Germans will abandon other Greek islands and southern Greece and will make a stand on the line running from the Black Sea around the Turkish frontier to Dedeagatch along the Aegean coast to Mount Olympus and there across Epirus to the Adriatic.

As Salonika is the central bastion of that line, great efforts are being made to fortify it and the civilian population of the peninsula, which borders on both sides of the gulf of Salonika, has been evacuated. Farther north, all the mountain passes and gorges in Bulgaria and Serbia are also being fortified presumably with the object of fighting a delaying action there and to protect German communications from raids by Serbians and Greek guerrilla bands.

The Germans are evidently doing thoroughly the job of fortifying the Balkans. But they will require men to hold and man the fortifications and that is where their difficulties begin. They cannot put much faith in their allies and satellites. The Rumanians and Hungarians have been too badly mauled in Russia to be eager to fight against the British and the Americans. Moreover, their mutual hate and mistrust induce them to keep back some of the forces with which to cut each other's throats. Most that can be expected from Croats is the defence of Herzegovina and part of the Adriatic coast.

The Italians, who still have 20 odd divisions in the Balkans, have their hands full with General Mihailovitch and Greek guerrilla bands. There remains the Bulgarian army but official statement that it will stand firm by the Wehrmacht carry little conviction even to German ears. Since the last summer, reports have been current that Bulgarians had made up their minds not to resist the Allies if they landed in Bulgaria and this attitude seems to have been approved by King Boris, who apparently believes that the best thing for him to do in this war is to act as an innkeeper to any army that may choose to come to his country—*The Times* Istanbul correspondent.

To the Troops!

You want to be amused?
You want some light music?
Well, tune in to *All-India Radio, Madras,*
211 or 60·98 metres,
Every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

U-Boat's Reduced Harvest

By A. J. McWHINNIE

THE Allied shipping position to-day is better than a year ago, despite big overseas operations. One of the difficulties facing the United Nations is that in withholding news of shipping losses from the Axis, their own people are apt to get a distorted picture of the sea war in their minds.

In the Allied determination to face facts and not to distil artificial sunshine from propaganda, London and Washington temper the news of their land and air victories with reminders that the U-boat war remains the greatest menace. The increase in U-boat warnings from official spokesmen on both sides of the Atlantic has given the impression that these repeated warnings have become necessary because the graph of Allied sinkings is showing a sharp rise.

That is not the case.

The truth is that U-boats have been having a reduced harvest lately. The spring of the year is always a testing time for anti-submarine forces. Naval history shows that February, March and April are always active months for U-boats, in the last war as well as in this. The United Nations must be prepared for severe blows at their shipping during the next few months. So British and American spokesmen decide that it is better to keep the menace of U-boats constantly before their people rather than come out with see-saw announcements in the course of the year.

HOW TO COPE WITH THE MENACE

McWhinnie adds that the following points emerge from the situation :—

(1) Faster ships are being built in large numbers by Britain, Canada and America. But speed alone will not save a ship from U-boats which themselves can achieve 18 knots or so on the surface.

(2) Big screens of destroyers, corvettes and anti-submarine aircraft are the only answer to the U-boat menace. If proof were needed that given accurate anti-submarine protection on the seas and in the skies, convoys can get through, proof is forthcoming from the giant Allied armadas to North Africa.

(3) Britain and America are building faster bombers. But slow aircraft are playing an increasingly important part in the war on submarines. Fast machines may overshoot the spot at which U-boats are sighted. Slower planes with greater manoeuvrability can keep a U-boat's location until destroyers are called into action.

The number of U-boats in commission to-day is said to be approaching 500. New building is said to be at the rate of a U-boat a day.

BRITISH GRANARIES FULL

British granaries are full—fuller, says the British Food Minister, than ever before. The danger from the U-boat campaign is not of starving out Britain but delaying the big offensive planned at Casablanca for 1943. That offensive must come in ships. U-boats are making their most terrific effort to reduce the number of ships available for the moment of their biggest attack in history.

Despite the hazards of some recent Allied advances, initiated and fed from the sea, the Allied shipping position to-day is believed to be better than it was a year ago. Big developments are being noticed in the intensification of U-boat fighting from the air. Ship-building in the United States of America alone in 1942–43 will have a cargo-carrying capacity equal to 1,000,000 railway trucks.

An Airfield in Brazil

By J. ALAN COOGAN, *United Press of America Correspondent*

AN airfield in Natal (Brazil), one of the most important and least known in the world, is the source of the air punch which enabled the British Eighth Army to drive Axis forces out of Egypt and Libya.

The busiest trans-ocean airfield in the world, it has been developed since last June by Americans. The Air Transport Command of the United States Army carries out with speed and precision the gigantic task for which the field is a nerve centre—getting American-made warplanes to the front, and maintaining speedy transport for Allied leaders shuttling across the Atlantic on war business.

Flying Fortresses, Liberators, Mitchells, Marauders, Venturas, Bostons, Hudsons, Marylands—and other planes as yet unknown to the public—take off every few minutes for Africa.

The number of warplanes which makes this crossing is a military secret, but even the enemy must know that they are numbered in the many thousands by now.

The huge field is criss-crossed with wide asphalt runways built on hard-packed sand, and quickly absorbs even the hardest rains. The operations building, with a control tower at the top, is on one side. The Navy layout is on another side of the field. And the Brazilian air headquarters has a third side.

Diary of the War

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

18th Mar.—It was disclosed that more than 400 bombers and air crews numbering some 3,000 men took part in each of the 1,000-ton raids on Essen on Mar. 5 and 13.

Five girls were killed and about 12 seriously injured when a women's hostel in an East Anglian coast town was bombed.

The Royal Air Force attacked objectives (big oil storage tanks) at Maasluis near Rotterdam.

19th Mar.—It was revealed that 1,000 people were killed in the Royal Air Force raid on Berlin on Mar. 1.

Three German aircraft were destroyed over East Anglia.

20th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed Leer in north-west Germany. Railway objectives in Louvain and other targets in Belgium were also attacked.

21st Mar.—The railway viaduct at Morlaix in Brittany was bombed.

Mr. Churchill, in a broadcast, said: "I can imagine that some time next year—but it may well be the year after—we might beat Hitler, by which I mean him and his powers of evil, into death, dust and ashes. . . Under a world institution embodying or representing the United Nations and some day all nations, there will come into being a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia."

According to Reuter's London City Correspondent: "It is believed that Lord Keynes, besides his post-war currency plan, may also have a scheme for establishing international commodity prices. The international monetary unit, the Bancor, would be fixed in terms of gold and stable relations would be maintained between gold and goods."

According to *Financial News*, the Keynes Commodity Scheme provided for the establishment of international commodity pools which would buy up surplus supplies during the gluts and liquidate during the shortages.

23rd Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed the enemy submarine base at Saint Nazaire. The German naval base at Wilhelmshaven was attacked in daylight.

24th Mar.—Bombs were dropped at a place in south-east England. Two of thet raiders were destroyed.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

18th Mar.—According to Col. Knox, Navy Secretary, the Japanese merchant fleet had lost 1,857,000 gross tons or approximately one-third of its entire tonnage.

According to *American Mercury*, the War Department was planning to train more than 1,000 "top administrators" to help govern the Germans after the war.

19th Mar.—Senator Connally, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, quoted Mr. Anthony Eden as saying that the four great Allied Powers were now working in harmony and complete understanding in waging the war.

20th Mar.—The copyright and American royalties of Hitler's *Mein Kampf* were seized by the Custodian of Alien Property in U.S.A.

Rear-Admiral Howard L. Vickery, Vice-Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, said that United States shipyards would have constructed 50 million tons of shipping by the end of 1944.

21st Mar.—A United States merchantman carrying valuable military cargo, shot down 8 German planes and damaged 12 others in the North Atlantic.

22nd Mar.—It was reported in diplomatic circles that a United Nations Conference on post-war food production and distribution would be held on April 27.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

18th Mar.—The enemy continued to exert pressure on the Arakan front, east of the Mayu river. Bombs were dropped on Bhamo, a Japanese aerodrome on the Irrawaddy.

19th Mar.—Japanese pressure slackened east of the Mayu river. Fighting continued in the area of Taungmaw.

M. Atay (leader of the Turkish Press Delegation), writing in the semi-official *Ulus*, said: "In India, military training centres established in accordance with the most modern methods are training hundreds of thousands of Indian volunteers for motorized and mechanized units. . . . With a freedom greater than actually exists in 90 per cent of the European countries, the Indian press enjoys the right not only of discussion but of struggle."

20th Mar.—Allied naval coastal forces shelled Japanese positions in the Donbaik area. The enemy airfield at Magwe was attacked.

21st Mar.—A bombing attack was made on the Japanese-occupied village of Thaungdara. Myitson and Bhamo were also bombed.

22nd Mar.—The Royal Air Force dropped bombs in Donbaik and shot up a Japanese position near Laungchaung on the eastern side of the Mayu Peninsula. The Japanese raided Feni airfield.

23rd Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked an important Japanese transport camp at

Prome with high explosive and incendiary bombs. In Arakan, enemy positions at Laungchaung and Kalachaung were bombed and machine-gunned.

24th Mar.—It was reported that Archbishop Spellman, President Roosevelt's friend, would visit India..

The Royal Air Force sank enemy supply sampans in the Kaladan river, and inflicted casualties on enemy troops.

Enemy aircraft made a brief attack on an airfield in south-eastern Bengal.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

18th Mar.—The Algiers Radio announced that French Guiana had joined General Giraud.

The U.S. troops took Gafsa. Mareth Line was heavily bombed.

General Giraud issued decrees relegating 62 discriminatory Vichy laws against Jews and restoring elective municipal assemblies.

19th Mar.—Within ten days, two British submarines sank four large enemy supply ships, a tanker of medium size and a small supply ship in the Mediterranean.

Naples was bombed.

The Rome Radio disclosed that Axis admirals met in Italy for consultation.

Allied torpedo bombers attacked an Axis convoy off the south-eastern coast of Italy.

Allied forces captured El Guettar, 12 miles south-east of Gafsa. British troops withdrew from Tamera.

20th Mar.—Axis attacks at Tamera were repulsed.

General Giraud said: " I was present at the capture of Gafsa. We are witnessing the beginning of the offensive which will end in Berlin."

21st Mar.—American armoured units captured Sened. The German News Agency admitted that the Eighth Army launched an offensive in Central and Southern Tunisia. During an attack on Tripoli, four Axis bombers were shot down.

Allied bombers attacked a factory at Pozzallo, Sicily. Fires were started.

General Smuts, in the course of a broadcast, said: " The tide has turned for good."

22nd Mar.—American troops took 1,000 prisoners in a push from Gafsa.

Under powerful air support from both the Western Desert and the Tunisian air forces, General Montgomery flung the Eighth Army against Axis prepared positions along the Mareth Line and the Battle of Tunisia began. The Eighth Army launched the attack on a six-mile front.

Naples harbour was attacked.

23rd Mar.—The Eighth Army succeeded in driving a deep wedge in the Mareth Line defences in the " best defended portion." It was now on the rear of Rommel's Afrika Korps. The American forces captured Maknassi. The French forces advanced towards the Gulf of Gabes.

Hitler ordered his troops in Tunisia to fight to the last man.

24th Mar.—The Germans re-established their main line of defence on the Mareth front.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

18th Mar.—Soviet troops, advancing south of Byeli, drove the Germans out of 32 towns and villages. The Germans suffered heavy losses. The Red Army launched an encircling attack on Staraya Russa.

19th Mar.—The battle for the Donetz river reached a critical stage. The Red Army captured Izdeshkovo. A tremendous battle developed around the bridge head which the Russians held at Chuguyev.

20th Mar.—The Russians advanced in Smolensk area. The battle along the Upper Donetz reached a critical stage.

21st Mar.—Hitler, in the course of a speech, admitted that 5,42,000 Germans had been killed in the war.

Timoshenko launched a new offensive south of Lake Ladoga and in the Leningrad area. Vadino was retaken by the Russians. South of Byeli, five consecutive German attacks were repulsed.

22nd Mar.—In their offensive against Smolensk, the Red troops captured Durovo. The Germans launched a new offensive on the southern wing of the central front. The Russians evacuated Byelgorod. In Kuban, Soviet troops drove a wedge into the German defences.

23rd Mar.—The Red Army was 20 miles east of Yartsevo. The German Radio admitted that " a local breach " had been made in the " main German defence line due west of Moscow." South of Byeli, the Russians captured 40 places.

24th Mar.—The German attempt to hold up the Russian drive on Smolensk failed. In six days' fighting, the Germans lost 7,000 officers and men killed and 140 tanks destroyed.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18th Mar.—M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, speaking in the Grand National Assembly, said: " Since the Adana Conference we have got to know Mr. Churchill more intimately and to love him better." The Assembly gave Mr. Sarajoglu a unanimous vote of confidence.

20th Mar.—Members of a German trade delegation headed by Dr. Clodius arrived at Istanbul.

* * * *

SHIPPING

20th Mar.—*The City of Flint*, a medium-sized American ship, was sunk in the Atlantic.

21st Mar.—The troopship *General John Pope*, the largest ship ever built at the 25-year old Federal Shipbuilding Dry Dock Company yards at Kearney, was launched.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18th Mar.—Hundreds of French patriots in the mountains of Savoy surrendered. The first convoy of workers for compulsory labour service in Germany left Annecy.

M. Andre Philip, Fighting French Commissioner of Interior and Labour, said in London that France was ready to rise on the day the Allies landed.

21st Mar.—The Polish Government in London received news that the Gestapo had murdered all the Jews who still remained in the ghettos of the following five Polish towns: Radomsk, Ujazd, Sobolen, Radzymin and Szczerzec.

23rd Mar.—Col. Knox, American Navy Secretary, said that a great deal of resentment was growing among the population of Martinique against Admiral Robert, the Vichy-minded commandant of the Island.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

18th Mar.—The Kumusi river area was cleared of the enemy.

The Japanese authorities gave the newspaper monopoly in the newly-conquered territories to leading Tokyo newspapers.

19th Mar.—The Japanese, it was learnt, were interning nationals of the United Nations in occupied China, in Shanghai and other centres.

There were rumours that Japan was slowly withdrawing her troops from China.

General MacArthur's spokesman said: ' 'It would be a great fallacy to believe that even the heavy destruction caused by our naval and air power has dangerously weakened the Japanese capacity for sea transport."

According to the Tokyo Radio, a number of British, American and other foreign banks in Malaya were to be liquidated.

20th Mar.—Vice-Admiral Conrad Helfrich, Commander-in-Chief of the Nattal Forces in the Indian Ocean, said: " We must have sufficient forces at once to break through the Japanese. Otherwise, even after a German defeat, an Allied drive to the North may be impossible."

21st Mar.—Three Japanese merchantmen were bombed and damaged by Allied planes off New Britain and New Guinea.

Chinese troops recaptured the City of Hwajung on the Hupeh-Hunan border.

22nd Mar.—More than 100 Chinese soldiers were affected by poison gas shells fired by the Japanese.

Dr. D. J. Lao, in the course of a message on the United Nations Day Celebrations, emphasized that the main factor ensuring China's victory over Japan was the people's inflexible resolution to be free and their confidence in their ability to win the war.

Allied airmen bombed a Japanese convoy of three ships off the Dutch New Guinea and a Japanese destroyer off the Solomons. Japanese positions at Munda, Vila and Kahili in the Solomons were bombed.

Mr. Forde, Australian Army Minister, said: " Allied victories in the Solomons, New Guinea and the Bismarck Sea have merely intensified Japan's determination to invade Australia."

23rd Mar.—Allied troops occupied the Mambare river in New Guinea. Seven-hundred Japanese were killed and 100 were taken prisoners on the north coast of Papua.

Colonel Knox, American Navy of Secretary, said: " Things are very quiet out in the Pacific at the moment, but one can never tell—it may be the calm before a storm. The war is still on out there very much."

The American air force concentrated its attack on enemy transportation and shipping in the vicinity of Laokay in Indo-China.

It was revealed that Japanese shipping between Shanghai and Nagasaki had been disrupted as a result of the destruction of Japanese ships by Allied submarines.

24th Mar.—Enmy positions in Lae and Rabaul were bombed Gasmata airfield in South New Britain was pounded out of action.

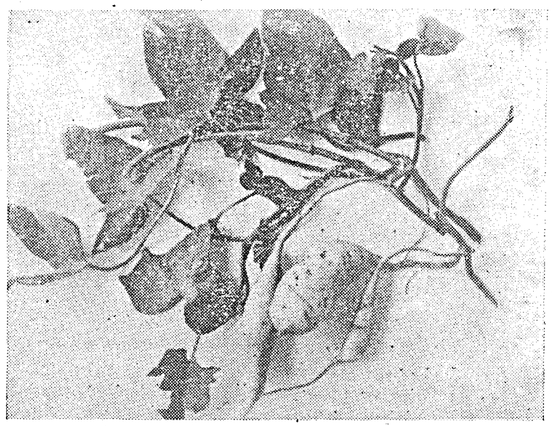
Britain's War Effort

" With a population of only 46,000,000, Britain now has about 4,500,000 men under arms, or almost ten per cent. Britain has thus far on a per capita basis outproduced the United States. From October, 1941, to December 1942, she exported to Russia 3,000 tanks and more than 3,000 planes. She has been shipping more than 80 per cent of her munitions overseas. She has covered her own skies with the best fighting planes in the world, built thousands of bombers, launched an armada of merchant ships. In the light of her present achievements, it is almost an absurdity to say that with only eight per cent in the armed forces (which is America's target for the end of 1944) the United States will not perform its industrial role. The question is whether the home front really wants to fight or just thinks it wants to fight."

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Tuberous and Root Vegetables

SWEET-POTATO



Ipomoea Batatas, Lat.; Family *Convolvulaceae*. *Sakkaravalli-kelengu*, Tam.; *Genesugadda*, Tel.; *Chakkara-kelengu or madhura kelengu*, Mal.

Description.—A trailing plant, rooting at the nodes, and producing edible starchy tuberous roots. The leaves are slightly digitately lobed. The flowers are funnel-shaped and pale pink in colour. The shape of the tuber varies, and the colour of the skin may be white, cream or even deep pink. The colour of the flesh also varies—white, cream, yellow or purplish yellow.

Propagation.—Propagated from cuttings about a foot long, with half a dozen nodes on it. It is best to plant the cuttings in rainy weather. The lower portion of the cutting should be inserted in the soil, after removing the leaves from that region. The cuttings are planted on ridges spaced 3 feet apart and raised to a height of a foot or more. The cuttings should be about 15 inches apart in the rows.

Cultivation.—A rather dry climate, with irrigation of the soil is best for the crop. The soil must be well dug up, so that the tubers can develop easily. Well-rotted cattle manure should be dug up into the ridges before the cuttings are planted. Weeding in the early stages is helpful. During dry weather, the plants should be watered. The crop is ready in 4–5 months; the leaves turn yellow when the tubers are mature. The tubers should be lifted carefully with large garden forks. They can be easily stored in a dry room.

Uses.—Usually boiled or steamed and eaten with scraped coconut. It can also be eaten with meat, instead of ordinary potatoes. The tubers are sometimes sliced and dried and kept for subsequent use.

General analysis.—Water 63·8 per cent; mineral 1·4 per cent; protein 2·0 per cent; fat 1·3 per cent; fibre 0·5 per cent; carbohydrate 31·0 per cent; calories per lb. 735; calcium 0·028 per cent; magnesium 0·044 per cent; phosphorus 0·118 per cent; iron 0·0004 per cent; Vitamin A—I.U. per 100 gms. 100; Vitamin B—I.U. per 100 gms. 28; Vitamin C—mgms. per 100 gms. 23·8.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

Indian Air Force Special Number

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1943 No. 30

Proud and Happy!

CONTENTS

	PAGE
I am proud of the work they are doing: A.O.C.'s Message	3
A Proud History	4
Brilliant Record of Achievement	4
Sir Richard Peirse, India's Air Chief	5
History of the Indian Air Force: A Great Dream comes true	6
Indian Air Force celebrates its Tenth Birthday: Six young men embark on a Great Adventure	9
On a One-mess Basis	10
Indian Air Force: Terms and Conditions of Service	12
Indian Air Force paves the way for Fitter India	17
I.A.F. Meteorological Branch	17
Books for Soldiers: An Appeal	18
Running Commentary	19
War Diary	21

Have you a Camera ?

A NEW PRIZE COMPETITION

TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES EXTENDED

There are many Madrasis now on active Military service, earning good pay from which they are saving money to spend after the war. It is important for the welfare of the soldier and his family that these savings should be usefully and productively spent, for instance, in rural reconstruction and post-war development schemes.

Our Sepoys want to know what they can best spend their money on, and we propose to show them.

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN !

The Editor wants photos of—**(1) A well being sunk, (2) A finished well in use, (3) Terracing of fields, (4) Fruit topes, (5) Vegetable gardens, (6) A small shop, (7) Poultry keeping, (8) Improved cattle, (9) House-building, (10) A wedding, (11) Any other subject which you consider that a Sepoy might like to spend money on.**

A first prize of Rs. 20 and a second prize of Rs. 10 will be given for the best photographs submitted. Prizes of Rs. 3 will be given for the best photos in each of the above groups.

The Editor reserves the right to withhold prizes in any group in which the required standards of quality are not satisfied.

No photos can be returned to senders.

At the request of some intending competitors, the time for submission of entries has been extended to 15th April 1943.

All entries must reach

THE EDITOR, MADRAS WAR REVIEW,
VICTORY HOUSE,
MADRAS,

before that date.

◆ ◆ ◆

India gives 537 Lakhs for Warplanes

India has contributed since the outbreak of war more than 537½ lakhs of rupees (about £4,000,000) for the purchase of aircraft for the R.A.F. and the I.A.F., according to the latest figures available.

Subscriptions ranging from lakhs of rupees from the wealthiest Indian princes to annas from the poorest peasants have swelled this large sum to buy squadrons of warplanes to combat the Axis aggressors.

Among these squadrons, which bear the name of their donors, is the "Madras Squadron" now in India to reinforce her ever-growing offensive and defensive power.

These squadrons, R.A.F. fighter and bombers units which have won renown in air battles over Britain and Western Europe, are here to repay in service the generosity of the Indian peoples who extended a helping hand in the hour of Britain's need.

Registered No. M-4345

Indian Air Force Special Number

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1943 No. 30

I am Proud of the Work They are Doing

A.O.C.'s MESSAGE

***ON** the 1st of April 1943, we celebrate the Jubilee of the Royal Air Force. On that date 25 years ago, the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps were welded into one service—The Royal Air Force. This fusion of the Flying services took place in the midst of the last World war.*

***THE** 25th Birthday of the Royal Air Force finds it again engaged in war, but during the intervening years the advances of science as applied to the air have been such that air power has become a major factor in war today. Today the R.A.F. in conjunction with the other Air Forces of the Empire and those of our Allies is operating almost throughout the world.*

***HERE** in India the R.A.F. has expanded rapidly of late and has brought increasing pressure to bear upon the enemy. This pressure will continue to grow as time goes on.*

I wish to thank all Officers and men in India Command for the typically ready way in which they have carried out their duties and are continuing to perform their tasks in the trying conditions prevailing in the East.

I am proud of the work they are doing and I wish them all the very best of luck and every success in the future that lies before us.

AIR MARSHAL SIR RICHARD PEIRSE, *Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Air Forces in India, in an Order of the Day.*

A Proud History

LT.-GEN. SIR NOEL BERESFORD-PEIRSE, K.B.E, D.S.O., G.O.C.-C, Southern Army.

The following message is from G.O.C.-C. Lt.-Gen. Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse : -

Air Commodore Mackworth, Officers and Airmen of 225 Group—On behalf of the Southern Army I congratulate you on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Royal Air Force and the 10th Anniversary of the Indian Air Force.

The celebrations come at a fitting moment. The Allied Air Forces are now pounding at Germany and occupied Europe by day and night. In Tunisia Air Co-operation with the army has been brought to a new high level of effectiveness. The enemy's supply lines in the Mediterranean and his submarines all over the world are being hammered by the Royal Air Force. Near the frontiers of India the Air Arm of the United Nations is giving the Japanese no rest.

Here in South India we have not yet had our chance. But when that time comes, and wherever we find ourselves operating, I have every confidence that together, and with our allies, we shall be able to deliver decisive blows against the enemy.

The history of the Royal Air Force and the Indian Air Force is a short but very proud one. On behalf of all ranks of the Southern Army, I take this opportunity of expressing our admiration for you and when the time comes to strike hard at the Japanese—praying your targets be good one.

Brilliant Record of Achievement

The following is A.O.C.'s message to all Units, No. 225 Group :—

To-day the Royal Air Force is 25 years old and the Indian Air Force 10 years old. World War No. 2 prevents us from having any organized celebration. Our Air Forces are fully occupied in seeking out and destroying the enemy.

Here in Southern India we have not had an opportunity of making contact with him on any appreciable scale. But no one can say when that day will arrive. It is our duty to be "prepared" for any eventuality and "be prepared" to play an important part in the United Nations offensive in the East.

The Royal Air Force has made history in its 25 years of existence and will continue to make history. The Indian Air Force, too, has an equally brilliant record of achievement, particularly in combat against the Japanese in Burma. These feats are intensive enough to have impressed not only us in the Service, but also the whole world. The Service that has to its credit the stories of the Battles of France, Britain, and of Libya, has a tradition of which we are justifiably proud and a future in which it will be our endeavour further to build it up.

This Group, I am certain, will have an opportunity to take part in this process and in so doing add another chapter to the deeds of the Royal Air Force and Indian Air Force. I wish Air and Ground Crews and the Administrative Staffs of the Royal Air Force and the Indian Air Force including those of the Women's Auxiliary Corps of India attached to us.

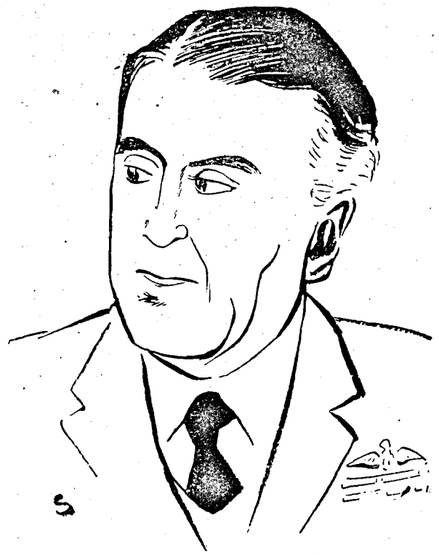
Good Luck and "HAPPY LANDINGS."

Sir Richard Peirse, India's Air Chief

THE head of Great Britain's own Bomber Command—Air Marshal Sir Richard Peirse is now India's Air Chief. Britain is determined that the air defence of India should be in the hands of a man of proved ability. SIR RICHARD PEIRSE fills the bill. He is no armchair airman. At 50 he still flies himself.

"I hope I am still as good a pilot as ever," he will tell you—and he never boasts.

You would hardly take him at first glance to be an intrepid and dashing airman. Then you notice those rows of medal ribbons on his chest to realize that, in spite of a quiet, rather grave, countenance, here is a man of action. When he was head of the Bomber Command, his Command had achieved some spectacular success. Peirse was the first to make certain that his crews got the credit.



SIR RICHARD PEIRSE

FAITH IN HIS MEN

He had unwavering faith in his men. When he bade farewell to the Bomber Command, he said in a special Order of the Day that he left them with regret but with a feeling of great pride that he should have had the privilege of commanding for 15 months so gallant a company.

Plucky, lucky, this man Peirse who sent out Britain's bombers over Germany. In fact in the air force they call him "Lucky Peirse." He has escaped death so many times during his adventurous career.

He is bred of the right material, for his father was an admiral. Naturally he had a taste for the sea. He was a sub-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Air Volunteer Reserve when the Admiralty called for pilots for the Royal Naval Air Service. He served for nearly the whole of the last War in the Royal Naval Air Service and won the D.S.O. for persistent and successful attacks on German submarine bases at Ostend and Zeebrugge in 1915. Later he served at the Dardanelles and Italy with the Royal Air Force, being awarded the Air Force Cross in 1919.

FORMS COMBINED STAFF

His war flying over, he rose steadily, until in 1930 he was made Deputy Director of Operations and Intelligence at the Air Ministry. He held the post until the autumn of 1933, when he went back to the Middle East as Air Officer Commanding in Palestine and Transjordan. He made service history during his command there, for he formed a Combined Staff representing the three Services —the first time the Army had worked under an Royal Air Force command. He was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in recognition of his gallant and distinguished services during the emergency operations in Palestine in 1936.

His early experience of co-operation among the services is going to hold Sir Richard Peirse in good stead during his present command in India. On his return to London from the Middle East he was made Director of Operations and Intelligence and Deputy Chief of the Air Staff. In the year this war began he became a member of the Air Council, then Vice-Chief of the Air Staff and Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Bomber Command, where he won the highest praise for his bold and prudent leadership.

India can rest assured that the man in charge of air operations of both attack and defence over her vast land is a man of unflinching courage and the widest possible experience. He knows every step of service from a plane's cockpit to the control room. He is a brilliant and inspiring leader, and remember it was Peirse who as head of the Bomber Command in Britain for more than a year carried the war into the very heart of Germany.

History of the Indian Air Force

A Great Dream Comes True

IN 1926, just over sixteen years ago, a few men sat in conference round a table in the Council Chamber at Simla. There were among them prominent Indian figures like the late Mr. Motilal Nehru and Mr. M. A. Jinnah. At the head of the table sat Sir Andrew Skeene. On 1st April 1927 they submitted their report recommending the formation of an independent Air Force for India, manned by Indians, officered by Indians and commanded by Indians. Thus was laid the foundation of the present Indian Air Force, whose history opens on April 1st 1933 at Karachi.

Six young Indian sportsmen left India in 1930 to be trained at the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell. They were the pioneers of the Indian Air Force, adventurous young men drawn from different parts of India. Their voyage meant not only a new life in a strange country, but adventuring into a new element and laying the foundation of a new air force for India. Destiny had handed them a big job. Among them was the first Indian aviator to fly a Tiger Moth, to and back from England, thus winning the Aga Khan's prize. They distinguished themselves both in sports and studies, and when in 1933 they returned to India, they had already established a fine record in flying.

April 1, 1933

On April 1st, 1933, the Indian Air Force came into existence at Karachi. A great dream had come true. What was once a scheme on paper materialized. India was starting a new fighting service.

From 1933 to 1937 these pioneers, and those who joined them in subsequent years, concentrated their efforts on training, and worked mainly as army co-operation units, carrying out extensive reconnaissance, and photography and doing artillery observations.

In the summer of 1937 during the Waziristan troubles the first unit of the Indian Air Force was asked to co-operate with the Royal Air Force in their operations on the Frontier. The Frontier district is a wild and mountainous country, inhabited by tribes, and covering the whole length of the Indo-Afghan frontier. The task of maintaining law and order in these remote mountain ranges, was both difficult and dangerous. This was the Indian Air Force's first opportunity to prove itself, and it is a tribute to the efforts of these pioneer flyers of the Indian Air Force that, four years later the complete 'watch and ward' duties of the Frontier were transferred to them.

HELPED THE R.A.F.

Early in the present war, a batch of Indian pilots trained in India were sent to the United Kingdom for further training and operational experience. They were in England when the battle of Britain was being fought. They helped the Royal Air Force in their raids over Europe and some died for the cause of freedom. Their comrades have since returned to their squadrons in India, to carry on the fight.

It was not, however, until the early days of 1942 that the Indian Air Force got the chance of action against a major power. One Indian Air Force squadron moved into Burma, and operated there for nearly three months, co-operating with the army and functioning as a general purposes squadron. It bombed and machine-gunned Japanese aerodromes, and carried out important photographic reconnaissance over enemy territory. Twice the squadron was congratulated by Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell. It was during these

(*Continued on page* 8)

FORMATION OF THE I.A.F.

1926.—The Skeene Committee, meeting at Simla, and including such well-known Indian public figures as Pandit Motilal Nehru and Mr. M. A. Jinnah, recommends that a separate Indian Air Force be formed.

1930.—The first six cadets of the Indian Air Force leave India for training at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell.

1932.—At New Delhi, the Central Legislative Assembly passes the Indian Air Force Act.

1933.—On April 1, the Indian Air Force comes into being with one flight at Karachi.

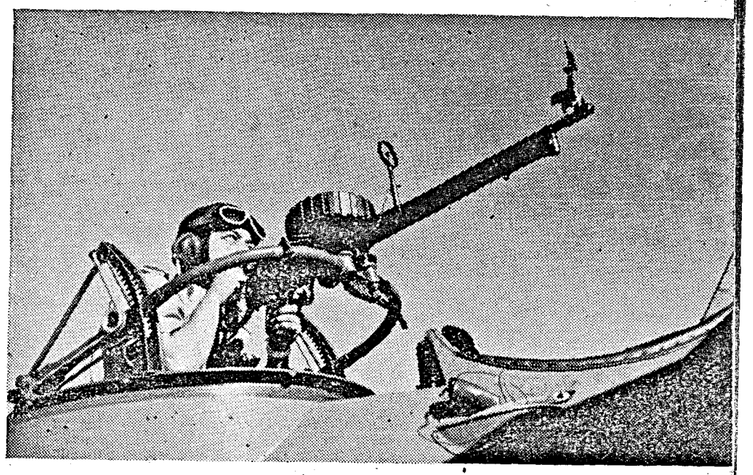
1938.—No. 1 Squadron, with three flights, comes into operation.

1940.—At Risalpur, the Indian Air Force opens its first Flying Training School. Twenty-four Indian Air Force Pilots go to England, seconded to the Royal Air Force Coast Defence Flights are formed.

1941.—Indian Air Force takes over completely from Royal Air Force on North-West Frontier.

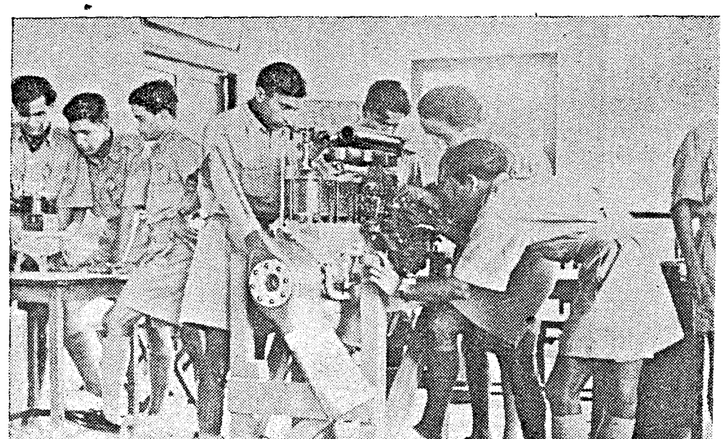
1942.—In January, the Indian Air Force goes into action in Burma.

TRAINING FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORC



An Indian officer of the I.A.F.V.R. attached to a Coastal Defence Flight studies one of the automatic weapons fitted on to a plane.

Dual Control—English and Indian Pilots at the wheel of their multi-engined bomber.



Before flying their planes pilots have to understand their engines. Photo shows trainees.

HISTORY OF THE INDIAN AIR FORCE

(*Continued from page* 6)

operations that the squadron Commander won the Distinguished Flying Cross, the second to be awarded to an officer of the Indian Air Force.

Immediately after the outbreak of war, coast defence flights were organized at important Indian seaports to guard the long stretch of India's coast lines. These flights did very useful work in patrolling the Indian seas, seeking submarines and shepherding merchant ships to and from Indian ports. Many an Indian sailor has been rescued from torpedoed vessels as a result of reports received from these aircraft. Some of these units operated outside India as escort to convoys before the fall of Singapore. It was an Indian pilot in a Wapiti, operating from one of these coast defence flights that first reported and shadowed a powerful battle squadron of the Japanese fleet in the Bay of Bengal. It was, again, an Indian pilot who depth-charged a Japanese submarine off the Madras Coast.

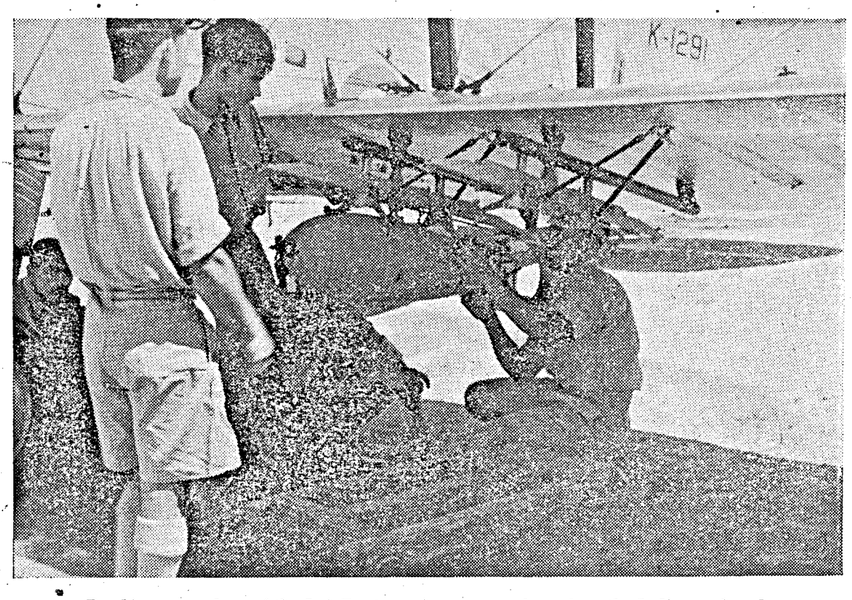
ORGANIZATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

Under the force of international events the growth of the Indian Air Force gained momentum. There was very little training in India before the war. All officers were trained in England and the ground crews received their instruction in an aircraft depot in India. Senior non-commissioned officers were attached from the Royal Air Force. The first Flying Training School was opened two months after the outbreak of the war. Since then the rapid expansion of the Indian Air Force has led to the establishment of numerous training schools all over India. There are now elementary and advanced schools to train pilots, observers, air-gunners, wireless operators and ground technicians; operational training units to bring qualified pilots, observers, air-gunners and wireless operators to a high pitch of efficiency under active service conditions; general reconnaissance and aircraft recognition schools to teach aircrews how to identify the enemy and attack him in the best way. A high standard is maintained at all these centres which cover all the requisite training for a modern Air Force.

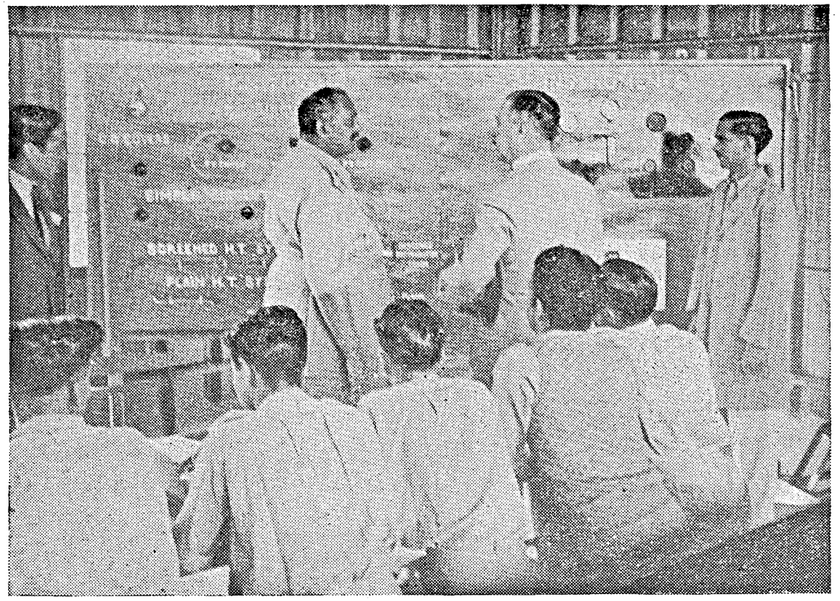
30 DIFFERENT TRADES

There are nearly thirty different trades in the Indian Air Force. These are categorised into groups which are broadly based on the amount of skill required for specific duties. There is no job which is without interest. Promotions are more a matter of ability than seniority. More than eighty ex-aircraftmen are to-day among the officers in the pilot's cockpit.

The Indian Air Force is ten years old on 1st April 1943. Its work has only just started and its history just begun. India looks to her Air Force with hope and confidence.



Bombing up a plane of the I.A.F. at an airport somewhere along the Indian seaboard.



JAMNAGAR AERONAUTICAL INSTITUTE—Photos taken when H. H. the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar inspected the Jamnagar Aeronautical Institute and saw aircraft mechanics under training. Photo shows the Jam Saheb with Mr. P. H. Davy of the Civil Aviation Directorate in the Ignition and Instruments Class.

Indian Air Force Celebrates its Tenth Birthday

Six Young Men Embark on a Great Adventure

THIRTEEN years ago, six Indian young men walked up a Bombay gangplank and embarked upon a great adventure—both for themselves and for their country. They were on their way to England, to Cranwell—the first six cadets of an Indian Air Force which was then little more than a few paragraphs on paper, a daring vision of a few bold minds.

They were to blaze a trail, these six young men, in which many thousands of their countrymen—keen, young, forward-looking like themselves—would one day follow. Destiny had handed them a big job—and they knew it.

Their names were Sirkar, Mukherjee, Bhopindra Singh, Awan, Amarjit Singh, Tandon and "Aspy" Engineer. Mukherjee's uncle, I. L. Roy, had been one of the Indians serving with the Royal Flying Corps in the last war and had won the D.F.C.

For, far from being new to the country, flying had begun in India in 1910—not many years after the pioneer flights of Orville and Wilbur Wright. But at this time when Indianization of the Army was only in its earlier stages, the notion of a complete, independent Air Force, commanded by Indians, maintained by Indians, was an idea that took the breath away.

May be it rather took these six young men's breath away, too—but if so they did not show it. Only one of them had flown before. Engineer—now a Wing Commander D.F.C.—had made a little Indian flying history on his own, when, in a Tiger Moth, he had been the first Indian to fly from India to England and back—a considerable feat in those days, for which he had been awarded the Aga Khan prize.

But for the rest of the brave little band—as they leaned against the ship's rail and watched their native land fade from view—the voyage meant not only a new life in a strange country, but adventuring into a new element.

Whatever qualms they may have felt that day were speedily set at rest. Among the pick of Indian sportsmen, they quickly made a name for themselves at Cranwell. Sirkar captained the Hockey Team, Awan, Amarjit Singh and Mukherjee were in the Cricket

Team, while Amarjit Singh captained the tennis team in which two of the others also played.

And they worked as hard as they played, these six keen-eyed young men from India. When their course was over, Engineer was awarded the Grove's Memorial prize, for the best all-round pilot of his term.

"Tich" Tandon, 4 feet 10 inches high, was taken off flying when it was discovered that he was unable to reach the rudderbar.

He had made excellent progress in flying but, on his last instructional flight before going solo, he was taxying across the aerodrome when a gust of wind caused his aircraft to swing. He was not quick enough in correcting and was reprimanded by his instructor.

His reply considerably shook the latter: "How do you expect me to put on opposite rudder when I can't even reach it?"

And so Tich was grounded and transferred to the equipment branch.

They had come to England with a very definite purpose—and having achieved it they returned. Very soon others came out to take their places, while among the bare, sun-blistered hills of the North-West Frontier, they dedicated themselves to the business of proving to sceptics that India could produce an up-to-date Air Force, every bit as workmanlike as her Army.

On this tenth birthday of India's own Air Force they may look back proudly and have the satisfaction of knowing that they have more than proved it—that Indian Air Force men have captained Stirlings in forays over Germany, that for three years they have hunted down submarines and protected convoys around India's shores, that in the Burma campaign—where W/Commander Majumdar, the Commander of their No. 1 Squadron, earned the D.F.C.—they earned a high reputation among the Commonwealth's Air Forces for their discipline and initiative.

On a One-mess Basis

SUCH is the get-together spirit of the Indian Air Force of to-day that the men have voluntarily organized communal feeding on a one-mess basis.

In the early days of the Force, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs each had their own messes. Now vegetarians and meat-eaters alike find their individual tastes by a system of help-yourself service.

All the cooking and preparation of food on Indian Air Force stations is done by qualified members of the Force. The best available cooks only are enrolled and go through intensive training at Indian Air Force Cookery Schools before posting to stations. They are taught how to get the maximum value from every kind of food and the importance of kitchen cleanliness is emphasized.

The scale of rations provided by the authorities is comparable with that of the Army and Navy, and with normal civilian standards. Indian airmen's food contains the greatest possible protein and vitamin content, in the opinion of the medical officers who are constantly watching their health.

Recently a suggestion to increase the vitamin and protein content was vetoed by the medical authorities. The food then, they held, would be too rich and the men's health would suffer.

The ration allowance is generous. Each day, each man gets eight ounces of bread or biscuit per day, sixteen ounces of rice or atta, two ounces of ghee, two ounces of potatoes, four ounces of onions (or two ounces of onions and four ounces of dholl), and four ounces of fresh vegetables. Meat-eaters receive six ounces (including 17½ per cent bone) per day.

ONLY THE BEST

Great care is taken by the military authorities to ensure that nothing but the best grade commodities are accepted for the airmen's rations. Each article of supply has to comply with a medically approved "specification." Samples taken from every purchase are submitted to the Military Food Laboratory, Kasauli, for analysis and report. Only if the samples are according to the specification is the consignment accepted.

Close watch is kept, too, on stocks held in supply depots. Twice a year, samples are taken and sent to the laboratory to make sure they are still in good condition.

Atta and ghee—staple foods of the Indian airmen—are subject to special care and supervision. Such importance is attached by the authorities to the blending of ghee, and to the prevention of adulteration or substitution, that British Officers and Viceroy's Commissioned Officers are constantly watching the process at the Ghee Heating Centre, Agra.

PUREST GHEE IN INDIA

Here also is stationed a special brauch of the Military Food Laboratory, and no ghee is allowed to leave the centre until it has been passed by the Laboratory's chemists.

The men claim their ghee to be the purest and most wholesome obtainable in India.

There is no doubt that the high standard of mental and physical fitness found in the Indian Air Force to-day is largely due to the balanced diet the men receive and to the close supervision of their food.

Indian Air Force

Terms and Conditions of Service

QUALIFICATIONS

(*i*) *Age.*—Between 18 and 38 years last birthday.

Between 18 and 28 years for Air Gunners.

(*ii*) *Nationality.*—A subject of His Majesty or of a Prince or Chief in India, and either

(*a*) of unmixed Indian descent, or

(*b*) domiciled in India.

(*iii*) *Education.*—(*a*) For Trade Groups I, II, IV and Air Gunners—Matriculation or its equivalent.

(*b*) For Trade Groups III, M and V—Sixth Standard or its equivalent with a sound knowledge of written and spoken English and Elementary Mathematics.

Previous experience in a trade is a help but is not essential. If you join Group III or Group V the fact that you are not a Matriculate will not debar you from "remustering" (transferring) to a better paid group later on.

(*iv*) *Health.*—Physical fitness and a good physique are essential. You must be ready to be vaccinated or inoculated as the medical officer requires once you have joined the Indian Air Force.

ENROLMENT

When you are enrolled you promise to serve for the duration of the war and as long thereafter as your services are required. You will be enrolled as an Aircraftman—Second Class and put under training in a trade. At the conclusion of your training, should you fail to pass the qualifying Trade Test, you will be liable for service in any other trade in the same group for which you may be considered suitable. If you fail in this trade you will have the option of discharge or transfer to a lower paid group.

Commissions.—If you prove in all respects suitable, you will be eligible, at any time, for appointment to Commissioned Rank.

Discipline.—As soon as you join the service you become subject to the Indian Air Force Act. The Indian Air Force is employed for the defence of India, but this might possibly entail your serving overseas.

TRADES TAUGHT IN THE I.A.F.

Here is a brief idea of what you will be able to learn in the Indian Air Force, according to the branch to which you are assigned by your abilities and the requirements of the Service. The different trades are divided into groups and the pay is graded according to the skill required in each Group. *These trades are officially recognized by the Board of Trade and by Civil Aviation.*

GROUP I.

CANNOT BE ENTERED DIRECT.

The trades in this group are entered after a probationary period in the corresponding trades in Group II followed by a Conversion Course.

Electrician I.—Deals with extensive and complicated electrical systems on aeroplanes. Selected from Electricians II (Group II).

Fitter I.—Attends to complete overhaul and repair of aero-engines and airframes and to motor transport vehicles. Selected from Fitters II (A) and (E).

Fitter II (A).—Attends to repairs and maintenance of airframes. Appointments to this trade are made from Flight Mechanic (A) (Group II).

Fitter II (E).—Responsible for installation, maintenance, repair and test of all types of aero-engines and also for maintenance and repair of all petrol-driven vehicles and motor-driven craft. Appointment to this trade is made from Flight Mechanic (E) (Group II).

Fitter Armourer.—Adds to the duties of Armourer, the repair and testing of all armament equipment used in the Indian Air Force. Appointment to this trade is made from Armourers (Group II).

Fitter M.T.—Carries out major overhauls and repairs on M.T. vehicles. Selected from M.T. Mechanics (Group II).

R.D.F./Mechanic.—Maintains, repairs and tests the latest types of Radiolocation equipment. A highly skilled trade on which much depends in time of war and which will be in great demand in time of peace. Opportunities exist for the Radiolocation Specialist to improve his knowledge 100 per cent. Technical Commissions in the Indian Air Force are waiting for suitable airmen. Selected from among suitable R.D.F. Operators (Group II).

Instrument maker.—Attends to installation, maintenance, repair and test of all aircraft instruments, except wireless equipment and the electrical equipment for heating and lighting. Must be able to do fine and accurate fitting and turning. Selected from Instrument Repairers (Group II).

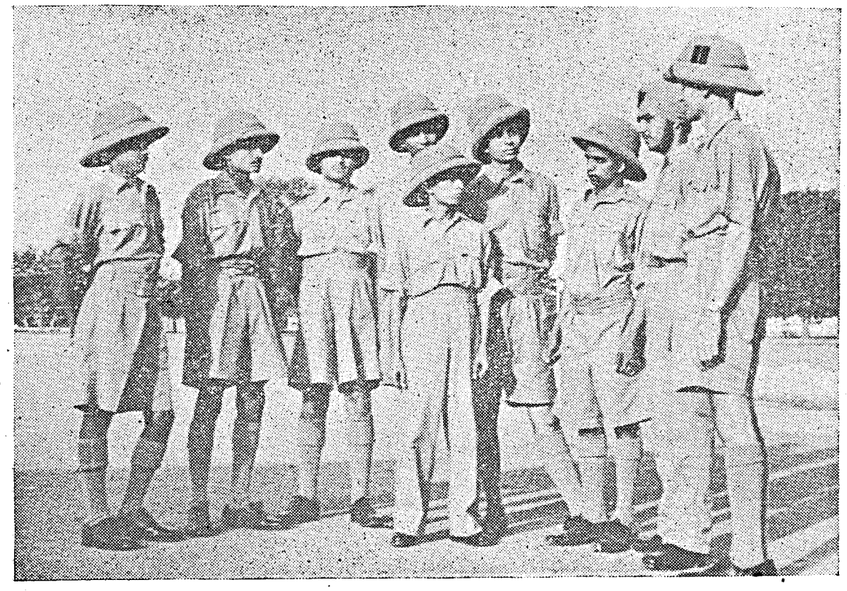
Metal worker.—Knowledge and skill required are very similar to those possessed by the corresponding trades in civil life. Combines, and is selected from the trades of Sheet Metal Worker, Coppersmith, Blacksmith and Welder (Group II).

Photographer I.—Selected from Photographers II (Group II). Has similar duties but more responsibility.

Wireless Operator Mechanic.—Attends to installation, maintenance, operation, repair

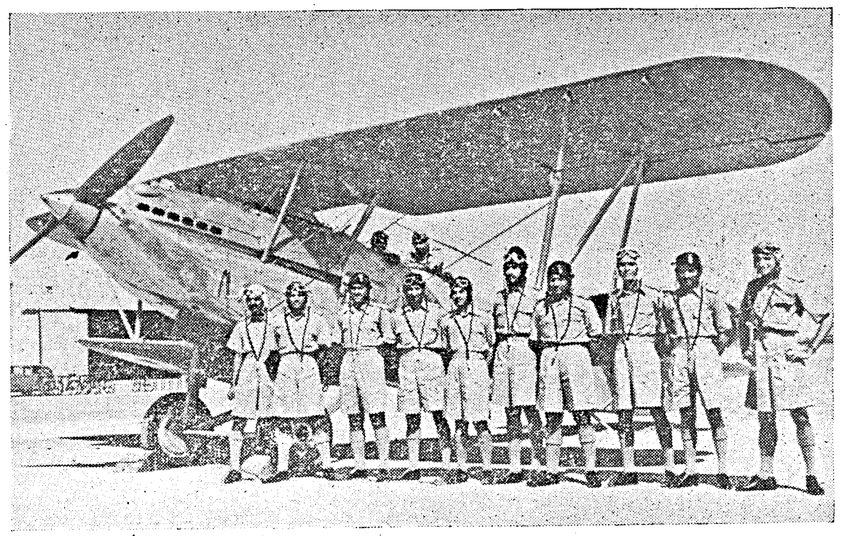
(*Continued on page* 14.)

A MIXED BAG!



AT THE AIR FORCE TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHOOL AT AMBALA.—These new recruits at the A.F.T.T.S. come from all parts of India, and those present include representatives from Bombay, Madras, Delhi, the Punjab, Karachi and Calcutta.

★



AT THE INITIAL TRAINING SCHOOL OF THE INDIAN AIR FORCE, LAHORE.—A group of young officers of the I.A.F. in training at the I.T.S., Lahore, grouped beside one of the aircraft which they will soon be flying.

INDIAN AIR FORCE

(*Continued from page* 12)

and test of all electrical and wireless apparatus, except those instruments which are dealt with by the instrument Repairers and those which are provided and maintained by the M.E.S. Also carries out visual signalling, selected from Wireless Operators (Group II).

Carpenter Propeller Maker.—Skilled work in the manufacture and maintenance of wooden airscrews. Selected from Carpenters Propeller Repairer (Group II) who do a special Conversion Course.

GROUP II.

Armourer.—Responsible for the efficient operation, maintenance and periodic overhaul of rifles, machine guns, bomb gears and other fighting equipment.

Electrician II.—Responsible for maintenance and minor repair of electrical equipment both on the ground and in aicraft—except wireless, cameras and instruments dealt with by the Instrument Repairer.

Flight Mechanic—Aircraft.—Attends to maintenance and minor repairs of airframes.

Flight Mechanic—Engines.—Attends to installation, maintenance and minor repair, starting, running up, and testing of aero-engines.

Instrument Repairer.—Attends to installation, maintenance, repair (by replacement of interchangeable parts), and test of all aircraft instruments, watches, clocks, navigation instruments and compasses; and repairs to cameras, camera guns, reflector sights and bomb sights—all but wireless and electrical equipment.

M.T. Mechanic I.—Looks after the maintenance and minor repairs of M.T. vehicles. More highly skilled than M.T. Mechanic II (Group III).

R.D.F./Operation.—Operates modern Radio-location equipment, but does not require such a high standard of technical knowledge as his Radio Mechanic comrade. Rather, he requires qualities of calmness in emergency, powers of quick observation and a character which does not flinch at responsibility. Self-reliant men are required who can turn the knowledge gained in the Service to advantage in civil aviation on their discharge after the war. Clear and fluent English essential.

Photographer II.—Responsible for developing negatives brought back from reconnaissance, making prints and producing photographs; maintain photographic records and equipment. Fits and maintains aerial cameras.

Wireless Operator.—Operates the wireless apparatus and carries out minor repairs to it. Responsible for the operation of accumulator charging plants. Carries out visual signalling.

Coppersmith; Blacksmith; Sheet Metal Worker; Welder; Meteorological Assistant and Meteorological Observer.—As in civil life.

Carpenter Propeller Repairer.—Skilled work in the maintenance and repair of wooden airscrews. Selected from Carpenters (Group III) and also from direct enlistment.

GROUP III.

Fabric worker.—Attends to cutting, machining and fitting of fabric to aircraft wings and bodies, including doping and varnishing. Also makes engine and airscrew covers and hoods for motor transport vehicles. Responsible for maintenance of parachutes.

Carpenter.—As in civil life but with a knowledge of aircraft requirements.

Hydrogen Worker.—Looks after the filling and maintenance of Balloons.

Balloon Operator.—Operates and maintains Balloons in Barrage Units.

M.T. Mechanic II.—Looks after the maintenance and minor repairs of M.T. vehicles.

GROUP IV.

Accounting Clerk and General Duties Clerk.—Similar responsibility to those of clerks in civil life, but with knowledge of Indian Air Force forms and procedure.

Equipment Assistant.—Similar work to that of storekeeper in civil life, but with more responsibility, since he is in charge of records, books and forms as well as storage and issue of I.A.F. equipment.

Special Duties Clerk.—Although officially described as "clerk" does no ordinary clerical work. His job is to plot the position of enemy aircraft to enable defending fighters to give battle. Only those with keen wits and initiative would be considered. Vital and exciting work to defend India's cities from attack and work which will be of use when civil aviation comes into its own again. Clear and fluent English essential.

GROUP V.

Aircrafthand.—This is the non-Technical group. All airmen in this group are known as Aircrafthands. They drive M.T. vehicles and carry out general duties as handymen. All the senior N.C.O. disciplinary appointments are filled by men of this group, who can thus rise to the rank of Warrant Officer. The following extra duties are carried out by Aircrafthands. For those marked* there is special pay. Service Police.* P.T. Instructor.* Armament Assistant Parachute Packer.* Ground Gunner. Telephone Operator. Maintenance Assistant. Balloon Maker (Meteorological).

GROUP M.

Nursing Orderly.—Must be able to help the medical officer in all his duties and also act independently with First Aid.

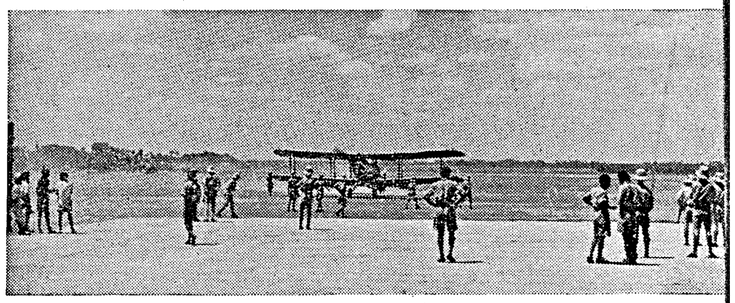
AIRCREW.

Air Gunner.—Candidates are recruited as Air Gunners as a separate Trade. They are all taught Air Gunnery and Wireless Operating.

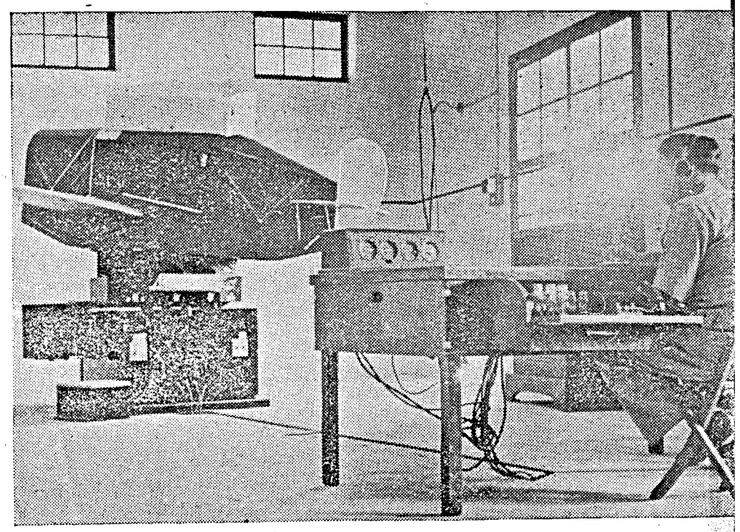
(*Continued on page* 16)

INDIA'S AIR DEFENCES

An Indian Fighter-Pilot.



TO DEFEND INDIA'S SHORES.—An I.A.F. plane lands at an airport somewhere along the Indian seaboard.



TRAINING FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORCE.—At a centre in Northern India young men are training for commissions in the Indian Air Force. Photo shows Link trainer at work. It is a most ingenious ground trainer for pilots. Soon the young man inside will be soaring through the air in a real aircraft.

INDIAN AIR FORCE—(*Continued from page* 14)

TABLE OF SUBSTANTIVE PAY

RANK.	Group I.	Group II.	Group III.	Group IV.	Group V.	Group M.	Air Crew.
Aircraftman, 2nd class	75	60	50	60	40	40	60
Aircraftman, 1st class	90	65	55	62	42	42	—
1st class over 1 year	95	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leading Aircraftman	100	70	60	65	45	45	—
,, ,, over 1 year ..	105	—	63	—	46	46	—
,, ,, over 2 years ..	110	—	66	—	47	47	—
,, ,, over 3 years ..	—	—	69	—	48	48	—
,, ,, over 4 years ..	—	—	72	—	49	49	—
,, ,, over 5 years ..	—	—	75	—	50	50	—
Corporal	130	100	80	75	62	62	—
,, over 1 year	135	—	—	—	66	66	—
,, over 2 years	140	—	—	—	70	70	—
Sergeant	145	115	85	85	80	80	100
,, over 1 year	150	—	—	90	85	85	105
,, over 2 years	155	—	—	—	—	—	110
,, over 3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	115
,, over 4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	120
Flight Sergeant	160	130	90	100	90	90	125
,, ,, over 1 year	165	—	95	105	95	100	130
,, ,, over 2 years	170	—	100	110	100	—	135
,, ,, over 3 years	175	—	—	—	—	—	140
,, ,, over 4 years	180	—	—	—	—	120	—
Warrant Officer	225	200	—	135	120	125	145
,, ,, over 1 year	235	210	—	140	125	130	150
,, ,, over 2 years.. ..	245	220	—	150	130	140	155
,, ,, over 3 years.. ..	255	230	—	160	140	—	160
,, ,, over 4 years.. ..	265	240	—	—	—	—	—

Important Note.—Pay on entry, and during the training period, is that as shown for Aircraftman, 2nd class, and according to the Group in which the candidate is placed. Air Gunners become Sergeants on completion of training.

In addition to the above, DEFERRED PAY at the rate of Rs. 3 per month is credited to the account of every airman. It is paid to him on discharge.

The fact that annual increments are given in certain ranks does NOT mean that you will have to serve so many years in that rank. The SPEED of your promotion depends on your EFFICIENCY.

ALLOWANCES

(*a*) Messing allowance of Rs. 3 per month for all airmen.

(*b*) *Good Conduct Pay (for airmen)*—
On completion of 6 months good service Re. 1 per month.
On completion of 1 year's good service Rs. 3-8-0 per month.

(*c*) *Good service Pay (for N.C.Os.)*—
After 1 year as N.C.O., Rs. 2 per month.
After 2 years as N.C.O., Rs. 4 per month.
After 3 years as N.C.O., Rs. 6 per month.

(*d*) *Pay for Special Duties*—
P.T. Instructor, Rs. 2 per month.
Parachute Packer, two annas per day.
Service Police, two annas per day.

(*e*) Enrolled dhobies and barbers are now provided at certain units so that haircutting and washing are free. Where they are not provided an allowance of ten annas per month is paid instead for haircutting and washing.

WHAT YOUR PAY MEANS

Pay in the Indian Air Force is practically clear pocket money. Almost all your expenses are paid by the service, except for your personal needs such as messing luxuries and cigarettes or tobacco.

CLOTHING

A complete outfit including your uniform and bedding is supplied to you free as soon as you begin training. Therefore all you need to bring with you is sufficient to carry on for a fortnight.

MEDICAL ATTENTION

Free, including hospital treatment. Full pay during periods of sickness.

RECREATION

Throughout your life in the Indian Air Force you will get every encouragement for sports and games which will keep you fit.

Indian Air Force Stations have reading, writing and games rooms to keep your leisure well occupied.

MESSING

FREE rations are issued. These rations, together with any extra luxuries you purchase, are cooked under Service arrangements and served in a common mess.

HOW YOU LIVE

Accommodation is FREE.

If you are unmarried you will have to live in the barracks provided. Married men, after their training is completed, may be allowed to live out of camp with their families, though no expenses incurred in moving families can be met by the Service. Further, no official quarters can be provided for married airmen during the war. When such accommodation is provided, it would be limited to the following percentages of the total strength of the Indian Air Force (airmen) :—

GROUPS I TO IV also Air Crews—
Warrant Officers, 100 per cent.
Non-commissioned Officers, 50 per cent.
Aircraftmen (all three grades), 14 per cent.

GROUPS VI and M. (all ranks), 14 per cent.

(*Continued on page* 17)

Indian Air Force Paves the Way for Fitter India

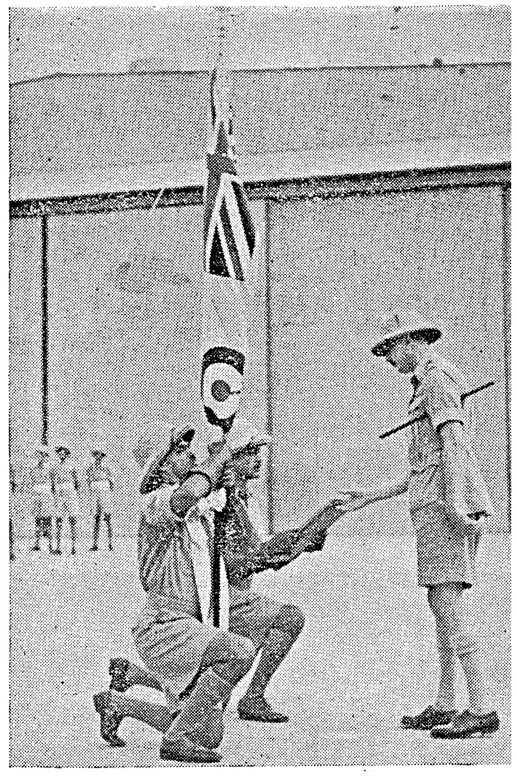
MUSCLES, nerve and brain are tuned to concert pi ch in the Indian Air Force. In a large and fully equipped gymnasium in North West India the advance guard of a fitter India is being trained.

Here dozens of strapping young men glowing with energy and the joy of living, leap over obstacles, contort themselves around parallel bars, climb ropes with monkey-like agility, and perform acrobatic exercises on coconut mats.

They are preparing to instruct others in physical training. From early morning until late afternoon they practice the art of bodily rhythm, movement and poise.

Physical culture experts teach them how to impart their knowledge to others. On completing their course they are posted to units all over India.

Here they will instruct others in rhythmic exercises, games and outdoor recreations—all of which play an important part in keeping the Indian Air Force fighting fit.



The colours and badge of the I.A.F. were presented to the Indian Air Force by Lt.-General His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. The historic ceremony took place at Risalpur last year on July 12. Photo shows His Royal Highness presenting the badge.

I.A.F. Meteorological Branch

FURTHER evidence of progress in Indian Air Force expansion is the recent formation of its own Meteorological Branch.

Previously, weather watching and forecasting in India had been the work of a civil organization. Movements of war, and the rapid growth of the service, however, created a new situation, demanding that meteorological units should be in the forward areas, where civilians would be handicapped.

COME TO STAY

The new branch is not merely a wartime measure. Indian Air Force Meteorological men have come to stay. A personal reserve is being built up by the Director-General of Observatories, at Poona. Recruits will be enrolled from this, and from existing staff in the Indian Meteorological Department.

Meteorological observers, whose job it is to check and read recording instruments, to find wind direction and cloud height, and to plot the weather charts so important to pilots, are enrolled in the ranks.

Forecasters, whose skill and knowledge enables them to foretell the weather, are given commissions.

These weather men have a responsible task to perform. Success in operations and reconnaissance depends as much upon them as the pilots.

INDIAN AIR FORCE

(*Continued from page* 16)

LEAVE AND FURLOUGH

All leave is granted subject to the needs of the service. The following classes of leave are granted :—

(1) *Casual Leave.*—Up to 10 days, not counted against annual leave, and without any free travelling facilities.

(2) *Service Leave.*—Up to 45 days per year on full pay and allowances, with free railway pass to and from your home address.

(3) *Leave on recommendation of a Medical Board.*—To a place (normally your home) recommended by the Board with full pay and free travel.

All leave is treated as a privilege only available at the discretion of the officer commanding the unit.

BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS

AN APPEAL

Do you enjoy reading a good book ? Are you one of those people whose leisure hours are brightened by the pages of a modern novel, or one of the 'classics', or even of more serious volumes ? If you can answer 'yes' to any of these questions, you will be the first to appreciate the appeal that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is making this week to all those in India who have at heart the welfare of the troops in India ; those troops, who at the moment may seem to the uninitiated to be here for no more than our protection, are one day destined to strike perhaps the death-blow at the enemies of that culture which is so dear to Indians, and to those fortunate enough to spend part of their lives in India.

2. The Editor of this journal is only too well aware of the great work done by the Joint War Charities Committee in the matter of collecting books for sick and wounded service men—and equally important, for those whose service keeps them in some of the more lonely parts of India. Perhaps you have given books before for this purpose ; perhaps you are still doing so. But imagine yourself for a moment to be sick or lonely, far away from home ; and think how much you would appreciate something to read, something to while away the tedious hours, or to refresh your mind in the few moments of leisure that the day allows you. There are thousands and tens of thousands of men in that position, and hundreds of thousands of books are urgently needed for them. If you have any books that you have read and are prepared to part with, please send them to the Collector of your district. He will ensure that they reach their destination. Books in all languages are wanted—be they in English, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Malayalam, Kanarese—or any language which is the mother tongue of those who fight for India.

Magazines are wanted too—especially illustrated magazines—for everyone likes looking at pictures.

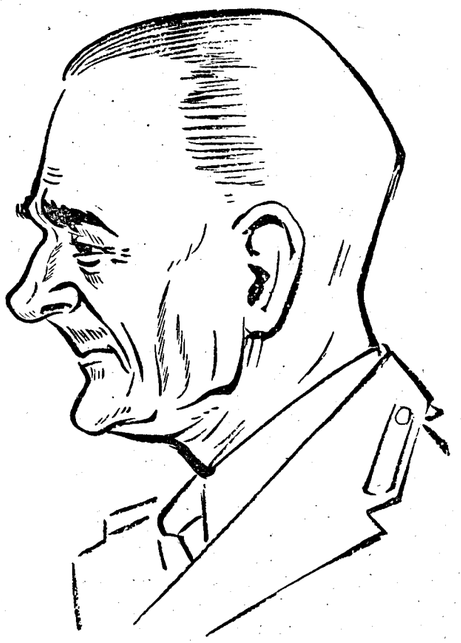
So look through your book-shelves once again. With your help many parcels can be sent to troops all over India—and don't doubt it the troops will appreciate them !

C.-in-C.'s APPEAL

"Whenever I visit units or hospitals or other military establishments in the forward areas in Eastern India or elsewhere I find one of the chief needs of the troops is reading matter. As a persistent reader myself I feel always a great sympathy for this need and have had much effort made to satisfy it.

"I should like however to emphasize that the requirement is principally for *light* literature, light both in subject-matter and in weight. The books chiefly in demand by the troops are works of fiction and adventure, and it is of course much easier to transport small light books than heavy ones. For British troops Penguin editions of detective stories and adventure tales are most generally popular and convenient. All illustrated English or American magazines, such as *Illustrated London News, Picture Post, Life, Time, Readers Digest* and such, are very welcome. Much the same applies to Indian Troops."

—H. E. FIELD-MARSHAL
SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL,
Commander-in-Chief, India.



Ten Years Old : Proud and Happy Day For I.A.F.

Yesterday (April 1) was a proud and happy day in the history of the R.A.F. and the I.A.F. It marks the Silver Jubilee of the former and the Tenth Anniversary of the latter. In Madras, His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, took the Salute at a grand and highly impressive march-past of the air forces.

This Number of the *Madras War Review* is dedicated to the Indian Air Force which is now ten years old.

* * *

Lull on the Russian Front : Hitler's Boast to the Germans.

There is a comparative lull on the whole 1,200 mile battle-front in Russia, after five months of the fiercest fighting of the whole war. Though the Red Army is exerting strong pressure from Staraya Russa to Orel and Kursk, it is more in the nature of tactical operations than anything else. As regards Smolensk, it is stated that Russians have now come up against the main German defences.

In the Donetz region, fiercest clashes are taking place between the opposing troops. The Germans seem to realize that this is their last chance to span the Donetz region, before the thaw halts their activity, and they are therefore making all possible efforts. The German failure to cross the northern Donetz anywhere shows a weakening of the scale of German attacks, but this does not mean that they have given up their attempt to establish bridgeheads on the east bank of the river. Fighting is chiefly concentrated in the elbow of the Donetz and on the hills dominating the sectors of the right bank. It is reported that the Red Army has succeeded in keeping a number of bridgeheads on the right bank and is controlling all the crossings over the river.

But HITLER would have it that he has got over the crisis in Russia. In a speech on March 21 in Berlin, on the occasion of the Heroes' Memorial Day, which breaks his long silence since his Munich speech of November 8, he declared,

> "We have at length succeeded in finally overcoming the crisis into which the German armies were thrown by an undeserved fate. We have stabilized the front and have taken steps to ensure that in the months to come we shall achieve success."

The great battle along the Upper Donetz is still at a critical stage, but HITLER wants to present a rosy picture to the German people after the heavy dose of "Strength through Gloom" propaganda, to which they were regaled by GOEBBELS. Though the Russians have succeeded in pinning down the huge German counter-offensive along the Donetz river line, HITLER expects that this would continue long enough to turn the thaw to his advantage, and therefore he thinks that this is an opportune moment, from the point of view of propaganda, to capitalize the German success in holding on to the Ukraine and the Black Sea Coast.

It is of interest in this connection to follow the train of events leading to the present situation, which is still in a fluid state. It was nearly four weeks ago that the Russian drive against the left flank of the German army in the Donetz bend was halted at Krasnoarmeisk, but a more important and ambitious drive was developing further west, where the Russian forces had advanced with terrific rapidity as far as Pavlograd and were within striking distance of Dnepropetrovsk on the Dnieper. But, at this critical moment, the spring thaw began, a month earlier than usual, and the result was that the Russian advance on Poltava and the Dnieper was forced to slow down. HITLER took advantage of

the situation by throwing fresh divisions with powerful air and tank support into the north-western corner of the Donetz salient. The Russian troops had inevitably to fall back to the middle Donetz *via* Lozovaya, Barvenkovo and Slavyansk.

* * *

If Thaw had Come Three Weeks Later —Prospects of German Counter-Offensive.

What would have happened if the thaw had come a month later ? It is possible that the Russian thrust would have consolidated itself by a broad sweeping movement from the area south-west of Kharkov. The Germans might have lost the whole of the Ukraine, and probably the Crimea.

The throwing-in of fresh German divisions at this stage was a dangerous gamble on the part of HITLER, for Kharkov was then in Russian hands, and the German supply lines from Kiev to the whole of the Donetz area were under constant threat. In other words, the pushing-in of fresh divisions into that salient was nothing else but inviting annihilation. The Germans knew this; therefore they concentrated very strong forces in the north and began an enveloping movement against Kharkov itself. The Russians were heavily outnumbered, particularly in tanks, by the German forces, and were forced to withdraw. So Kharkov fell.

This was no doubt a heavy blow to the Red Army. But an unexpected and difficult situation was handled by the Russian Command with very great skill. Russian forces to the west and south-west of Kharkov avoided encirclement and made a fighting withdrawal from a very nasty pocket. To the north-west of Kharkov, the Russians evacuated the railway junction of Byelgorod. This means that the Russian hold on Kursk in the north will be threatened. If Kursk falls into German hands once again, the southern area of the Russian attack on Orel would be forced back.

The German counter-attack originally began with the object of protecting the last railway line linking the Donetz bend with the German rear, but later it developed into a large-scale counter-offensive which has regained Kharkov, and may capture Kursk, and consolidate the German defence of Orel.

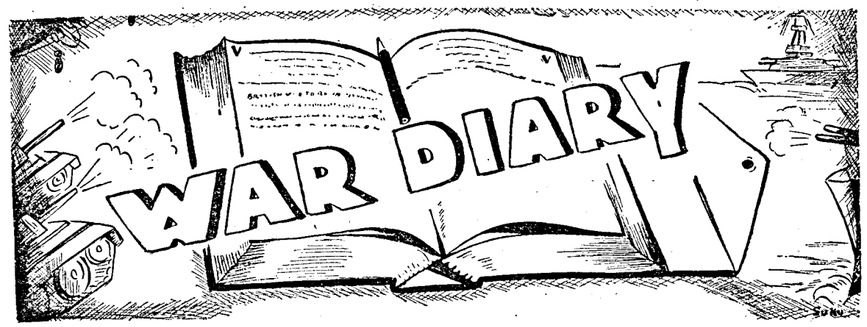
Hazardous Russian Drive to Dnieper: Hitler's Heavy Price and Allied Gain.

As regards the Russian drive towards the Dnieper, it may be pointed out that it was a bold and even hazardous manœuvre, for the Russian columns pressing to the south-west must have outrun their communications. It cannot, however, be said that the risk taken was either rash or unwise, for the prize which was almost within their grasp was very great indeed, and if only normal winter conditions had continued with at least another three weeks of hard frost, things would have been entirely different. Even as it was, it was a feat of marvellous organization and endurance that was staged by the Russians. It is over 400 miles from Stalingrad to the bend of the Dnieper at its most easterly point, and almost the whole of this distance was covered by the Russians in one non-stop winter offensive. Further, the unexpected appearance of deep mud must have imposed some considerable strain upon the stretched offensive of the Russians.

The whole situation assumed an entirely different character when HITLER instead of delivering limited holding attacks, launched a great counter-offensive with about 25 divisions supplied with an unstinted use of tanks and other equipment. How was this German superiority in weight of numbers in this sector achieved by HITLER ? The forces which had been extricated from the Caucasus and others from the Crimea and Western Europe were thrown in to push back the Russian advance. Why was HITLER using up seasoned troops with abundant supplies, tanks and aircraft at the fag-end of the winter—" between seasons " ? It was because he was prepared to pay a very heavy price for the retention of the Ukraine and its resources.

Another weighty reason was the fact that the swift advance of the Red Army had become a deadly peril to the German hold on the Black Sea coast, which masks the weakest spot in German-dominated Europe—a demoralized Balkans.

So far as the Allies are concerned, the important point is that the Russian successes have compelled HITLER to use troops and equipment which he would have preferred to hold in reserve until summer. This is a great potential gain from the point of view of the forthcoming Allied offensive in the West.



BRITAIN AND GERMANY

25th Mar.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that the United Nations had now a substantially larger merchant fleet than at the worst moment of the U-boat war.

According to a Stockholm report, plane production in Germany had dropped from 3,000 to 2,000 per month.

26th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Abbeville marshalling yards.

The Paris Radio announced that the Germans evacuated La Rochelle, as a precautionary measure. It was reported that Lorient and St. Nazaire had been evacuated.

27th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in the Ruhr, including the port of Duisburg.

General de Gaulle, the Fighting French leader, said in a broadcast (in connexion with his forthcoming visit to North Africa to see General Giraud) : " Together loyally and in a friendly spirit we shall see and we shall send men to ensure that the French Empire shall be but one Empire."

The Royal Air Force made a heavy attack on Berlin. Bombs were also dropped in north-western Germany and Greater Berlin area. Goods trains and barges were attacked in Holland.

United States planes attacked railway yards at Rouen.

28th Mar.—One enemy ship blew up and another was severely damaged off the Dutch coast.

29th Mar.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on the U-boat base at St. Nazaire.

An American observer, who went on the Royal Air Force raid on Berlin, said: " The whole of Berlin vomitted dust, smoke and steel."

Shipping and ship-building yards at Rotterdam and industrial objectives in Liege were also attacked.

Three children and six adults were killed in a school clinic in a southern coast town of England in an enemy raid. Bombs were also dropped at scattered points in East Anglia.

30th Mar.—Berlin was again heavily bombed. Objectives at Bochum and elsewhere in the Ruhr were also attacked. This was the Royal Air Force's 60th visit to Berlin.

It was revealed that Hitler's Munich office was hit during the raid on March 9.

According to reports from " absolutely reliable sources, " 50 people were shot down in Berlin for a plot against Hitler's regime.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

25th Mar.—Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information, stated that at least two American convoys had sustained losses in the Atlantic recently as the result of attacks by Axis submarines.

26th Mar.—President Roosevelt announced the creation of an Administration of Food Production and Distribution in the Department of Agriculture.

27th Mar.—Colonel Knox, Navy Secretary, said that there were indications of unrest on the French West Indies Island, Martinique.

A Liberty ship named *Sun Yat-sen* in honour of the Father of the Chinese Republic was launched.

Mr. Joseph E. Davis, former United States Ambassador to Moscow, in an article in the American magazine *Life*, declared himself convinced that the Soviet and the Western Democracies can live together in post-war friendship and harmony.

Major-General Levin Campbell, Chief of United States Ordnance, predicted that the invasion of the European Continent would begin as soon as the Allies gained control of the Africa situation.

Colonel Knox, Navy Secretary, disclosed that United States had dozens of new auxiliary aircraft-carriers in action.

Mr. Anthony Eden, in a speech at Annapolis, declared that the United Nations and in particular the United States, the British Commonwelath, China and the Soviet Union, must organize a " close knit frame-work of free nations " to preserve peace after victory.

28th Mar.—Mr. William C. Bullitt, former United States Ambassador in Paris, said he was convinced that Americans would help to organize world peace if the peace settlement accorded with the terms of the Atlantic Charter.

Mr. Keller, President of the Chrysler Corporation, stated that a new aircraft plant was now under construction which, when completed, would turn out a new secret weapon for the United States Army.

29th Mar.—Mr. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administrator, said that almost all the Lend-Lease food shipped to America's allies during January and February went to Russia and Britain in about equal proportions.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

25th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked a Japanese airfield at Toungoo. Enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the Chittagong area.

26th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Katha railway junction in Central Burma. The Japanese airfield near Meiktila was also bombed.

27th Mar.—The Royal Air Force attacked the railway station and other objectives at Monywa.

A Japanese-occupied village also was attacked.

Admiral Layton, Commander-in-Chief, said: "Ceylon must expect to remain on the front line for some time and as long as it does so, our defences have got to remain alert and vigilant."

28th Mar.—Twelve enemy aircraft were destroyed in a series of fierce air combats over the Arakan front.

Ten enemy bombers were shot down and many others were damaged over Cox's Bazaar (south-eastern Bengal).

The Royal Air Force bombed the Japanese airfield at Toungoo. United States aircraft bombed enemy installations near the Central station of Rangoon.

29th Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed Htizwe starting fires. Enemy positions were machine-gunned in Maya peninsula. Bombs were dropped on the Meiktila airfield.

30th Mar.—It was revealed that four direct hits were observed in the dock area and a mining plant in Tavoy (Burma) during the United States air force raid on March 28.

The Royal Air Force intercepted 12 Japanese fighters south of Cox's Bazaar. Three enemy aircraft were badly damaged.

The whole of Bengal was declared by the Government of India to be a "raid area" that is, a place "where serious threat of air raids at present exists from the East."

31st Mar.—The Royal Air Force bombed Japanese positions at Regaunggyaung. About 22 Japanese bombers attacked objectives in south-east Bengal. Thirteen enemy planes were damaged.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

25th Mar.—There was fierce fighting in the Mareth Line area.

United States Army Air Forces attacked Messina in Sicily.

British troops recaptured Jabel Dahara.

26th Mar.—Several hand-to-hand engagements near Wadi Zigzaon ended to the advantage of the British troops.

Rommel lost about 40 tanks in the counter-attack on the Mareth Line. The British troops occupied Djebel Tebaga.

In an eve-of-battle message to the Eighth Army, General Montgomery said: "In the battle that is now to start, the Eighth Army will destroy the enemy now facing us in the Mareth Line. . . We will not stop or let up until Tunis has been captured. . . The operations now about to begin will mark the close of the campaign in North Africa."

27th Mar.—Fighting became more intense on the Mareth Line. General Montgomery's troops met with resistance every yard. Enemy troop concentrations and lines of communications were bombed.

28th Mar.—General Giraud, for the first time, appointed a Jew to a ministerial post.

Axis troops were compelled to withdraw in El Hamma area. The Eighth Army advanced south-west of Mareth. According to the Algiers Radio, "The Eighth Army has completely regained the initiative."

29th Mar.—General Montgomery's troops reached El Hamma. The British First Army's offensive in Jebel Abiod succeeded. Rommel fell back to Gabes area and was preparing to evacuate it. Many prisoners were taken along the Mareth Line.

General Smuts said: "We are very far from the end of the war."

30th Mar.—British troops occupied Gabes. Rommel's troops gave up all fortified positions and retreated north along the coast. American and French troops converged on Kaironan.

Mr. Churchill said in the Commons: "Another severe defeat has been inflicted by the desert army on Axis forces."

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, said: "The capture of the Mareth Line and Gabes foreshadows the final extinction of the Axis forces in North Africa."

General Giraud told a press correspondent with a smile: "I have got a villa ready for Rommel and I should treat him better than he did me."

31st Mar.—Sedjanane and Oudreff were retaken.

Six Axis supply ships were sunk in the Mediterranean by four British submarines.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

25th Mar.—The Russian forces improved and strengthened their positions west of the Upper Dnieper. Thirty-two enemy aircraft were destroyed on the Leningrad Sector.

26th Mar.—There was bitter struggle for every village and every hill in a sector north of Chuguyev. In the Kuban, the Germans made persistent counter-attacks.

M. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador to Britain, said: "My country and my people are expecting that all our Allies—particularly Great Britain and the United States—will do their maximum in the nearest future to bring this terrible war to an end at the earliest possible time"

27th Mar.—Russian tanks penetrated into Dorogobuzh, an important town on the Moscow-Smolensk railway.

29th Mar.—Three places south of Byeli were occupied by the Russian troops. An enemy attempt to cross the Donetz in one sector was repulsed. In four days, 47 German planes were shot down.

30th Mar.—Soviet advance continued on Smolensk. In Kuban, four German tanks were destroyed and nine enemy aircraft were brought down.

31st Mar.—There was heavy fighting in Vyazma.

Russian forces counter-attacked in the upper Donetz.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

29th Mar.—Spain was reported to have received assurances from both the Axis and the Allies that neither will violate Spanish neutrality. The sympathies of the Spanish people were reported to be moving towards the Allies, particularly due to Anglo-American aid in the form of supplies of food.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

25th Mar.—M. Vaux Saint Cyr, Vichy's Minister in Sweden, broke off contract with the Vichy Government and joined General Giraud.

27th Mar.—It was revealed that about 500 Secret Service Agents and the same number of Norwegian officers and troops had been dropped over Norway this winter.

Britons and Americans who remained in Vichy-controlled France after its total occupation by the German troops were reported to have been taken to Germany.

Four Ministers resigned from M. Laval's Cabinet.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

25th Mar.—Japanese thrust in North Anhwei was repulsed.

The enemy seaplane base in Rekata Bay was strafed. Japanese planes attacked an airfield in Guadalcanar. Nine Japanese bases off New Guinea were attacked by Allied planes.

According to the American Navy Department, an American submarine surprised, torpedoed and sank a Japanese submarine in the Far Pacific so quickly that the Japanese "never knew what hit them."

26th Mar.—Two large Japanese ships were bombed at Amboina. Japanese installations were bombed in Gasmata.

General Tojo in a speech said: "Unforeseen difficulties still lie ahead."

27th Mar.—A protocol was signed in Moscow extending the fisheries convention between the Soviet Union and Japan for another year.

28th Mar.—President Quezon of the Philippines said: "While I think of the war as a global war, I think that the time is at hand to strike hard in the Pacific."

Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, warned Australians to be prepared for a war of attrition against Japan lasting perhaps another two or three years.

An 8,000-ton Japanese cargo ship was bombed and strafed by Allied planes off New Guinea.

American aircraft bombed the strongly fortified Japanese positions in Gilbert Islands. The Japanese base at Kiska was thrice bombed.

A Japanese fleet headed for the Aleutians was intercepted by United States light surface vessels.

29th Mar.—Japanese positions at Buin and Kahili in the Shortland Island were bombed. It was revealed that the Japanese were pushing ahead with the development of their bases in the Solomons.

The *Washington Post* said that increased allocation of men and particularly of air power should be made to the Pacific theatre of war.

Japanese bombers raided Oro Bay on the east coast of New Guinea. Thirteen of them were destroyed.

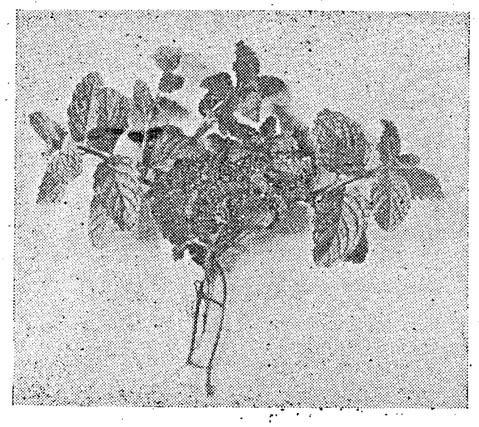
"Time-Bombs From America"—IV

It's easy to burn up
about other people's faults.
Let's burn up some of our own
and start a national bonfire.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Flavouring and Seasoning Plants

Mint



Mentha arvensis, Lat.; *Family Labiatae*; *Pothina*, Tam.: *Pudhina*, Tel.

Description.—A small herbaceous plant possessing suckers which are horizontal thin stems running underground and giving off shoots at the nodes. It has a very characteristic smell.

Propagation.—Small pieces of the underground sucker are planted in flower pots, boxes or in well-prepared beds.

Season.—All the year round.

Cultivation.—The soil should be well manured before the suckers are planted, and kept moist by spraying with water daily. The plant grows best in the hills; in the plains it must be grown in shade.

Uses.—This herb is used for flavouring chutneys, soups, salads and sauces, or boiled with peas, potatoes, etc.

General analysis.—Calcium 0·277 per cent; magnesium 0·066 per cent; phosphorus 0·185 per cent; iron 0·015 per cent; Vitamin B—I.U. per 100 gms. 69; Vitamin C—mgms. per 100 gms. 123·0 per cent.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1943 No. 31

FIRED BY A COMMON PURPOSE

GENERAL EISENHOWER

MANY of the soldiers of the British First Army have been in action almost since the first day of their landing in North Africa. They have gone through the hardships of winter in the mountains, and come out of it full of high spirits and determination

IN the early days, we threw every American available into line to help the British First Army. These American units have all been regrouped and are fighting as one entity under General Alexander

BRITISH American and French forces in this area, fired by the common purpose of crushing the enemy, are working in complete harmony and unision not only for immediate victory on this front, but for the eventual and complete defeat of all our enemies

GENERAL EISENHOWER, addressing war correspondents at Mareth Front, on April 3

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Tunisia: A Study in Strategy	4–5
For an idle hour	7
India's first D.F.C.: K. K. Majumdar's Exploits in Burma	10
Second D.F.C. for I.A.F.: F/Lt. A. M. Engineer's Achievement in N.W.F.	11
Madras's Score Mounts! More about our Squadrons	12–13
Indian Pilot's Bombing: Raids over France.	14
The Food Situation	17
War Diary	19

Have you a Camera?

A NEW PRIZE COMPETITION

TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES EXTENDED

There are many Madrasis now on active Military service, earning good pay from which they are saving money to spend after the war. It is important for the welfare of the soldier and his family that these savings should be usefully and productively spent, for instance, in rural reconstruction and post-war development schemes.

Our Sepoys want to know what they can best spend their money on, and we propose to show them.

THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

The Editor wants photos of—**(1) A well being sunk, (2) A finished well in use, (3) Terracing of fields, (4) Fruit topes, (5) Vegetable gardens, (6) A small shop, (7) Poultry keeping, (8) Improved cattle, (9) House-building, (10) A wedding, (11) Any other subject which you consider that a Sepoy might like to spend money on.**

A first prize of Rs. 20 and a second prize of Rs. 10 will be given for the best photographs submitted. Prizes of Rs. 3 will be given for the best photos in each of the above groups.

The Editor reserves the right to withhold prizes in any group in which the required standards of quality are not satisfied.

No photos can be returned to senders.

At the request of some intending competitors, the time for submission of entries has been extended to 15th April 1943.

All entries must reach

THE EDITOR, MADRAS WAR REVIEW,
VICTORY HOUSE,
MADRAS,

before that date.

◆ ◆ ◆

R.A.F.—INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION

Indian generosity has helped considerably the war-time expansion of the R.A.F. More than £ 4,000,000 has been contributed for the purchase of fighter and bomber planes. The people of Burma have contributed a further £ 290,000. Among the squadrons financed by India and Burma are: Three "Madras" fighter squadrons; one "Madras Presidency" bomber squadron; one "City of Bombay" fighter squadron; three "East India" fighter squadrons; one "United Provinces" fighter squadron; two "Punjab" fighter squadrons; two "Hyderabad" fighter squadrons; one "Hyderabad" bomber squadron; one "Mysore" fighter squadron; one "Baroda" fighter squadron; one "Burma" fighter squadron and one "Burma" bomber squadron.

The achievements of some of these squadrons are recounted in an illustrated pamphlet "Wings of Empire" recently published by the Ministry of Information in London.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1943 No. 31

Japan's "Pressing Problem": Maintenance of Food Supply.

A *Reuter* message from Sydney published in last Sunday's papers refers to the failure of Japan to get oil which was her most urgent reason for attacking the Netherlands East Indies. It says that authoritative reports received in Sydney convincingly show that the Dutch "scorched earth" policy was both quick and thorough. According to experts who know the oil-fields and how they were scorched, some of the many oil-wells in Tarakan, Sarasanga and Ceram may be producing oil, but their output would be only a minute fraction of the pre-war annual output of 8,000,000 tons in the Netherlands East Indies. The Japanese claim of having completely restored the Balik Papan refinery is, therefore, a blatant falsehood.

Japan is experiencing considerable difficulty not only in regard to oil, but also in regard to her own food position. This is clear from a speech made by ISHII EINOSUKO, Head of the Japanese Agricultural Department, at a Round Table Conference held in December 1942:

> "The maintenance of the food supply," he says, "is a pressing problem."

According to him, Japan produced annually 64 million koku of rice (1 koku is about five bushels) before the China War began, and Korea and Formosa supplied 10 million koku. The present demand for rice, according to figures published by the Japanese Food Department, is about 79 million koku. It is clear that Japan is not able to obtain the rice she needs from her own resources. Mr. EINOSUKO has also revealed the fact that imports from Korea have not been coming because of a series of droughts there. To make matters worse, Japan herself was able to produce only 59 million koku in 1941. What is the remedy for such a state of affairs? Mr. EINOSUKO says:

> "In view of these conditions, next year's rice prospects are fairly serious. Therefore, the practical problem is how we can depend on rice from the Southern Regions."

Japan's policy of exploitation of the occupied countries is further evident from an indirect commentary from Bangkok. In a broadcast on March 17, it said, among other things:

> "We have not enough rice to eat, nor bread, but what of it?"

Japan will no doubt try her utmost to exploit to the full all the resources she

(*Continued on page* 6)

Tunisia: A Study in Strategy

IN our last commentary on the Battle of Tunisia we stated that the main battle would no doubt be the one for Gabes but that before it came much hard fighting might lie ahead. We also referred to Mr. Churchill's statement that he did not wish that hopes of easy decision should be encouraged. But the fall of Gabes came much sooner than was expected, because Rommel was afraid that his line of retreat to join General von Arnim's forces would be cut by the Allies. The British are now pushing forward along the Sezenane-Mateur close on Rommel's heels. Air attacks on enemy planes and ships are continuing, and the advance of the Allies on land is being maintained. It may be stated that this great Battle of Tunisia will serve as a working model of modern warfare, in almost all its aspects, for study in the years to come at military staff colleges. It would be a fascinating, though complicated, subject, for there are two different plans working in juxtaposition, and a number of factors on each side, each of which having its own complexities.

FIRSTLY, the Allied plan is to invade Southern Europe by two armies converging across Africa from Egypt and the Atlantic. Secondly, there is the German plan to drive a spearhead between the two Allied armies with a view to impeding and delaying the invasion of Europe when Germany is involved in a major crisis in Russia.

THE part played by the air arm as an integral part of the military machine is one of the salient features of the Tunisian campaign. The Allied aircraft have been giving close support to General Montgomery's forces and functioning something like flying tanks. The work of the field artillery is supplemented by a barrage from the air and the enemy's lines of communication on land and sea are progressively weakened.

Three-cornered Trap

VERY soon Rommel's forces would be fighting with their backs to the sea, and they will be faced with bombardment from the air from three directions at the same time. The enemy will be caught in a trap as it were, and Allied aircraft from Algeria in the west, Malta in the north, and the Desert in the south will bring about an unprecedented concentration of air fire. What will the enemy do? Will he weaken his air defences in Europe in an effort to break the Allied concentration? Let us wait and see.

ANOTHER important factor in the Tunisian war is the organization and maintenance of the supply services. Three different supply services are working to feed (1) the Anglo-American forces in Algeria, (2) the Eighth Army and (3) the Germans. Though each is independent of the other, they are all exerting a vital influence on the campaign. The most instructive of these services is perhaps the German one, because it furnishes a working demonstration of how an army can be maintained across a narrow stretch of sea by supply from land, sea and air.

May make a stand at Sousse

AS regards the campaign itself, in the north, the First Army captured Cape Serrat and is advancing east without meeting much resistance. In the south, the success of the Mareth Battle and the occupation of Gabes have forced things to an issue, from which Rommel is fleeing. The question is whether Rommel will be having sufficient time during the present interval to reorganize his position. But this is not considered likely. It is expected that a stand will be made by the Axis forces somewhere in the neighbourhood of Sousse.

THE storming of the formidable Mareth fortifications which was held by the enemy in great strength was in itself a very great achievement, for the Germans regarded the defence of these positions as of vital importance to the whole of their defensive strategy in Tunisia. That is why they concentrated such a heavy weight of their armour against General Montgomery's troops. Temporarily they were able to check the Eighth Army for the first time since its great victory at El Alamein, and give it a setback after its five months of continuous and brilliant operations, but this was quickly got over by the success of the outflanking movement of the strongly armoured British column, which captured El Hamma and Gabes.

Rommel Conscious of Danger

THERE is now only a very short distance between the Americans to the east of El Guettar and the British in the El Hamma area. Rommel must no doubt be conscious of the danger from both the forces, and he may bring into action the strategic reserve of panzer formations to protect his rear against this two-faced danger. Rommel may also be expected to cut across the line of the American and French advance to the east of Gafsa. It was thought probable that a strong Axis force would be brought up to protect the approaches to the coast between Gabes and Sfax, but this did not happen, and El Guettar, Saned, Maknassy and Fondouk have all been captured by the Allies.

HITHERTO the Germans have been playing for time. Their attempts to disrupt Allied communication lines in the northern and central sectors have gained for them several valuable months. The existence of the Mareth line was a very great help to them, and Rommel was able to force a lull for a time on General Montgomery. But this only helped the Eighth Army to pause, concentrate its hitting power, and reorganize its supply system.

Awkward Corner

WHEN Rommel began the attack on the Eighth Army from the Mareth Line, he was too late, for by that time General Montgomery was ready to repel the attack, and what was more, follow it through. It is no doubt true that the Afrika Korps is in an awkward corner on account of General Montgomery's outflanking movement, but it cannot be stated as yet that the enemy's position is desperate.

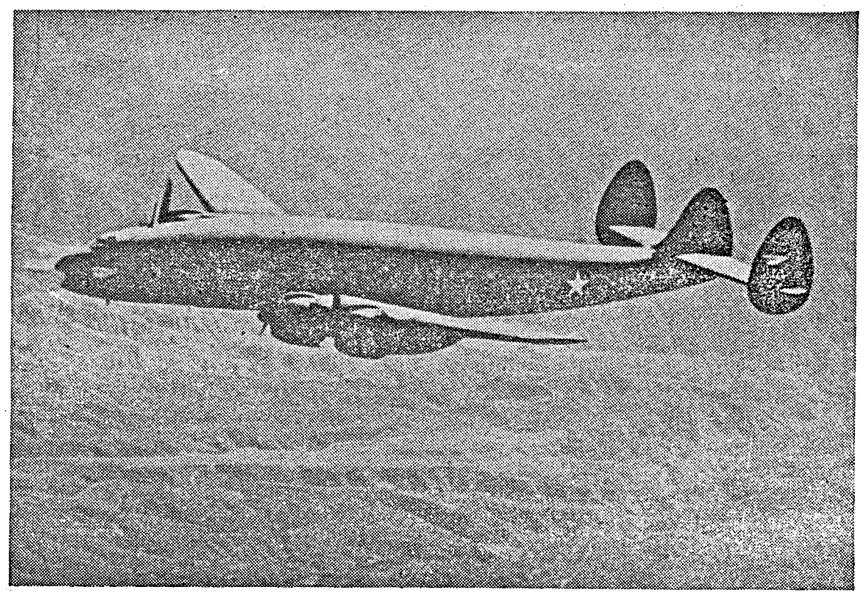
THE aim of Allied strategy now is a total destruction of the Afrika Korps where it now stands, or at least maul it as badly as possible before it succeeds in escaping northwards. The aim of German strategy, on the other hand, is to extricate their forces and retreat to the north with as little loss as possible.

Fight to the Finish at Tunis

THE final battle of the Tunisian campaign will be fought in front of Tunis and Bizerta. It will be a fight to the finish. It may turn out to be a second Stalingrad, or another Dunkirk. General Giraud said after visiting Gabes, "The Axis will have to 'do Dunkirk' from Africa. There will be lots of white caps floating in the Mediterranean sooner."

EVERYTHING points to the fact that this forecast is likely to come true.

☆



THE "CONSTELLATION" TAKES TO THE AIR—The World's fastest transport and the largest plane in production, the Constellation, *flies above mountains on her maiden flight on the U.S. West Coast. The plane can fly 57 passengers and crew across the Atlantic in ten hours, cruising at an altitude of 20,000 feet.*

—U.S. Office of War Information Photo.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

can lay hands on in the occupied countries, but there is one big difficulty—the problem of shipping. Mr. EINOSUKO says:

> "There is a shortage of ships and the matter of transport does not permit of optimism. Accordingly, we must somehow or other make it our aim to increase the self-sufficiency of Japan."

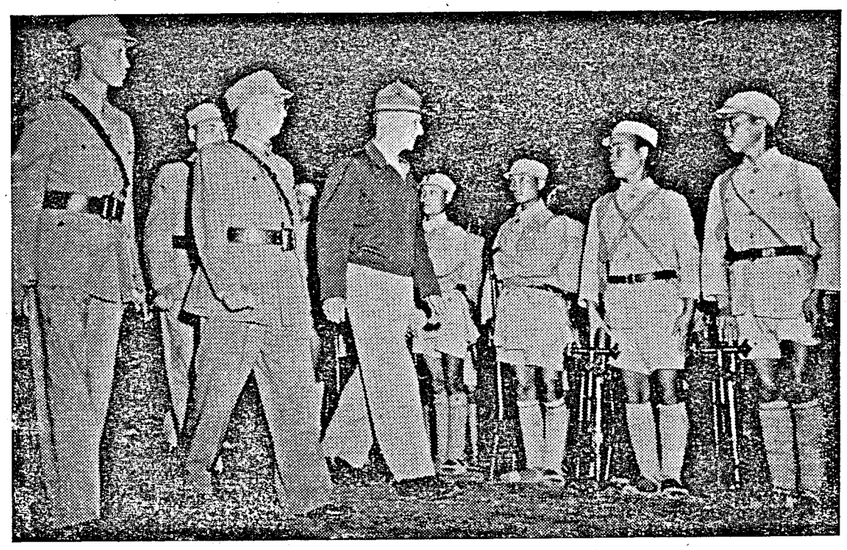
A Japanese shipping expert had expressed the opinion in November 1942 that the needs of the Co-prosperity sphere could not be met by Japan's peace-time merchant shipping. A *Domei* message of February 8, says:

> "The Japanese merchant marine is being maintained at substantially the same level as at the outbreak of the war."

Ironically enough, this message was broadcast to Rome to show the "strength" of Japan's present shipping position! The situation being what it is, Japan has to take steps to increase her rice production. It seems there is a scheme to raise the production level to 80 million koku. This, however, is not an easy task. There are a number of difficulties in the way. Japan has to solve important agrarian problems before she can hope to realize her objective. Mr. EINOSUKO says:

> "There will be land reform. Farmers will be made to co-operate earnestly. Paddy fields incapable of second crop will be made to yield. Farmers have endured many inconveniences economically, they will turn their mulberry and fruit orchards to grain-producing land. The maintenance of the food supply is the key to winning the war."

It is a well-known fact that Japan's standard of life is abnormally low. And now this has to be further lowered to satisfy the ambitions of the war-lords of Japan. But the industrious peasantry may not have the incentives for further effort. This is perhaps the reason why Premier TOJO wants a speedy conclusion of the war. It may be recalled that he stated publicly, quite recently, that the war "must end in a year's time." This may not be so easy, for the Allies have a different aim. As General SMUTS declared, the aim of the war in the East is the establishment of "Japan for the Japanese," not Asia for the Japanese. This means that the war may extend beyond the time fixed by TOJO.



GENERAL STILWELL INSPECTS CHINESE TROOPS IN INDIA.—Lieut.-Genl. Joseph W. Stilwell (centre), Chief of Staff to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and Commanding-General of American Forces in China and Burma, inspects Chinese troops in India. He is accompanied by Generals Sun Li-zen and Lo Cho-ying, the Commanding-General and the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Chinese Expeditionary Forces.

For An Idle Hour

By SIR ROBERT DENNISTON

WHEN I was very young, and the misery of a wet day led me to ask "What shall I do," my father, who did not include the virtue of patience amongst other estimable qualities, used to say gruffly "take a book and read." As an antidote to a restless child's boredom this was not always efficacious, but it has induced in later life the habit of dipping into a book at odd times, and has created a fondness for reading which increases with the years. I sometimes wonder what we should do if there were no books, and how we should occupy our leisure moments, and I have always been intrigued by that rather hackneyed problem "If you were wrecked on a desert island and were able to rescue one book and one only, what book would you choose." Personally I should plump for Wisden's Cricketer's Almanack, but that is by the way. Will you try and visualise for a moment a world without books and without newspapers? I admit that in a world without newspapers there would probably be no wars, but at the moment we are in the middle of a pretty considerable war, which brings me to the object of my talk.

A year ago there was a doubt in the minds of many Madras citizens—the official estimate of their number I fancy is about 500,000—of the ability of the armed forces in this country to resist an enemy invasion. Those doubts have now been set at rest, and instead of apprehension a comfortable feeling of security has been substituted owing to the arrival in India of vast quantities of troops and material. It is a comforting, if somewhat chastening, thought that they are here to protect, amongst other people, you and me. And so they merit our consideration. They live, for the most part, under conditions in which comfort is conspicuous by its absence, and it is for us to do what we can to render the necessarily restricted and monotonous life of the soldier less burdensome. Much has been done, and is being done, in this direction, but their great need at the moment is books. So great is the need that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has issued a special All-India appeal for literature of all kinds, and it is my privilege to bring this appeal to your notice.

What forms of recreation, do you imagine, other than reading, are open to troops stationed in distant camps, in tents or huts in Madras hot weather? In many cases it will be their first experience of an Indian summer, and if you and I, sitting in comparative comfort underneath an electric fan, feel the heat, accustomed as we are to it, what, I wonder, are the feelings of the troops, who rarely see an electric fan. And so, to help them pass bearably a long sweltering day,

books mean much to them. Books mean even more to soldiers in hospital. Have you ever been in hospital or a nursing home? Well-meaning nurses wake you at an unearthly hour, and by about 7 o'clock in the morning you are awake, washed, fed—I almost said 'fed up'—and have about 14 hours acute boredom in front of you before you can close down for the night with the prospect of waking to the same dreary programme the next day—and so on, and so on, and so on. Books and more books will alone beguile the tedium of a spell in hospital. Have you ever thought of the monotony of the lives of the anti-aircraft men, when they are not in action—I mean; for, when in action one can scarcely call their job monotonous. But they must always be prepared to open fire at a moment's notice, and so there must always be a number of them on the spot on duty in case of a visit from an enemy aircraft. Here again books will help to ease the monotony.

SORT OF BOOKS WANTED

Now, what sort of books are wanted? British troops like crime stories, wild west stories (you know—"Dead Man's Gulch"—that sort of thing) and stories with what I believe is technically known as a "love interest," and they like them in the order which I have given you—crime—wild west—true love. Their favourite author is that lamented and prolific gentleman Mr. Edgar Wallace. But you must remember that the army of to-day contains men from all walks of life and practically any book on any subject will find a reader. Some months ago I had the privilege of entertaining in my house 7 or 8 men from one of His Majesty's ships. There have since been others, but I remember this occasion because one of them having noticed that I am apt to smoke a pipe, and having ascertained that I am a bachelor, said to me on leaving "Well, good-bye, sir, when I come back I'll bring you a calabash from Ceylon and a wife from Burma." Neither promise, I may say, has so far been implemented; but I live in hopes. There was in the same party a little man with an enormous moustache who played the trombone in the ship's band—he reminded me irresistibly of Bateman's drawing of the "One-note Man." When they were choosing books to take away with them (my own regrettable tastes rather run to blood or biographies) this little man, who might have been expected to choose the most thrilling of thrillers—or the most sugary of love stories—chose John Buchan's "Memory Hold the Door"—a grand book, no doubt, but on the heavy side and not by any means in Lord Tweedsmuir's lighter or more adventurous vein. And so, tastes vary and practically any kind of book is welcome.

But don't take me *too* literally. In response to a previous appeal for literature for the troops the following have been known to reach the Joint War Charities Depot—District Board Journals, Government Gazettes, Tales for the tots, old telephone directories, Whiteaway Laidlaw's catalogues, cinema Programmes and Mrs. Beeton's Cookery book. I have never been able to get a really hearty laugh out of any Government publication, and I doubt if the troops would. Nor I think, would they get a kick out of knowing the telephone numbers of even the most eminent citizens of Madras. And as for Mrs. Beeton, her recipes usually start "take 2 pints of cream and 24 eggs" and are meant for more spacious times, and are out of place in these days of austerity, especially amongst soldiers whose meals as often as not come out of a tin. None of these inappropriate publications ever reached the troops because they were consigned to outer darkness by the Joint War Charities Depot, who, however, have quite enough to do without having to separate the grain from the chaff. Besides, waste paper is valuable and there are appropriate channels for collecting it, but what we want are books which can be read—read over and over again, the one criterion of their usefulness being that they should pass an idle hour.

TAMIL AND TELUGU BOOKS

There is an even greater need for Tamil and Telugu books. The Joint War Charities Depot have bought and despatched vast quantities; but more—many more—are wanted. To the Madrasi soldier overseas, to the Madrasi soldier in other Indian provinces where his language is not spoken, books printed in his mother tongue are tremendously welcome and greatly appreciated. Detective stories are most favoured by Indian troops, with love stories a poor second. Illustrated papers of all kinds are much in demand. What becomes of these illustrated papers when they are done with? Surely they can't all find their way into the waiting rooms of the medical and dental professions. We all of us have in our book cases books which we are not likely to read again. The modern thriller, for instance. As a contribution to the World's literature its value is ephemeral, but as an antidote to boredom it is almost worth the fantastic price which one is called upon to pay for it these days. And one book does more than beguile the leisure moments of one soldier—it is passed on from man to man and from unit to unit. Yesterday the "Brain's trust" were striving to arrive at a definition of a well-read man. Is he one who has read a vast number of books, or is he one who is well informed on all matters of public interest? Whatever the correct definition there is to-day something more enviable than to be a well-read man. It is to be the late owner of a well-thumbed book—well-thumbed because it is being circulated amongst the troops whose needs (with acknowledgments to Sir Phillip Sydney) are greater than ours. What a lot of pleasure one could give to the troops if each one of us who has a book case were to extract from it half a dozen books, and send them to the army. If we are reluctant to part with them let us think of all those books—usually our favourites—which have been lent to friends who have omitted the formality of returning them. Confession is good for the soul. A short time ago I sent some books to the Joint War Charities Depot including one which had been lent to me and which bore the name and was the property of a lady who, as luck would have it, had the job of sorting them when they arrived at the Depot. She told me, more in sorrow than in anger, that she thought it generous of me to give away her property, but I still maintain that I had the right idea. Quite a number of people buy illustrated papers from clubs after they have been in circulation for a reasonable time. Pass them on. Many of us buy Penguin editions when we travel by train—pass them on. They are particularly welcome as they are of handy size and can be put in the pocket. In parenthesis, how unutterably boring a train journey from, say, Madras to Calcutta would be with nothing to read. Think, then, of soldiers in equally boring circumstances, with nothing to read, and do what you can for them. Confine yourselves, as far as possible, to light literature both as regards subject-matter and weight. If you have time, and you, ladies, in particular, put a cloth cover on the books, or in the case of Penguins make a new back hinge. Remember that the books will have heavy and continuous handling and it is tiresome for the reader, just as the villain is about to meet with his just deserts, to find that the next three or four pages are missing, so if there is anything you can do to strengthen the cover and give the book longer life, do it. Will you send all the books and illustrated papers you can spare to the Honorary Secretary, Joint War Charities Depot, the Banqueting Hall, Government House, Madras, and do please believe me when I tell you that the need is most urgent.

—A recent talk broadcast from T.I.R., Madras.

GLAD IF YOU'D COME TO TEA

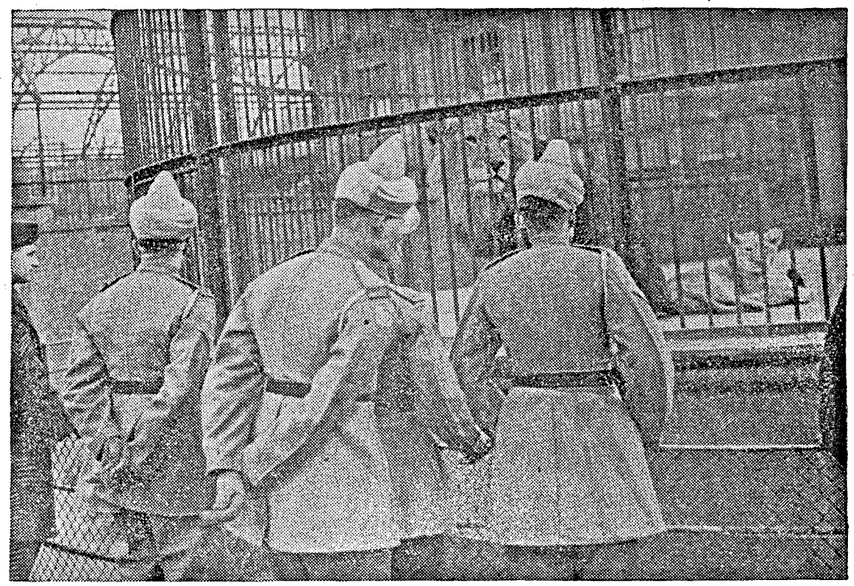
Every month between 200 and 300 British and American soldiers and airmen in New Delhi receive invitations to tea with civilian families.

This is part of the Allied Forces Entertainments Committee's big effort to make New Delhi a home-from-home for Service personnel.

These informal tea parties provide a pleasant way of interchanging views, and both hosts and guests thoroughly enjoy them.

Picnics arranged by civilian families are another much appreciated pleasure, and in a number of cases tennis courts have been placed at the disposal of service-men on certain days of the week.

Among the Delhi residents who regularly extend this form of hospitality to soldiers and airmen is Lady Wavell—who is patron of the Allied Forces Entertainments Committee, and takes a keen interest in all its activities.



MEN OF THE ROYAL INDIAN A.S.C. VISIT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENTS PARK, LONDON.—The Indians admiring the father lion and one of a litter of lion cubs born at the zoo.

India's First D.F.C.

K. K. Majumdar's Exploits in Burma

THE first Distinguished Flying Cross to be awarded to an officer of the Indian Air Force has been won by Acting Wing Commander K. K. Majumdar for his courage and example while commanding No. 1 Squadron, Indian Air Force, in the Burma campaign.

The official citation says: "This officer commanded the squadron during its activities in Burma. Throughout, his leadership and fighting spirit were of a high standard. He led two unescorted attacks on enemy airfields in Thailand and attacks in support of the Army in Thailand and attacks in support of the Army reconnaissance during the retirement from Rangoon to the Prome positions."

The Distinguished Flying Corps was instituted in 1918 and is awarded to commissioned and warrant officers for exceptional valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying in active operations against the enemy.

Wing Commander Majumdar's squadron, although not equipped with modern aircraft, effectively bombed and machine-gunned enemy aerodromes, troop concentrations and supplies, besides carrying out important reconnaissance flights. The unit was twice congratulated by General Wavell for the role they played in air operations.

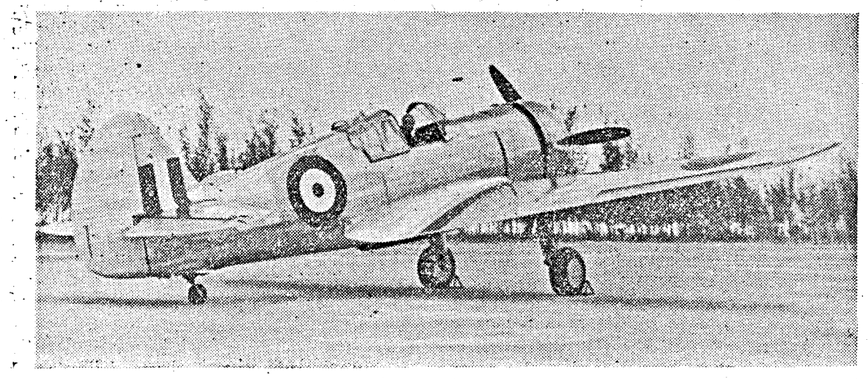
An airman who served under Wing Commander Majumdar says: "His leadership inspired every member of the squadron. On the first day of our arrival in Burma we were welcomed by a shower of bombs. The challenge was accepted. The very same afternoon Wing Commander Majumdar returned the attack, destroying hangars and the wireless station at the enemy's base aerodrome.

"One afternoon we received warning that the Japanese were approaching. We were ordered to evacuate our airfield. Wing Commander Majumdar refused to be stampeded. Although we were in danger of capture, he called us together and calmly told us to collect our equipment before leaving. When we arrived in Calcutta we found we were more fortunate than most squadrons in getting away with our full equipment."

Wing Commander Majumdar—'Jumbo' to his friends and colleagues—has had a highly successful career since he took up flying ten years ago. He was the first Indian commissioned officer to be promoted to the acting rank of Wing Commander in the Indian Air Force.

He was educated at St. Paul's School, Darjeeling. In 1932 he went to the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell. He obtained his wings and was commissioned in 1933. He took over command of No. 1 Squadron in June 1941 and led this squadron in Burma from January to April 1942.

On his return to India he became Liaison Officer between the Indian Air Force and the Royal Air Force. Recently he was promoted Acting Wing Commander and joined the Staff of Air Headquarters.



INDIA'S FIRST FIGHTER PLANE.—A further type of aircraft produced by the Hindustan Aircraft Factory is the Curtiss Hawk, *a modern high performance fighter of American design, equipped with a retractable undercarriage. It is a single-seater, single-engined, low-wing monoplane, and is one of the modern types which Indian Air Force pilots will fly when they have completed their training.*

TRAINING FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORCE.—Photo taken at a centre in Northern India showing young men training for commissions in the Indian Air Force. The signalling instructor explains things to a future pilot.

Second D.F.C. for I.A.F.

F/Lt. A.M. Engineer's Achievement in N.W.F.

IN the starlit blackness of a May night last year, an Indian Air Force plane roared across a North-West Frontier airfield and took to the air. In the cockpit was F/Lt. A. M. Engineer off on an operational sortie which was to earn him the D.F.C.

Headquarters had just called for immediate action against a lashkar reported in the mountainous Bazai area. The order arrived in the late evening, yet despite the hazards of night flying among mountains, F/Lt. Engineer, on his own initiative, decided to try to find the lashkar.

Any hope of success lay in low flying. F/Lt. Engineer took the risk and scoured the valleys among peaks which towered thousands of feet above his aircraft as it sped through the night.

Hours passed. F/Lt. Engineer could find no trace of the lashkar. He had no thought of giving up the search, however, and at last his persistence was rewarded. He located the hostile tribesmen by the light of their camp fires. After a preliminary run over the target, he took his plane into the attack. His navigator dropped a stick of bombs accurately on the hostiles and inflicted many casualties.

The next night F/Lt. Engineer was out again among the lofty heights of the mountains. A report had been received from a Scout post that it was being shelled by tribesmen. F/Lt. Engineer led a flight of planes in an attack on the hostiles and strafed them until dawn.

Commenting on F/Lt. Engineer's leadership and initiative the official report says: "This officer has always taken his full share of risk and responsibility and has been an excellent example to his subordinates."

Engineer, who is the second Indian Air Force officer to win the D.F.C., is now a Wing Commander. He is the eldest of a famous flying family. His three younger brothers are all well-known pilots in the Indian Air Force. He comes from a prominent Parsee family of Bombay.

Flying has been his passion since earliest youth. In 1929, when only 20 years old, he flew to England and back in a Tiger Moth, in those days a pioneer feat of considerable distinction. He was awarded the Agha Khan Trophy offered for the first Indian to fly from England to India.

A year later he was selected as one of the first six cadets to be trained at the XXX, Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, when the Indian Air Force was formed. Here he had a distinguished career and won the Groves Memorial Prize, the equivalent of the Sword of Honour at Sandhurst.

Madras's Score Mounts !

[*The Secretary, Provincial War Committee, sends us the following, which will prove of*

More About Our Squadrons

interest to all who watch the career of the planes which Madras has 'Godfathered.']

BY FAST AIR MAIL

I

INDIA OFFICE, WHITEHALL,
LONDON, S.W. 1.
26th February 1943.

MY DEAR HARVEY,

A little before Christmas I met a Mrs. A. Latham of Frognal Rise, Lower Terrace, N.W. 3., who has travelled extensively in the Far East, especially in India, Tibet and Burma. During the course of our conversation I discovered that she ran a Comforts Depot and I suggested to her that she might care to provide some comforts for the Indian-named Squadrons of the Royal Air Force. She said that she would be only too delighted to do so and as she was particularly interested in the Madras Presidency, I sent the first of her three sample parcels on to the three Madras Squadrons then in England. You will see from the enclosed letters that two have acknowledged the sample parcels. They have since been supplied with all the comforts for which they asked. Incidentally, the comforts which Mrs. Latham's Depot make are really of a very high standard of quality. The third Squadron (i.e., the Halifax Squadron), have not yet acknowledged my letter, but it is possible they have been moved so I must try again . . .

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) W. B. GOODCHILD.

Capt. G. T. B. Harvey,
Director of War Publicity,
Victory House, Mount Road,
MADRAS.

II

No. . . ., (MADRAS PRESIDENCY) SQUADRON,
11th February 1943.

DEAR MADAM,

Your magnificant gift of aircrew comforts has now arrived and been distributed to the lucky recipients.

We do so much appreciate the labours of both you and your gallant band of workers and wish to assure you that the results of your untiring endeavours are most welcome.

As you might guess, they do not study the comforts of aircrew very much with regard to layout in the cockpit as everything has to be compressed into the smallest space possible. On these most dark and frequently cold nights, therefore, every little cosy luxury makes us all warmer and happier during our lonely flights in the heavens.

Your photographs also were very much appreciated and were quickly snapped up. They are now adorning the walls of our dispersal huts and cause many admiring glances.

In conclusion, my boys and I would like to thank you all for your kindness and consideration towards our welfare.

We are indeed lucky and proud to be members of a Madras Presidency Squadron.

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) H.M.K.,
Wing Commander.

Mrs. Latham,
Comforts Depot, Frognal Rise,
Lower Terrace, LONDON, N.W. 3.

III

No. . . ., SQUADRON, R.A.F. STATION,
30th January 1943.

DEAR MR. GOODCHILD,

Many thanks for your letter covering the sample parcel of comforts. I will deal direct with Mrs. Latham regarding the last mentioned.

Since your last news of us our victories have risen to 99 and we are now awaiting the day for a single to make the century. So perhaps the people of Madras would like to hear of the additional successes.

Many thanks for your good wishes,

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) H.M.K.,
Wing Commander.

Mr. Goodchild,
India Office,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

IV

No. . . . (MADRAS PRESIDENCY) SQUADRON,
ROYAL AIR FORCE STATION,
31st January 1943.

DEAR MRS. LATHAM,

Thank you very much indeed for the sample parcel of comforts which has been forwarded by Mr. Goodchild of the India Office.

We really are most grateful for them and would greatly appreciate it if you could send us some more. We have only recently moved up here from a considerably warmer part of the country and are all feeling the bitter winds and heavy storms that are encountered in these parts.

There are no exceptionally large or exceptionally small men in the Squadron, but if you could send us a normal assortment of standard sizes, there are plenty of men who are short of a little extra clothing that just makes a difference. There are about twenty of the pilots who are still short of comforts and considerably more of the ground crews. We have received very little in the way of comforts in the past, so every little bit helps. Of course I know you have many other people to look after, but if you could send us, say half a dozen of each of the items we have seen, it would be a great help.

On modern aerodromes there is very little accommodation to be able to work on aircraft under cover, and so these water-proofed gloves and wind-proof waistcoats are a great comfort in the wind and rain storms we get here. The oversocks are very popular for wearing inside gum boots. Is it possible to get any longer ones to roll above one's knees for the pilots ? Flying at great heights, which we often are, one's knees always seem to catch the full blast of all the draughts in the cockpit.

I should like you to know how pleased we feel when people take such a practical interest in us. The Madras Presidency have adopted us and I know a great many of the chaps in the Squadron are keen to see and get to know Madras, if they get the chance, when all this trouble is over. I myself have spent some time in the Far East particularly China and Ceylon, where I still have relations, but have never had the opportunity to visit Madras.

Thanking you again for the comforts.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) G. C. B. . . G-L . . .,
Squadron Leader, Commanding,
No. . . . (Madras Presidency) Squadron.

Mrs. A. Latham,
Frongnal Rise,
Lower Terrace,
LONDON, N.W. 3.

V

No. . . . (MADRAS PRESIDENCY) SQUADRON,
ROYAL AIR FORCE STATION,
31st January 1943.

DEAR MR. GOODCHILD,

Thank you very much for forwarding the sample parcel of comforts from Mrs. Latham.

As you will see from the address, we are now considerably further north than before, and we really appreciate all comforts that are so kindly sent to us. All three of the items iucluded in the parcel are in great demand. The winds up here can be very bitter and penetrating and all the boys are very pleased and grateful to anyone who shows such a practical interest in us.

I am writing Mrs. Latham direct as you suggested.

Thank you for your good wishes ; we hope before long that the Squadron will have topped the 100 score.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) G. C. B . . . G-L. . . .

W. B. Goodchild, Esq.,
LONDON S.W. 1.

Indian Pilot's Bombing

Raids over France

RECENTLY back from Great Britain, Flying Officer R. S. Shahi, of Lahore, one of the 24 Indian pilots who volunteered two years ago for service overseas, gives a vivid account of bombing raids he participated in over Brest and Dunkirk.

Giving his impressions of the first daylight raid on Brest and the bombing of the German battleships *Scharnhorst* and *Geneisenau*,—nicknamed Salmon and Gluckstein by the Royal Air Force, Flying Officer Shahi, who was co-pilot of his bomber, says: "We were one of a large force of British planes. As we approached the target we could see Stirlings and Halifaxes already bombing the warships. Our fighter escort was intercepted by German fighters and dog fights broke out all around us.

"The anti-aircraft barrage was said to be the heaviest that had ever been met over this target. But we passed through it, in formation, dropped our bombs at the exact moment pre-arranged for our aircraft and came away, still in formation, from the target. I looked down and could see smoke coming from one of the ships. The photographs which we took showed that our bombs had hit their mark.

"This was my second raid and although I felt a little nervous in my first experience of bombing, on this occasion I felt quite tranquil; in fact, I can only describe it as being rather good fun. I feel proud about this raid, particularly because my Captain won a bar to his Distinguished Flying Corps."

NIGHT RAID

Flying Officer Shahi's first operation was a night raid on the docks at Dunkirk.

"It was a grand night with the moon at the full," he says, "We could see the German searchlights as we crossed the English coast, and great quantities of flak. The searchlights were so brilliant and there was so much light caused by the coloured flak that I thought at first the Dunkirk had no black-out!

"We were the last aircraft over the target and were caught in a cone of searchlights. Our tail gunner then reported that a fighter was behind us and we took sharp evasive action, diving down and making out to sea. We made a second run in and this time dropped our bombs and got away safely.

"In the Brest raid," says Flying Officer Shahi, "We came back with eleven holes in our fuselage, tail plane and wings and our navigator had a narrow escape. In the Dunkirk raid our aircraft was holed in eleven places."

During his 19 months in Great Britain, Flying Officer Shahi, who was formerly with Indian National Airways and an instructor to the North India Flying Club, had experience in flying in the latest types of Royal Air Force bombers including the Lancaster, of which he spoke enthusiastically. The crew of the Lancaster in which he was Captain included a Canadian navigator and a New Zealand air gunner.

KINDNESS IN BRITAIN

Flying Officer Shahi is enthusiastic about the kindness shown to him and the other Indian pilots in Great Britain.

"Everywhere we went invitations were showered upon us. One of our outstanding memories is the visit we paid to Windsor Castle where we had tea with their Majesties, the King and Queen.

"We were so kindly treated at all the Royal Air Force stations and by the many people outside the Service whom we met that we were never allowed to feel that we were so far away from home.

"Twice I was entertained to lunch at the House of Lords and I also visited the House of Commons. There and everywhere we went it was the same, people could not do enough for us.

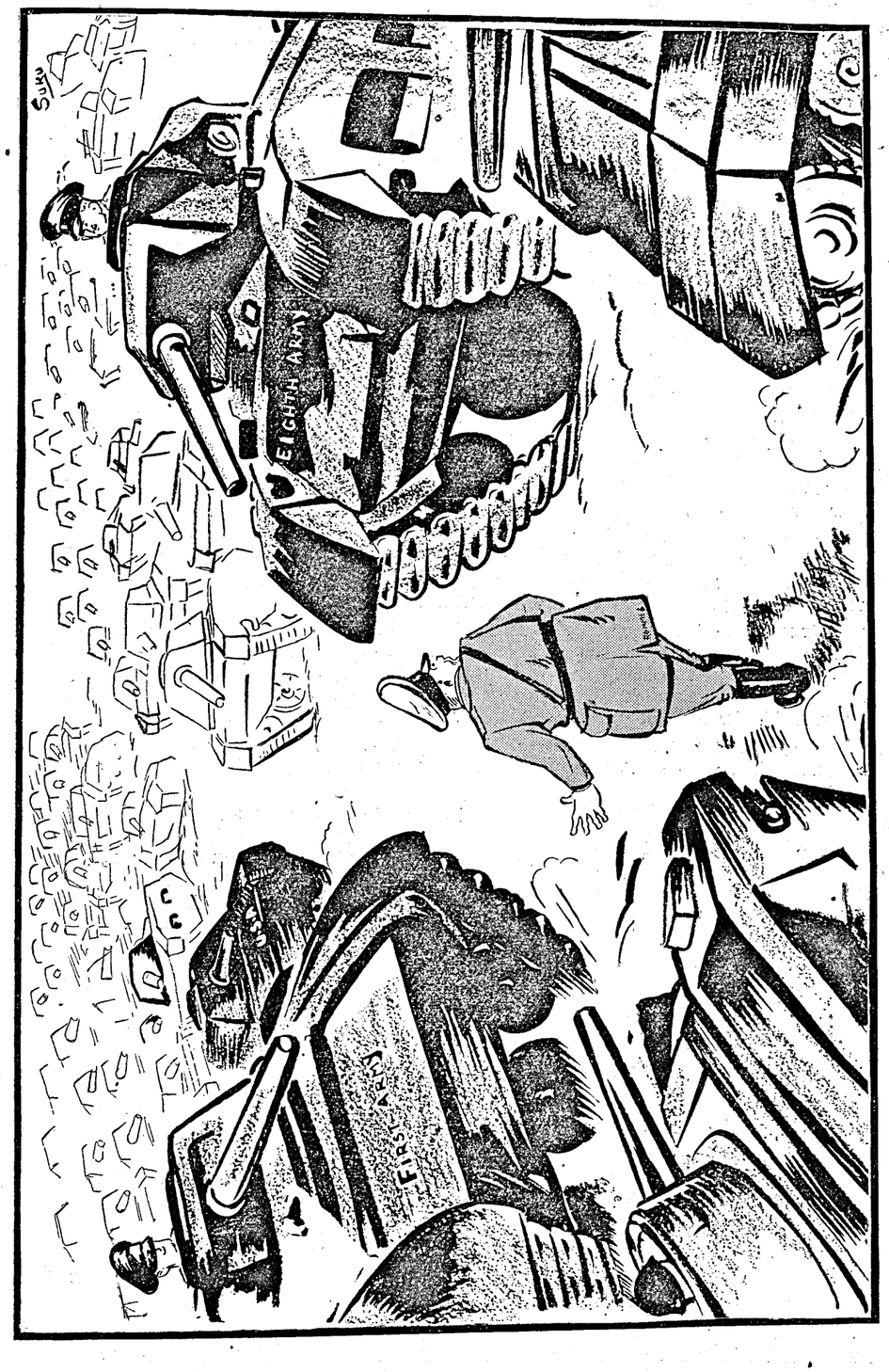
"Another impression I have brought back to India is the welcome I received in the Royal Air Force Squadrons. I am exceedingly proud to have served with the Straits Settlements Squadron and shall always remember the brotherly feeling among its members, who included Britishers, New Zealanders, Canadians and Australians. I was the only Indian."

One of Flying Officer Shahi's regrets is that he had been recalled to India and was on his way back when his squadron made the famous daylight raid on Augsberg.

Flying Officer Shahi, who joined the Indian Air Force in August 1940, is now with an operational squadron in India.

"Time-Bombs From America"—V

Life wouldn't be so full of hills if most of us were on the level.



His's not to reason why,
His's but to die or fly.

King George's Fund for Sailors thanks Madras

Admiral Chairman,
King George's Fund for Sailors,
Trinity House, London, E.C. 3,

To
His Excellency Captain
The Honourable Sir Arthur Hope,
G.C.I.E., M.C.,
Government House,
Madras, India.

Your Excellency, 22nd February 1943.

A cheque for £ 100 has been received through the Imperial Bank of India, from the Joint War Charities Committee, Madras, and the General Council have asked me to convey to Your Excellency and all concerned an expression of their sincere thanks.

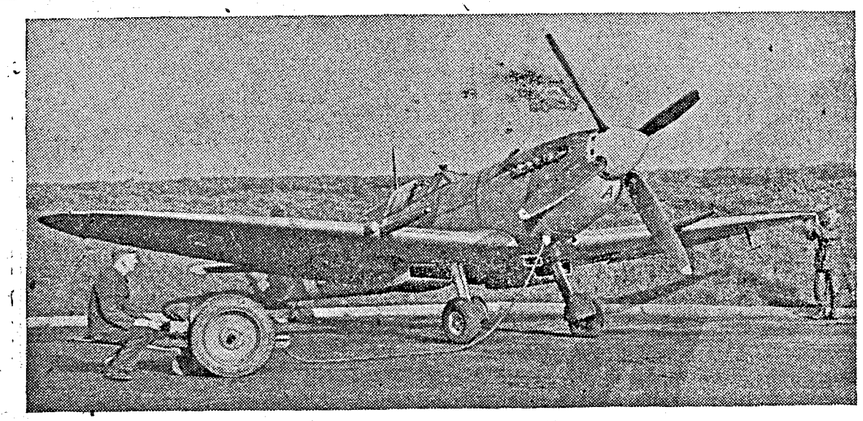
The Council are very appreciative of the continued interest taken in the cause of our seamen and their dependents by the Joint War Charities Committee, and they are extremely grateful for this latest gift, which is most encouraging to them in the work which they are trying to do.

The War Fund reached the first million in December last, and H.M. The King, Patron, was informed, and expressed his satisfaction by giving a further donation.

From the money collected more than £ 18,300 has been used for the equipment and maintenance of Hostels and Clubs for Indian Seamen at Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool, Hull and Swansea, and for comforts for Indian Seamen, and when making grants their needs are always kept in the foreground.

The calls upon the Fund will be very great, and we are looking forward to a continuance of the generous help which has come to us from overseas.

I have the honour to be,
Sir
Your Excellency's obedient Servant,
(Sd.) Sir Aubrey Smith,
K.B.E., C.B., M.V.O.,
Admiral Chairman.



THE ROYAL AIR FORCE'S NEWEST SPITFIRE.—This Spitfire has a four-bladed propeller and two radiators under the wings. The wings differ slightly in their tapering from other versions.

The Food Situation

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

THE people of this province are naturally interested most in their own affairs. But I would like to begin by altering the perspective. There are few parts of the world in which the food situation is easier than in Madras. Europe, it has been said, is suffering a year of organized hunger. In Poland, Greece and Belgium thousands are dying of starvation. Russians are carrying on their magnificent fight on iron rations. In China a vast area is stricken with an appalling famine. The English have cheerfully accepted a diet reduced both in scale and in quality. The United States, the greatest agricultural country in the world, has diverted so much farm labour to the army and to other production that farmers are working under great difficulties, and it has allocated so much of its food to its allies and its armed forces that civilians suffer from rising prices and increasing shortages. The Middle East and Iran get inadequate supplies. But in India as a whole there is almost a full peace-time supply of food. Imported luxuries are not to be had; but the shortage of grains, pulses and oils is, generally speaking, less than elsewhere. The needs of the troops, Indian, British and American, press in some areas on the sources of supply for certain vegetables, potatoes, milk and meat; but this makes little difference to ninety or ninety-five in every hundred Indians.

Considering that this country has been engaged in the greatest war in history for three and a half years the situation is astonishingly easy. There would have been a different story if we had suffered invasion or blockade; and in comparison with the price the other United Nations are paying for the preservation of liberty and decency in the world, the sacrifice made by us in this country is microscopic.

PROBLEM OF QUANTITY.

But it is a fact that the part of the population that can least help itself is suffering from an inability to procure food in adequate quantity. There is no glossing over this fact, and His Excellency the Governor and his Advisers have told us that no other problem takes precedence over this in their minds. In recent public speeches they have also told us that they feel confident of solving the problem. They have taken measures to stimulate production in the various ways that are open to a Government—by expanding irrigation, throwing open more land to cultivation, granting loans on the most favourable terms, providing special supplies of seed and manure. They have taken measures to supply deficit areas from surplus areas within and without the province. They have taken measures to control prices by regulating movements and adjusting supply to demand.

Nevertheless prices of food are two or three times what they were in 1939 while wages have risen less than half as much. The poor, who never had more than a bare sufficiency of food, cannot buy with their wages as much as they used to do. What are the reasons and what can you do to help?

First, there is the action of the enemy. He has taken Indo-China, Siam and Burma, the great rice-exporting countries. Till he is driven out and the Bay of Bengal and all its shores are restored to the camp of the United Nations your own people will suffer. It is the imperative duty of every Indian to strengthen the country's armed forces, to stimulate recruitment and to contribute his money in gifts and loans to the Government for the production of weapons of war.

HELP TO WIN THE WAR.

Secondly, there is the action of the United Nations. To win the war, and to win it quickly, every resource must be turned towards the fighting front. Shipping space for civilian supplies, factories for the production of civilian supplies, railway waggons for transport of civilian supplies must be reduced and reduced. You have no option but to welcome this, if you do not wish to suffer the fate of the Poles or the Rumanians or the Philipinos. You can help further by deliberately reducing your own standard of living and demanding less in the market. Let industrialists and merchants invest and work for the war effort—meaning your liberty—rather than for your consumption—meaning only your comfort. But let farmers remember that the food they produce is also part of the war effort, and spare no pains to get the highest yield in the largest possible acreage.

Thirdly, there is the action of the Government of India. They have to ensure the supplies not only of the great new Indian Army but also of the United Nations forces in the country. The British and the Americans are paying for what they receive. But they cannot send goods while shipping is needed for tanks and aeroplanes and troops. The Government of India have to buy the goods. So there are fewer goods for you and more money in the hands of factory owners, farmers and labourers both in factories and in villages. You who receive the money can either spend it on yourselves or return it to the Government to be spent on the war effort. If you do the first, you drive up prices. If you do the second, you bring the amount of money spent on civilian consumption back to its previous relation with the amount of goods available for you. If you drive up prices, you tax not only yourselves but the poor; you will not get any more to eat and to wear, but you will pay out in money more than you would if income-tax, land revenue, sales tax and

customs duties were all doubled. If you give the money to the war effort, it pays for men and munitions; the prices of food and clothing remain normal, and you pay less on the whole. This elementary truth they have realized in England, but you have not yet realized it here. In one week London alone gave and lent 200 crores, in addition to the enormous taxes the English are paying. In three and a half years this whole province has given and lent less than 10 crores and paid very little more in extra taxation. You have valued your lives and liberties at eight annas a head a year. You cannot have liberty at so cheap a rate. If you try, you will not have even comfort; you will not have even cheap food. If you give and lend to Government, instead of spending in ordinary trade and in shops, twenty or thirty crores in the next year, you will be astonished how prices will come down. If prices fall by even two annas in the rupee, the people of the province will save on their ordinary expenditure more than twenty crores, and the poor will be able to buy their food. The food situation depends, oddly enough, not on what is done with the food, but on what is done with the money.

BUY AND SELL SENSIBLY

Fourthly, there is the action of the sellers and buyers of food. When prices are going up, both merchants and consumers try to buy quickly and to buy more than usual, so as to protect themselves from the further rise in prices. If merchants later sell at the higher prices, they are accused of profiteering; and if consumers buy much more than usual, they become hoarders. If you all think of yourselves alone, the result of each man looking after himself is simply profiteering and hoarding. You bring disaster on yourselves by increasing the scarcity of goods in the market and making your expectation of rising prices come true. Resist your instincts. Face the future calmly. Buy as usual. Sell as usual. If you do so, the authorities can ensure that supplies come into the market at reasonable prices. If you all buy eagerly, demand runs far ahead of supply; the market is depleted, and the next time you buy you will pay through the nose.

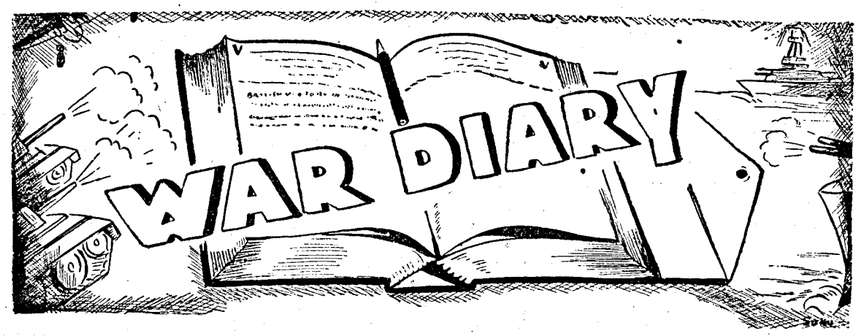
The alternative if you do not act sensibly and in the interest of the common good is more and more control by the authorities, sterner and sterner compulsion.

Fifthly, there is the action taken and to be taken by the cultivator, the producer of food. Last year the cultivators of this province brought under cultivation and irrigation many thousands of additional acres. They worked hard. Yet production was less than normal. The truth is that in this country, as in every other country, the weather has more control over agriculture than any human decision. Last year's monsoons were unfavourable. Over a large tract of the Ceded districts crops failed altogther. Elsewhere crops were far below average. But the cultivator is not discouraged, and since he is stimulated not only by the concessions, loans and facilities liberally given by the Government, but also by prices for his produce higher than he has enjoyed for twenty years, we can be confident that he will spare no effort to fill the granaries for himself and the rest of us. But the prices offered now for cotton and groundnut are also higher than ever. Cotton and groundnut, moreover, are needed and can be grown successfully on much land not very suitable for food crops. It would be wrong to reduce too greatly the area devoted to cotton or to groundnut. But it is the duty at the present time of the ryot and of his advisers to think carefully how much land and labour should be devoted to each crop and to remember that the hardships arising from shortage of cloth and oil are far more bearable than those arising from lack of food. It is also necessary for them to remember that high profits from the production of non-food crops may easily be swallowed up in paying high prices for food. What good will it do a man if he grows eighty rupees worth of cotton instead of forty rupees worth of grain, if he then has to pay eighty rupees for the grain that he might have grown himself? In telling the ryot to grow more food, we advise him for his own as well as for the common good. And if the monsoon is timely and abundant we feel confident the ryot will do his best.

MOTIVE POWER IS THE PEOPLE

Lastly, there is the action taken and to be taken by our own Provincial Government. Many people speak and write as though this was the most important thing of all. But that is like pretending that the stationmaster or the guard of a train has more to do with how the train runs than the locomotive, the engine driver, and planner of the time-tables all put together, not to mention the passengers and goods but for whom there would be no railway built at all. The Government is at the controls, subject to the higher decisions of the United Nations and the Government of India. But the motive power is in the people, and the energy with which the people work depends mainly on the inspiration of the leaders in each village and each taluk. Too many of you look for leadership into the far distance. Your leadership should be close at hand—and in your own hands, if you have courage and enterprise. If you are captain of a football team you do not wait for word to come from Delhi or Bombay before making your decisions. Yet up and down this province mature men of good education, wealth, intelligence and character are content to wait for orders instead of thinking and acting for themselves and the common cause. In that way Italy was made ready for Fascism and Germany for Nazism. Every one of you who knows a little more and can see a little farther than his neighbours should be leading them. Some of you have taken the opportunity offered by the organization of the National War Front to get to work. Why are the rest of you doing less than you can?

—A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.



BRITAIN AND GERMANY

1st Apr.—Lord Bruntisfield, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, said in the House of Lords that the estimated tonnage of German merchant shipping sunk, captured or damaged since the beginning of the present war to the end of February 1943, was 3,365,000 gross tons and of the Italians 4,027,000 gross tons.

Flying Fortresses bombed shipping and shipyards at Rotterdam.

It was disclosed that as a result of the intense bombing of Berlin by the Royal Air Force, political tension in the Reich was very great.

3rd Apr.—Submarine bases at Lorient and St. Nazaire were attacked. Mines were also laid in enemy waters. A German E-boat was sunk off the French coast.

It was revealed that Hitler's Chancellery was badly damaged in the last Royal Air Force raid on Berlin.

4th Apr.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on Essen. The great Krupps armament works were again hit. American heavy bombers attacked Renault factories at Billancourt on the outskirts of Paris.

Enemy airfield at Abbeville, an enemy trawler off the coast of Holland, the docks at Brest and railway targets in northern France and Belgium were bombed.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary, said that offensive preparations were being made and Axis forces would be sandwiched between the British and Americans in the West and Russians in the East.

Mr. Anthony Eden arrived in England from United States.

5th Apr.—The Royal Air Force in great strength attacked the naval base and shipbuilding yards of Kiel. Large fires were started in the target area. This was the 71st raid on Kiel. Objectives in northern France and the Low Countries were also attacked. The airfield at Caen, railway targets at Saint Brieuc, shipyards at Rotterdam, railway yards at Abbeville and the docks at Dieppe were other objects of attack. Industrial targets near Antwerp were also bombed.

In an action off Dunkirk with four enemy armed trawlers, one was set on fire and sunk.

6th Apr.—Actions, rumours and warnings directed or indirectly connected with an Allied attack on the Continent were received from 7 capitals during the last 24 hours.

American aircraft completely destroyed the Erla aircraft engine works near Antwerp. The Royal Air Force attacked docks and shipping at Brest.

Two out of four German E-boats were damaged near Le Touquet. British naval units bombed three ships off Dieppe.

7th Apr.—Two of the eight Nazi aircraft which attacked south coast of England were destroyed.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

1st Apr.—Mr. Anthony Eden, in a farewell message to Mr. Cordell Hull, said: "We think alike on problems that face us."

At a press conference, Mr. Eden said: "The war would be long and tough."

Speaking on the total disarmament of the Axis powers, Mr. Eden said: "I have no faith in the promises of their statesmen, nor in the smooth assurances of their apologists. There is only one security for mankind in respect of all of them: to ensure that they are totally disarmed and in no position ever to try their strength again."

Mr. Morgenthau, United States Secretary of State of Treasury, confirmed that plans had been submitted to the United Nations by the United States looking toward international stabilization of currency in the post-war period.

2nd Apr.—It was announced that the Soviet had accepted the invitation to the Post-War Food Conference to be held in the United States.

Interpreting Mr. Eden's mission to the United States, the bulletin issued by the Foreign Policy Association said: "Britain

contemplates the future of the colonies as also India within the Commonwealth rather than in a complete severance of the connection with the British Crown."

3rd Apr.—Lord Halifax said: "The end of the war may come more suddenly than some of us thought six months ago. Germany is under a great stress in her manpower."

4th Apr.—Mr. Adolf A. Berle, United States Assistant Secretary of State, said: "A strong and victorious Russia is necessary to the United States. The United Nations, grouped around the United States, Britain, Russia and China, will be invincible in war."

5th Apr.—Speaking at a mass meeting at Los Angeles, Madame Chiang Kai-shek said "that no greater tribute could be paid to the sorely-tried people of China than that in all their suffering, never did they complain against their leaders."

Mr. Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of Treasury, in a plan submitted to a group of Senators, outlined the tentative proposal of the United States to participate with a contribution of 5,000 million dollars to a post-war international Currency Stabilization Fund. It was disclosed that the Keynes plans for a new world currency had been received with enthusiasm in United States.

6th Apr.—A tentative Anglo-American agreement regarding the future Far Eastern policy was reported to have been reached in the course of Mr. Eden's conversations in the United States.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

1st Apr.—The Royal Air Force carried out a damaging attack on oil installations and other objectives at Bhamo, a Japanese base on the Irrawaddy. An attack was also made on Mandalay.

There was an air combat between 10 Royal Air Force fighters and 12 Japanese fighters over the Buthedaung area. One enemy aircraft was destroyed. Bombers of the United States airforce attacked enemy railroad facilities at Maymyo.

2nd Apr.—Japanese bombers attacked Feni in south-east Bengal. Five of the raiders were destroyed and several damaged.

A few enemy aircraft dropped bombs near Bawli Bazaar. A Japanese plane was destroyed in the Magwe airfield. Chauk and Myingyan were also bombed.

3rd Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked the railway junction at Kanblau. A Japanese-occupied village on the Mayu Peninsula was also attacked. Enemy aircraft attacked Maungdaw, causing very slight damage.

4th Apr.—The United States War Department revealed that a United States bomber completed a 11,748 miles flight from America to India in 67 hours and 35 minutes, establishing a new record for delivery of aircraft over this distance.

General Clayton Bissel said that the American force in India and China carried out 18 per cent more missions and dropped 80 per cent greater weight of bombs than during the preceding month.

According to the *News Chronicle* special correspondent, the Japanese were strengthening their hold on Burma and it was improbable that the Allies could open an effective road into China before the beginning of 1944.

The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Yenangyaung, an important oil town on the Irrawaddy.

5th Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Occupied Burma. Bombs were dropped on Japanese positions at Htizwe. Pinlebu and Minbya were also attacked. United States aircraft bombed the Thilawa oil refinery south of Rangoon.

Enemy aircraft attacked an airfield south of Chittagong.

Members of the Chinese Educational and Cultural Mission visited Madras.

6th Apr.—The Royal Air Force intercepted a force of more than 50 Japanese bombers and fighters which attempted to attack south-east Bengal. At least 11 of the enemy aircraft were damaged. The Japanese airbase at Meiktila in Central Burma was bombed.

United States airforce attacked the railroad yards at Pyawbwe and Prome.

7th Apr.—Allied troops withdrew from Donbaik to positions in Kyaukpandu area. Enemy fighters attacked an airfield in south-east Bengal. Japanese airfield at Pakkokku was bombed.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1st Apr.—Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of War, announced that the bulk of Rommel's army had been withdrawn.

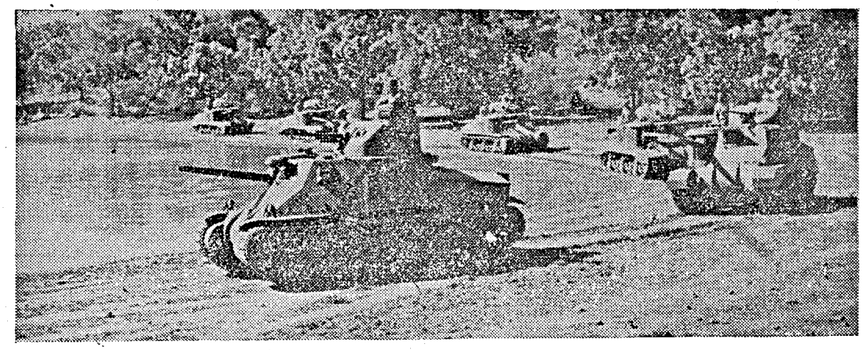
It was revealed that fishing boats, tugs and small craft were being assembled in Italian harbours to be used for the Axis "Dunkirk" to evacuate troops from Tunisia to Sicily.

According to the Morocco Radio, General Montgomery's vanguards were 13 miles north of Gabes.

An enemy airfield in Sardinia was bombed.

2nd Apr.—The Germans counter-attacked against the Americans on the Gafsa-Gabes road. The French troops occupied Kebili, south of Shott Djerid. Bizerta was bombed.

3rd Apr.—General Montgomery regrouped his forces for a new advance northwards. The French and American forces continued eastwards in Central Tunisia. Six enemy fighters were destroyed.



TECHNICIANS IN THE MAKING.—The mechanisation of the Indian Army opens a new field, and recruits chosen for armoured units receive extensive instructions covering every phase of this technical branch of the Army. The men must know what to do in any emergency, and be able to maintain their equipment in perfect order under all conditions. They are as keen as mustard, and eager to learn all they can so that they can take their part in the defeat of the Axis. Photo shows recruits on manœuvres.

4th Apr.—Allied troops captured Cape Serrat. The French troops advanced north of Sedjenane.

It was revealed that the British Navy was standing ready in the Mediterranean to prevent an Axis "Dunkirk."

General Giraud's spokesman, broadcasting to the Italian people over the Algiers Radio, said: "Another few months and the day of reckoning will come. Thousands of bombers are preparing for raids against Italy. Your industries, transports, everything that gives bread to the Italian people will be destroyed."

Messina was attacked by heavy bombers and damage was inflicted.

5th Apr.—The Greek submarine *Papanicolis* sank two small enemy supply ships in the Mediterranean.

American Flying Fortresses raided Naples, the heaviest raid of the war on that port. Huge fires were started. Fourteen ships, two of them liners, were hit in Naples harbour. Syracuse and Carloforte were also bombed.

The British First Army, which included French troops, advanced beyond Cape Serrat.

General Giraud who paid a visit to Gabes said: "The Axis will have to do 'Dunkirk' from Africa. There will be lots of white caps floating in the Mediterranean soon."

6th Apr.—The United States forces continued to advance south-east of El Guettar. The British troops pushed forward methodically along the Sejenane-Matem road. An enemy convoy in the Sicilian straits was attacked. A destroyer was blown up and other vessels received direct hits. Forty-eight enemy aircraft were destroyed.

The Algiers Radio issued this warning: "German soldiers, you have to choose between death and captivity. There is no other way out from here."

Industrial installations at Porto Empedocle, Sicily, were attacked and damaged.

7th Apr.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that a new victory had been gained by the Desert Army. General Montgomery's forces attacked Akarit, north of Gabes and blasted a hole in the defensive line. Over 6,000 prisoners were taken and Rommel was again in full retreat.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1st Apr.—The Russians held firmly the bridge-heads on the right bank of the Donetz from Byelgorod and Ghuguyew. The Red Army captured Anastasyevskaya.

2nd Apr.—The Moscow Radio stated that 938 German aircraft were destroyed on the Russian front during the four weeks ended March 27. The Russians closed in on the German troops in the Kuban area of the Northern Caucasus.

3rd Apr.—The Red Army pressed the Germans hard in the Taman bridge-head and fighting developed along the lower Kuban river. The Russians reached the eastern gate of Novorossisk. Two enemy transports were sunk in the Barents Sea.

According to the Soviet Information Bureau, the Red Army advanced from 600 to 700 kilometres in 4 months and 20 days, liberating 480,000 square kilometres of territory.

4th Apr.—There was fierce fighting south of Izyum. The Germans massed their forces in Southern Russia for a large-scale offensive. The Russian troops captured Prikubanskya.

5th Apr.—The Russians captured Bakansk, a town on the main Kuban railway.

The *Pravda* reported that German aircraft twice set out on mass raids on Rostov a few days ago.

6th Apr.—According to Reuter's special correspondent, there was a vast movement of men and materials along the 1,200-mile Soviet front as the Russian and German forces prepared for the next stage of conflict. The Red Army advanced in the Kuban. There was fierce fighting south of Izyum where the Germans suffered heavy losses.

7th Apr.—South of Izyum, Soviet units repelled German attacks. The Moscow Radio called for "death for death and blood for blood" to avenge the victims of German atrocities.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

3rd Apr.—According to the German Radio, Dr. Clodius, the German economic "ambassador" to Turkey, signed a protocol with the Turkish Government, guaranteeing exchange of goods between Germany and Turkey.

5th Apr.—Military leaders of three United Nations and Spain met in Spanish Morocco. General Franco summoned his Cabinet to meet.

* * * *

SHIPPING

1st Apr.—United States aircraft sank two Axis submarines within sight of the Columbian Coast.

4th Apr.—The British submarine *Tigris* was loss.

Aircraft carrier *Cabot* was launched at Camden, New Jersey.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

3rd Apr.—M. Laval informed the Vichy Cabinet that a quarter-million French workers had left for Germany in the first three months of this year.

4th Apr.—The Algiers Radio broadcast a warning to the French people that the Germans may try to fake "Commando Raids" on the French coast to discover Allied sympathisers.

According to a message received at the Fighting French Headquarters in London, the Germans had begun to conscript French women for work in Germany.

5th Apr.—The Berlin Radio stated that the German Government had decided to transfer the former French Prime Ministers, M. Daladier, M. Leon Blum and General Gamelin, to Germany "to forestall a planned Anglo-American group to free these men".

Marshal Petain, in a broadcast over the French Radio, blamed French leaders abroad for France's ordeal and condemned the American raid on the outskirts of Paris and called on young Frenchmen to accept German demands for labour.

THE FAR EAST

1st Apr.—The Chinese penetrated the Japanese defences round the Hunan City of Hwajung.

Dr. Wellington Koo (who was at Washington) said that there was a danger of a new major Japanese offensive in China.

2nd Apr.—Thirty to forty Japanese fighters were engaged by the United States planes in a big battle north-west of Guadalcanar in the Solomon Islands. Sixteen enemy planes were shot down.

Chinese "Puppet" troops guarding the Tsinpu railway (part of the Tientsin-Pukow line), mutined and killed scores of Japanese officers and men and then joined the Chinese forces.

3rd Apr.—There was severe fighting in the area west of Kingmen, north-east of Ichang.

General Stilwell revealed that United States Air Force in China now had air bases within bombing range of Tokyo in the Kiangzo Province.

4th Apr.—In a surprise attack, Allied heavy bombers bombed a concentration of Japanese warships off Kavieng in New Ireland. Three ships were sunk and one damaged.

American submarines sank one Japanese destroyer, one large transport and two medium freighters in the Pacific.

United States planes carried out 9 attacks on Japanese positions in the Aleutians. Three Japanese aircraft were shot down in the Solomons.

The Japanese raided Chungking. Japanese barracks at Changtaikwan were set on fire by artillery bombardment.

5th Apr.—General Tojo announced that the defences of the northern border had been still further strengthened by virtue of Manchukuo's all-out co-operation with Japan. (The Manchukuo northern border separates that State from the U.S.S.R.).

A Japanese column which penetrated to a point north of Talo on the Yunnan border was surrounded by the Chinese.

Three more Japanese ships and possibly four were hit by Allied bombers at Kavieng, thus dispersing the Japanese naval concentration at Kavieng.

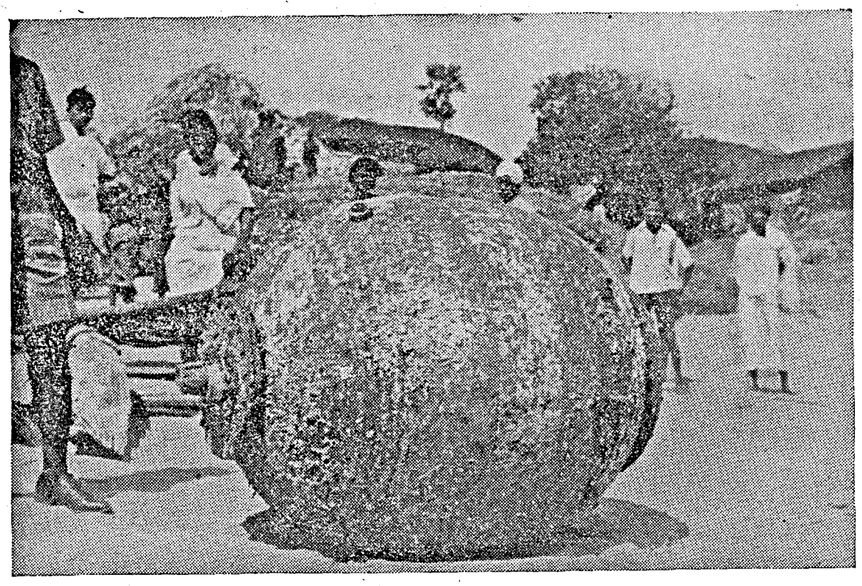
6th Apr.—Allied warplanes bombed 10 Japanese strongholds in south-west Pacific.

In Northern Hupeh Province, the Chinese attacked Japanese positions near Suichsien.

7th Apr.—Mr. Frederick Jones, New Zealand Defence Minister, said that while in North Africa the situation was very promising, it could not be said that everything was safe in the Pacific or that the Allies had got the better of the Japanese there.

These Villagers are

Lucky to be Alive!



Villagers living in Eastern India had a narrow escape from death when they unwisely handled a mine found drifting in the sea. Only a chance defect in the mechanism prevented a terrific explosion.

Fishermen noticed the mine while out in their boat. Instead of informing the authorities, they towed the mine 15 miles to shore. It was then hauled up on the beach near a village, where a throng gathered round, and the barnacles with which it was encrusted were scrapped off.

The fishermen and villagers were lucky to escape with their lives. Another mine recently washed up elsewhere on India's coast left a crater 40 feet across and 20 feet deep when it was exploded under proper supervision. Fortunately in this case no attempt at handling had been made before the experts arrived.

A mine is one of the deadliest contrivances known in modern warfare. Many a vessel has gone to the bottom of the sea, riven asunder, after striking one. The blast has been known to raze a whole street.

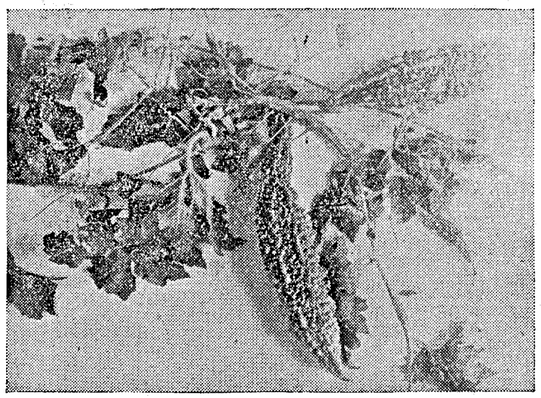
Washed up on a beach, an ordinary mine, if tampered with, will explode with force sufficient to kill human beings, and shatter dwellings, within a distance of 500 feet.

Persons who notice any object resembling a mine in the sea, or on the shore, must on no account go near it. They must treat it as the killer it is, and report its presence to the nearest civil or military authorities, who will send an officer to render the mechanism harmless.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Gourds and Pumpkins

Bitter-Gourd



Momordica charantia, Lat.; Fam. *Cucurbitaceae*; *pavakai*, Tam.; *Kakarakaya*, Tel.; *pavakka*, Mal.

Description.—A climber, climbing by means of tendrils; flowers golden yellow and unisexual, only the female ones developing into fruits. There are different varieties, which produce different kinds of warty fruits—a green ovoid fruit about 4–6″ long, a creamy white one 6–8″ long, and a rounded one 1–1½″ long. The fruit is orange-yellow when ripe and contains flat seeds with bright red fleshy covering.

Propagation.—Seeds for sowing can be got ready from the ripe fruit. The red pulpy covering is washed off and seeds are smeared with ash and allowed to dry.

Cultivation.—Seeds are planted in well-prepared raised beds, so that the plants will be about 2 feet apart; the vines are allowed to climb on strong, dry branching twigs, on fences or over a trellis. Well-rotted cattle manure could be added to the soil every now and then, and the plants must be watered daily. The plants bear fruit in about three months, and continue to do so for a short time.

Uses.—The fruit has a slightly bitter taste; but is relished in curries and pickles. The fruits may also be sliced, steamed and dried in the sun, and thus stored.

Analysis.—About 95 per cent water; small quantities of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, fibre and minerals; traces of calcium, magnesium, phosphorus and iron; vitamins A, B and C.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1943 No. 32

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

FORWARD TO TUNIS!

BEFORE the battle of Mareth had begun, I told you that you had three things to do

FIRST, to deal with the enemy in the Mareth positions. That was done between March 21 and 28, during which 8,000 prisoners were taken

SECONDLY, to burst through the Gabes Gap. That was done on April 6. The enemy was so unwise as to stand up and fight us on the Wadi Akarit position. He received a tremendous hammering, and we took another 7,000 prisoners

THIRDLY, to go forward to Sfax, Sousse, and finally Tunis. This is now in progress of being done, and if we collect prisoners at the present rate, the enemy will soon have no infantry left to hold his positions

Nothing has stopped the Eighth Army and nothing can stop it. You have given to your families at home and to the entire world, good news, and plenty of it every day

I doubt whether our Empire has ever possessed such a magnificent fighting machine as the Eighth Army. It may become a household word all over the world. The triumphant cry now is: "Forward to Tunis to drive the enemy into the sea!"

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a message to the Eighth Army, on April 10*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
General Montgomery's Tactics	4–5
Germans know Everything about War, except How to Win	7
The Challenge of the U-boats : A Review of the Naval War in 1942	10
Battle of the Bridgeheads	13
Magic Mountain of Iron	14
Turkey has a New Medjlis	16
Bulgaria's Fear	16
Leaders of China's Womanhood	17
Sino-British Alliance	18
Japanese and American Sinkings	18
42 Grandsons in the Army	18
War Diary	19
Rama Deepa	23

"DUNKIRKING" OF THE AXIS

"All ranks of the East African Command send you and the whole Eigth Army sincere congratulations on your magnificent achievements, and best wishes for the final 'Dunkirking' of the Axis out of Africa."

—LIEUTENANT GENERAL PRATT, *Commander-in-Chief of the East African Forces in a message to General Montgomery, on April 13.*

◆ ◆ ◆

GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S TACTICS

"General Montgomery has a most disconcerting way of constantly altering his methods, and doing the unexpected. At El Alamein, his entire weight was directed against the twin Axis positions on the coast, and by successful penetration, the entire German flank crumbled up. At Mareth, he feinted a direct attack and threw most of his weight into the encircling movement, which paralysed the main defence. At Wadi Akarit, he took Rommel completely by surprise, by attacking in pitch dark. Whatever else he may do against Rommel's final defences, it can safely be assumed it will not be what everyone expects."

—Reuter's *Military Correspondent on April 13.*

◆ ◆ ◆

"JAPAN BEING DEFEATED IN TUNISIA"

"The Jap at this moment is being defeated in Tunisia just as Germany suffered a set-back at Guadalcanar, because it is impossible to plan a war against Germany apart from Japan, and *vice versa*. It is not a partnership of reciprocal loyalty which binds the Germans and the Japanese together. It is a companionship of common doom. They cannot escape ruin singly. If one yields ground, it means that the United Nations will have just that much force to expend on the other."

—JOSEPH G. GREW, *former United States Ambassadar to Japan, in an address at Baltimore (U.S.A.)*

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1943 No. 32

The U-Boat Menace : Assessment of Degree of Seriousness.

Speaking at a Press Conference ten days ago (April 6), Colonel FRANK KNOX, the United States Secretary for the Navy, stated that Allied shipping losses in the Atlantic were considerably worse in March than in February, owing to intensified operations of the U-boat. This was due to the increased submarine activity in the Atlantic.

"There are more sinkings, but more German submarines are out," said Colonel KNOX ; "This is a serious situation and a tough one. No one is complacent about it, or should be."

Referring to the bombings of European submarine bases the Naval Secretary said that they were handicapping and embarrassing German submarine activities to a certain extent. Colonel KNOX's statement cannot be taken to be an admission that the German claims of sinkings are not considerably exaggerated. His reference to the increase of U-boat activity in the Atlantic zone should be read in conjunction with the fact that sinkings by U-boats in January and February were fewer than anticipated. In a statement on March 31, Mr. ELMER DAVIS, Director of the United States Office of War Information, said that though the United Nations' merchant shipping losses during March 1943 had been worse than those in January or February, the month's total loss was far lower than that of any month in 1942. This does not mean that attempts are being made to minimize the seriousness of the shipping situation, for what is sought to be done is only assess the degree of that seriousness. It may be recalled that in his war review on February 11, Mr. CHURCHILL said.

"The losses we suffer at sea are very heavy and hamper and delay our operations. They prevent us coming into action at our full strength, and thus prolong the war."

The point to be noted is that **the shipping losses determine the length of the war and not its result.** Allied offensive operations may be delayed on account of these losses, but the actual extent of the delay depends upon the margin between sinkings and new construction. A *minimum* of 14 million gross registered tons of new shipping will be built in 1943 by Britain and America. According to enemy claims this year, two million tons have so far been sunk. This means that, in the next nine months, an average of more than 1,300,000 tons monthly will have to be sunk if the enemy wants to prevent an increase in the present size of the merchant fleet of the United Nations.

Further, Berlin's claims of U-boat sinkings have never exceeded 150 ships a month at any season of any year. This means that though there are about

(*Continued on page* 6)

General Montgomery's Tactics

☆

THINGS are happening at a fast pace on the Tunisian front. General Montgomery's forces are moving from success to success. The Eighth Army has captured Gabes, Sfax, Sousse Enfidaville, and Rommel is retreating north into the mountains.

THE Allies have captured Fondouk Pass and the vital communication centre of Kairouan. The break-through which was achieved by an Allied attack at Fondouk was done after extremely severe fighting, and now over the great north plain on which the Luftwaffe had some of its best air fields, the British tanks and French and American infantry are moving.

FROM what might have been a most serious position, Rommel has extricated himself well at the last moment and retreated north beyond Sousse, which was occupied by the Eighth Army on the morning of April 12. This coupled with the capture of Kairouan, a vital communication centre, the previous day by the First Army has contracted the Axis-held area of Tunisia into a ' siege area ' in the north-east corner. We shall leave Rommel in this awkward predicament and take a few steps back and see how General Montgomery's tactics have succeeded in out-manoeuvring a powerful enemy.

WE have already referred to the capture of the Mareth line and the outflanking movement to El Hamma. In passing, it may be noted that Berlin which freely used the term " Mareth Line " now seeks to deny the existence of it and refers to it merely as a " fighting zone." Though strictly speaking, the Mareth Line fortifications do not constitute " a line " as such, but form three lines of a string of fortified positions some nine to ten miles deep, what Berlin seeks to suggest is that there is an absence of prepared defences in that zone.

Tactical Brilliance

THE word " Mareth " has now been added to the list of battle-honours of the British Eighth Army. It was only after hard fighting that this great victory was achieved. In strategic importance it will undoubtedly rank close behind that of El Alamein, and for tactical brilliance even higher. When it was announced on March 23 that Rommel's forces had regained most of the ground which they had lost at the coastal end of the Mareth line, it seemed as though a very serious reverse had happened to us. But looking at it in its proper perspective in the light of all that has since happened, our attack seems to have been something like an experimental probe.

THE infantry fought its way across the terribly difficult Wadi Zig Zaou to the ridge beyond, where it met a series of heavy counter-attacks from the enemy. The way in which these counter-attacks were held at first gave the impression that our infantry could succeed in effecting a break-through. But after some 36 hours, such great pressure was brought to bear by the enemy that our troops were forced back. However, there does not seem to have been very heavy casualties on this account.

THE attack was switched further inland on March 24 and 25 and the Eighth Army occupied some ground south of Wadi Zig Zaou and some three miles north of the Mareth-Medenine Road. Meanwhile, intense air and artillery bombardment was being kept up, which was, of course, having a telling effect on the enemy's supply and communications. It was at this time that an exploratory column consisting of tanks, motorists and foot infantry and guns had been sent on a daring trek around the enemy's western flank.

Two Probes

THE tactical plan of General Montgomery is now seen very clearly, as different pieces emerge as part of a closely knit unity. He drove two probes into Rommel's heavily fortified quadrilateral. One was frontal, and the other enfilading. Each had a purpose of its own. The frontal attack was intended to test the possibility of a direct break-through along the coast and compel Rommel to bring large concentration of his troops and armour to the south-eastern corner of his position. The object of the enfilading probe to El Hamma was to test the feasibility of throwing the main weight of the Eighth Army against the enemy's rear and force Rommel to dissipate his strength in the west as well as in the south. And this purpose was achieved very successfully indeed !

GENERAL MONTGOMERY made a very important decision when he saw that his frontal drive was pushed back and the enfilading probe succeeded in fixing itself deep in the enemy's flank. He moved rapidly the entire bulk of the Eighth Army—guns, infantry and tanks—under cover of darkness around the western slopes of the Matmata Hills and struck north towards El Hamma. This crucial decision of General Montgomery has changed rapidly the further course of the war in Tunisia completely in favour of the Allies.

ROMMEL expected that the Mareth Line would be outflanked, and he was waiting for the attack with a very strong force. He switched everything he could afford against this daring and dangerous thrust at his rear. But the relentless pressure along the Mareth positions was kept up without slackening. In the early hours of the morning, the Eighth Army emerged from the camouflage and began an advance between Tebaga and the Melab heights in six massive columns supported by many hundreds of aircraft overhead. Terrific fighting ensued, and all that Rommel could do was to delay the advance of the Eighth Army for some time and save the Afrika Korps from destruction. His panzer division was badly mauled and he suffered heavy losses in guns and transport—a price which he had to pay to keep open the Gabes gap between the mountains and the sea long enough to enable the bulk of his troops on the Mareth Line to pass through and retreat to the north.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S tactics made the victory of the Mareth-Gabes quadrilateral full and complete. Now the Eighth Army's invasion of Southern Tunisia has merged into the comprehensive plan chalked out by General Eisenhower and General Alexander for throwing out the Axis from North Africa.

☆

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

150 U-boats at sea at any given moment, on an average one U-boat sinks not more than one ship per month. It is also well to bear in mind that the Axis claims of sinkings are roughly 50 per cent greater than the true figures. Dr. GOEBBELS's favourite trick is to dodge the fact that the new shipping output of the United Nations is more than replacing their losses. He does not compare the current month's losses with the current month's output, but compares the losses over a period of a year or more with the output in the same period with a view to showing a marked contrast. This is because the United States shipyards are only just beginning to approach the capacity output. One ship a day was the rate of shipbuilding in America a year ago, but now it has quadrupled, and in two months' time it is expected that America will build five ships a day.

One point that we should remember in regard to the sinkings is that, since the summer of 1942, the rate of new building began to exceed the rate of sinking; the merchant fleet to-day is bigger by more than two million tons than it was then. Even if we take the exaggerated claims of German sinkings, we find that they admit the rate of American production and thereby the fact that America alone has more than replaced the sinkings in the three months, December 1942 to February 1943. The following table clarifies this position :—

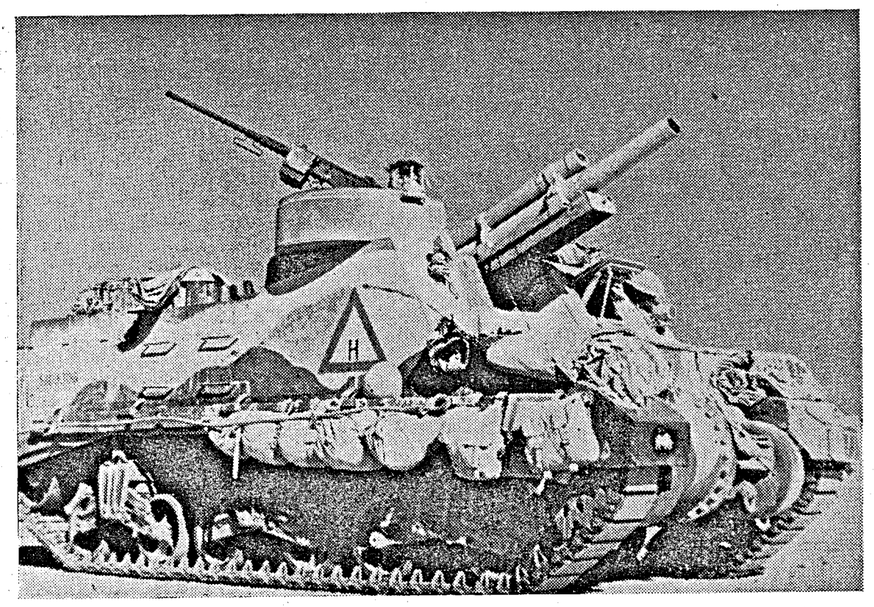
	Berlin Claims of Sinkings.		Output of U.S. Shipyards.	
	Ships.	Gross tons.	Ships.	Gross tons.
December	109	634,800	125	777,000
January	81	522,000	106	705,880
February	90	577,000	130	867,440
	280	1,733,800	361	2,350,320

The fact that the new tonnage produced by the United Nations during the last eight months has exceeded the losses by a good deal more than two million tons has been referred to by Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER, First Lord of the British Admiralty, on March 30. During these months, about seven million tons of new merchant shipping have been completed in the shipyards of United Nations. Our losses for the same period have been less than five million tons. It may be stated that for every two ships lost in the past eight months we have built three.

Shipping Problem of the Axis Powers. Let us now look at the shipping problem of the Axis Powers. Up to the end of February 1943, the Germans had lost 3,365,000 tons of merchant shipping and the Italians 4,027,000 tons. Further 626,000 tons of shipping belonging to the satellites of the Axis Powers had been sunk, captured or damaged. That means a total of 8,018,000 tons of merchant shipping have been lost by the Axis Powers in Europe. It may be pointed out that in 1939 Germany and Italy possessed 7,500,000 tons and have acquired by conquest about 3,000,000 tons and by new construction less than 2,000,000 tons. Deducting the losses, we find that the shipping now at the disposal of the Axis in Europe is not more than 4,500,000 tons and if the losses suffered at the hands of the Red Air Force and the Red Navy are added, this figure will diminish still further by perhaps as much as 1,000,000 tons.

As regards Japan, Colonel KNOX stated on March 27 that about 1,857,000 tons of Japanese shipping had been destroyed. When Japan started the Pacific War, she had not more than 6,000,000 tons. By new construction, it is estimated that 250,000 tons have been added. 250,000 tons of shipping belonging to European Axis powers which were in Far East waters, 220,000 tons Allied shipping acquired by seizure, and 100,000 tons of salvage of sunken Allied vessels may be further added, but even with these additions the total shipping now at the disposal of the Axis in Asia is not more than 5,000,000 tons.

What are Japan's shipping commitments? Between 1,000,000 and 1,750,000 tons of Japanese shipping are devoted exclusively to transport of troops and supplies to the China front. Requirements of other battle fronts at the lowest estimate would come to about 2,500,000 tons. That is to say between 3,500,000 and 4,250,000 tons of Japanese shipping are tied up on account of these present military commitments. This leaves about 750,000 or 1,500,000 tons for the "development" of the co-prosperity sphere. It is obvious that Japan's military operations depend to a considerable extent, on the transportation of vital raw materials of the conquered territories in the South Seas to Japan, and this means that, within a very short time, Japan will have to release shipping by reducing her military commitments so that the transport of materials essential to the maintenance of her munitions production might take place.



GENERAL PRIEST.—The General Priest *is a 105-mm. howitzer on a self-propelled chassis. Having a high turn of speed and being easily manœuvred, it is proving a most effective weapon. One of these guns, it is claimed, has already knocked out 14 German 88-mm. anti-tank guns and 2 enemy tanks.*

Germans Know Everything About War, Except How to Win

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 manœuvres 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 manœuvring 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 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 manœuvres, 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 enfilade 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 Attache, 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 genious 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.

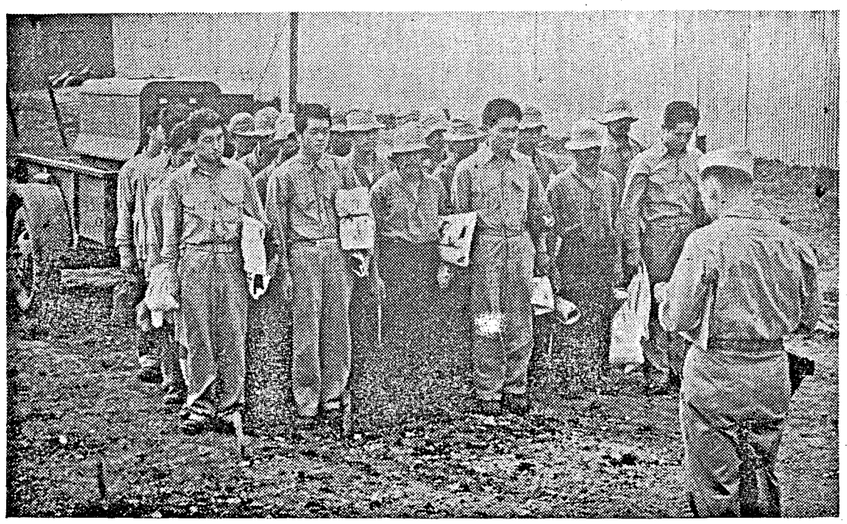
Now the point about the unrestricted U-boat warfare of the last war is that it brought the United States in against Germany. By adding to the list of enemies of Germany an immensely powerful and brave nation, the Germans themselves made their own victory impossible. That is what they always do. They 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—oh, 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

FOR ILLEGAL TRANSPORT OF PADDY AND RICE

Lakshmana Naicken, Velu Servai and Somayya Tevan were convicted of transporting or attempting to transport paddy and rice without permits from the Tanjore district to places outside the district by the Subdivisional Magistrate, Pattukkottai. The first accused was sentenced to 9 months' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 100 or 6 weeks rigorous imprisonment in default, while the second and third accused were sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 50 each or to undergo one month's rigorous imprisonment each in default



JAPANESE PRISONERS LINE UP FOR ROLL CALL.—A United States Navy officer at a Southern Pacific base calls the roll of a group of Japanese prisoners before they are transferred to a prison camp. The prisoners are holding their belongings.

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, focused 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 Petain resolved to break contact with the British Army, and reserve the whole French forces 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.

Strange Generalization

A subaltern knows nothing and does everything; a captain knows everything and does nothing; a major knows nothing and does nothing.

The Challenge of the U-boats

A Review of the Naval War in 1942

By H. C. FERRABY

WE are right bang in the heart of the making of history and so it is a little difficult for us to realise just how important are some of the events in which we take part. The member of a football team doesn't always realise until afterwards that he has taken part in one of the outstanding, historic matches in the records of the game. And so it has been with us during the past year. We have written some remarkable pages of history and not the least remarkable of them have been those connected with the war at sea.

I rather doubt whether even yet the shore-living citizens of the world fully appreciate the stupendous character of that seaborne expedition that started in North-West African Campaign. It is all very well to say that it is the biggest in history. But we can't let it go at that. Its historical importance is far greater than its physical size. It marked the definite seizure of the initiative by the United Nations in the whole strategy of the war, and that seizure was made possible by control of the sea—and, what is more, control of the surface of the sea. That part of the expedition aimed at ports in the Western Mediterranean was venturing into waters in which the enemy had available a powerful battle fleet quite capable materially of interfering with the success of the expedition. Yet it failed completely to make any impression on our plans.

PROVED INEFFECTIVE

In the whole of its passage through the Atlantic the expedition was passing through waters in which during the preceding months the enemy submarines had been doing more damage to shipping than at any corresponding period in the whole course of this war. Yet that subsidiary weapon, the submarine, proved quite ineffective as a challenge to the expedition's movements, and could reduce its strength by no more than one ship out of five hundred. The U-boats' own losses we know to have been thirteen in the course of one week.

These are important historic facts of which we must not lose sight amid the more dramatic stories that capture the headlines in the newspapers. History isn't written in headlines.

If it were we should perhaps have to consider as one of the outstanding facts of the last year the headline of last April: "Japanese Fleet in the Indian Ocean." But the important fact is the headline which did not appear, say during December: "Japanese Fleet no longer in the Indian Ocean." Historically that is by far the more important fact of the two, but it has not been announced in bold type. Yet actually the contrast between those two statements does give us a very fair, general summary of the naval history of 1942 so far as the Far Eastern war is concerned. At its beginning Japan was seemingly on the full flood of success. I said at the time that her achievements presented the glittering appearance of victory. But I said also that it was only an appearance and that she had failed to estimate the real strength of the pressure at sea that would be brought to bear against her when the United States Navy had recovered from the disorganization caused by Pearl Harbour.

She maintained that glittering appearance for nearly four months. In the late spring her spokesmen were talking grandly of her coming advance across the Indian Ocean through Ceylon and right up to Aden. They were talking of Greater East Asia under Japanese control as though it were as firmly established as the British Empire in the nineteenth century. But what of the remaining eight months of that year?

WITHDRAWN FROM INDIAN OCEAN

The Japanese battle fleet was speedily withdrawn from the Indian Ocean when the American naval threat developed in the distant Pacific. The Battles of the Coral Sea and of Midway Island showed Tokyo what it ought to have known all the time—that Japan's freedom of movement by sea was anything but

[*Continued on page* 12]

O

An American soldier now in Northern Ireland is said to have written home:

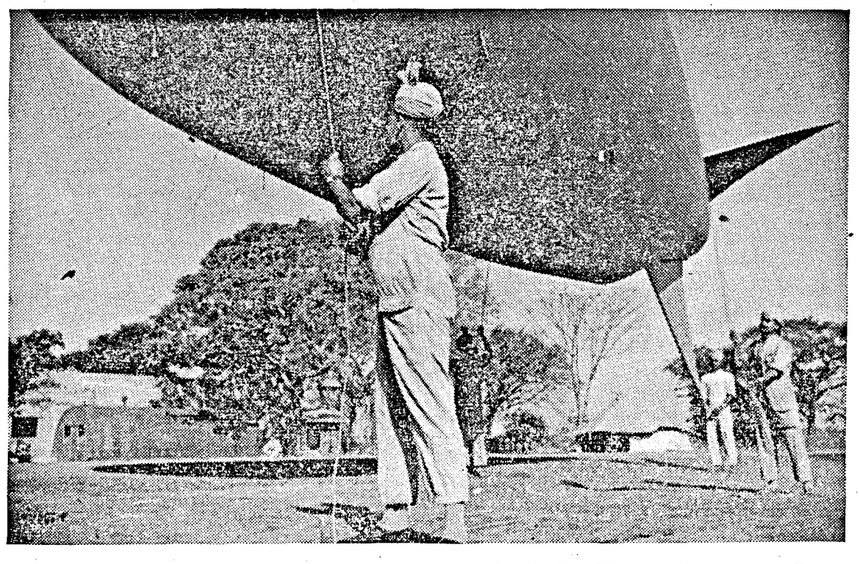
"Dear Dad—Gue$$ what I need mo$t of all. That'$ right, $end it along. Be$t wihe. Your $on, Tom."

The father replied: "Dear Tom—NOthing ever happens here. Write us aNOther letter aNOn. Jimmy was asking about you Monday. NOw we have to say good-bye."

HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

[*Hitler and Mussolini conferred on April 7 on the steps to be taken for the defence of Europe against invasion.*]

◆ ◆ ◆



SILVER FISH OF THE SKIES.—Gently floating in the sky, these harmless looking balloons strike fear into the heart of enemy airmen. The thin hawsers attached to the balloons will tear apart any plane that flies into them, thus keeping the enemy up high. The Battle of Britain proved the value of the men who kept the balloons flying. Their life is often lonely, mostly unexciting, but the part they play in the defence of India is large. Photo shows sepoys steadying a balloon as it rises.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE U-BOATS

[*Continued from page* 10.]

firmly established. From then onwards the slow but remorseless pressure of superior sea strength has been exerted against her. The four months of glittering offensive expansion were followed by eight months of dogged and often unsuccessful defence.

Since the days of Togo and the Russo-Japanese War there has grown up a legend in Japan that her navy is invincible. That legend has been blown to pieces in one encounter after another since last April, and in order to bolster up the remnants among its populace the Japanese Government finds itself forced to copy the German method of inventing totally imaginary enemy losses. Tokyo's recently issued tables of the sinkings of Allied warships during the year is a feat of exaggeration equal to anything that Doctor Goebbels has ever achieved.

The naval struggle in the Far East during the year has made history also in that it has provided us with the first two sea battles ever fought in which the only armament employed was the new air weapon. We have not yet anything like a full account of these two battles and it is much too early to start drawing up definite lessons from them. But we can note, as a guide to further consideration of the influence of the air on war at sea, that on each occasion the opponents appear to have been sparring rather than coming to grips, and that neither battle was decisive in that the fleet which had the worst of the exchanges was able to withdraw and elude further punishment. And it is also instructive to note that subsequently the Japanese, in their attempt to move reinforcements in the Solomon Islands area, were content to depend almost wholly upon escort by surface vessels combined with movement at night when aircraft co-operation was difficult if not impossible.

GRIMMEST PAGE

And what of the history that has been made during 1942 in the Atlantic? This has been the grimmest page written since 1917. Destruction of merchant shipping has proceeded on a scale greater than anything achieved by the U-boats in any of the earlier years of this war. And though we can see some of the reasons for this, it is undoubtedly disappointing. It has meant in effect that the tremendous output of new shipping from the United States yards and the great efforts that have been made in the British and Dominion yards have not done much more than replace the losses of the year. We had counted upon a great accession of carrying power at the start of 1943. That we shall not now get, and one effect of this is already to be seen in the imposing of further rationing restrictions throughout the United States. Sea war can exert an influence far inland.

But parallel with the successes of the U-boats in 1942 we can see also as a historic fact that the United Nations have maintained and increased to an enormous extent the activity of their overseas military expeditions. If you look at the map of the world and count up the number of places where we are known to be on the offensive on land, and add to them the unknown number of oversea bases and supply depots which are being maintained, you will see that the commerce-destruction campaign by the Axis, however much it may have harassed us, has not crippled or checked our ability to use the sea as the greatest and most important strategic highway of the war. There has been loss of life and there has been loss of material on an enormous scale, but the convoys still go through. The U-boat is to-day, as it was in 1917, a serious menace. But it is now, as it was then, a subsidiary weapon. And subsidiary weapons are not the decisive elements in the making of history.—*London Calling.*

'Boat Race' in the Bay of Bengal

An Indian Air Force *Blenheim*, on patrol over the Bay of Bengal, came down in the sea owing to engine trouble. Piloting the aircraft was an Indian Squadron-Leader, a Cambridge graduate, and with him was a British Wing-Commander, an Oxford man.

In the distance was a fishing boat.

The bomber crew, huddled on the wing, held a conference. "I'll swim to it," said the Wing-Commander.

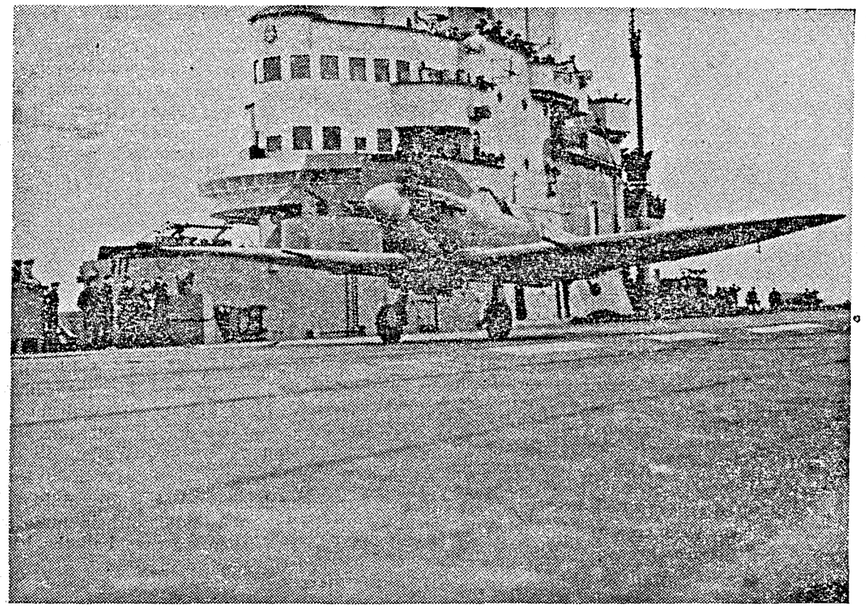
"Come on in, the water's fine," he called, as he struck out.

The next moment the Squadron-Leader and airgunner accepted the invitation. They had to. The bomber sank.

The Squadron-Leader finishes the story:

"Soon my crawl took me past the Wing-Commander's breast stroke, and twenty minutes later we had all been picked up.

"I was first—which proves that Cambridge can win the 'boat' race, even in the Bay of Bengal."



THE "SEAFIRE," THE NAVY'S NEW FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.—High-speed fighters operating from British aircraft carriers, first came into the limelight as the result of their fine work protecting the great Russia convoy from air attacks. Now the Royal Navy has a still newer fighter—the Seafire*—which has already proved its worth in the North Africa operations, when large numbers of them, operating from aircraft carriers, provided fighter protection for the convoys and escorting warships before the Allied occupation of the airfields. The* Seafire, *as its name implies, is a Spitfire modified for the special conditions of working from an aircraft carrier—a development which will undoubtedly have a very important bearing in future naval operations. Photo shows a* Seafire *flying off from an aircraft carrier.*

Battle of the Bridgeheads

FROM lake Ilmen right down to the Sea of Azov, the Russian front is one stupendous battlefield, writes the *Daily Telegraph* military correspondent. On the northern front, south of lake Ilmen, the Russians are attacking fiercely in the face of great natural obstacles and strong opposition.

Their aim, none the less, seems to be primarily defensive—the incorporation of lake Ilmen firmly in their system of defence, thus strengthening both Leningrad and Moscow against attack, respectively from the south and the north. On the central front, having successfully eliminated the salient west of Moscow, they continue their slow but steady advance on Smolensk in the most difficult conditions but though only 40 miles from it, they do not claim that it is threatened yet.

On the southern front a German counter-offensive has been in progress for a month with no sign as yet that it is abating. The fall of Kharkov has been followed by a savage battle on the 300-mile front from Kursk to Voroshilovgrad. Kharkov is a great city and a great railway centre, therefore, a great military base, but it is not a strong place. Kharkov has no Volga at its back to protect its flanks. It stands or falls with the Donetz basin.

Thus with the Germans already on or near the Donetz on a 200-mile front to the south-east, General Golikov made his grim decision. Like Kutosov, before Moscow in 1812, he would yield the city to save his army.

For now the battle rages on the bridgeheads on the Donetz. To all appearance, it is a battle of unprecedented fury. The Germans claim over 50,000 Russians dead. At normal reckoning, this might mean 250,000 Russian casualties. The Germans themselves attacking in superior numbers have probably lost more. For both armies it is indeed blood-letting. Yet of prisoners, the Germans claim less than 20,000, proof enough that their encirclement aim has failed. In fact it is a Russian defensive battle true to the type of Borodin in microcosm. The Germans have taken Byelgorod, stepping stone to Kursk.

RUSSIAN WITHDRAWAL

The Russians admit withdrawal east of Kharkov. But as a whole the Russian line

holds. As we watch this gigantic struggle, which may yet prove to be one of the war's decisive battles, we may ask ourselves: how have the Germans found the means to achieve this sudden reversal of fortunes in the winter campaign and at what further objectives does this German counter-offensive aim?

As to the means, the answer is plain. Most unwillingly at the outset, but latterly not without intention, the Germans have shortened their line, a process which has resulted automatically in increased depth not only for defence but for attack.

It is true that the Germans have at the same time withdrawn formations from the west but these withdrawals seem to have amounted to little more than the normal interchange of shattered divisions for fresh troops. Furthermore, the Russian front is one battlefield. And a commander who considers his dispositions for a battle seldom plans to make all parts of his front of equal strength. Where he means to gain decision, there he must have strength and to spare: elsewhere he may have to accept reverses so long as he can restore the situation at last in his own way and time.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE AIMS

As to the aims of the prolonged German counter-offensive these may now be relatively small or great. A lesser aim is indisputable. It is to re-establish the front from where it now runs east of Orel to the head of the waters of the Donetz and thence along the Donetz—with bridgeheads on the further north-eastern bank—to link up with the Mius front to Taganrog.

It has been supposed reasonably enough, that before the Wehrmacht could be capable of more, it needed some months at least to heal it of its grievous wounds. Events may still bear out or rebut this view. For a month now the German command has persisted in its offensive regardless of the blood-letting it can so ill afford. It has flung into the cauldron not much short of half of the Wehrmacht's armour, great masses of the Luftwaffe and a part of Himmler's precious Waffen SS divisions.

If the Russians succeed in confining the Germans within the limits of their immediate lesser objective, then we may hail the battle as a great Russian victory.

Magic Mountain of Iron

THE Magic Mountain, they call it: a towering peak of pure iron thrown up by some strange natural freak on one of the toughest and wildest plains in the tropics.

And the Magic Mountain was revealed by the Colonial Office in London recently as Britain's number one source of iron ore, now that we can get none from Sweden.

About ten years ago, a group of Scotsmen set out to investigate travellers' tales about an iron mountain, named Marampa, in the most desolate part of Sierra Leone in West Africa. From the Freetown harbour, these Scotsmen started on a trip up the Rokel river where crocodiles, typhus and malaria abound.

Fifty-two miles they sailed past swampy villages on water's edge. Then they saw the Magic Mountain, a formidable volcanic hill, its surface glinting blood red in the sun.

It looked like a gigantic steak and kidney pudding, they said afterwards, and the pudding was the 10 per cent crust consisting of crude red ore and 90 per cent steak and kidney: the finest quality of iron ore. So rich in iron it was that the job was not so much to mine the ore as to move it from the mountain.

Under the direction of their manager, Mr. Alec Lyle, of Angus, the Scotsmen set about building a plant.

It was no easy job. The machinery had to be unloaded at the mouth of the river and taken up to Marampa in lighters. There was no skilled labour. A railway had to be built to carry the ore from the mountain to the sea. These Scotsmen received scant encouragement as they built their plant. Britain was getting the iron she wanted from Sweden cheaply in those days before the war. But they did not give up.

The mountain looks like an almost half-eaten pudding now.

Thirty-six truck trains are bringing 1,000 tons of ore at a time down the 52-mile track to the sea now. That railway can deal with 5,000 tons daily. —*Daily Express.*

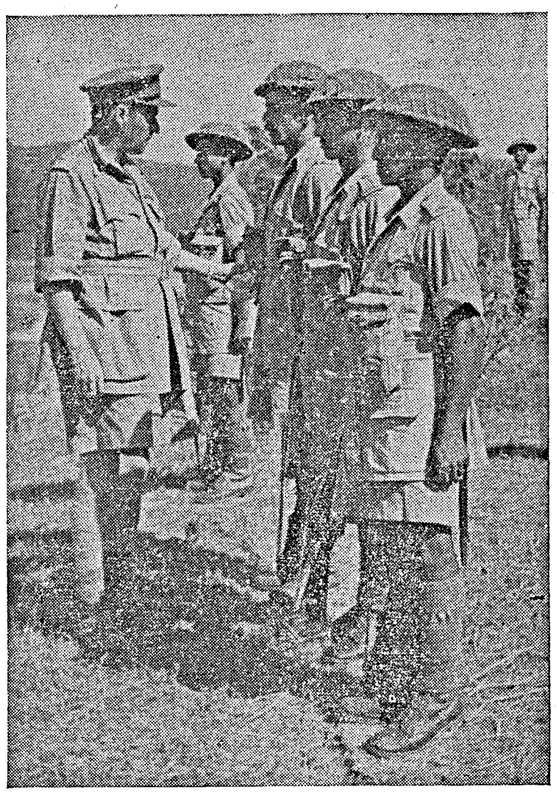
200 PER CENT FIT!

There is a story going about that when Mr. Churchill visited the Eighth Army and congratulated General Montgomery on his victory, Montgomery (who, to use Mr. Churchill's own description of him, is a stern, Cromwellian figure) said: "I don't smoke, and I take plenty of exercise, I keep regular hours and I'm a hundred per cent fit." Mr. Churchill, with a wave of his cigar, retorted: "I smoke, I take no exercise, I keep irregular hours, and I'm 200 per cent fit!".

—*MacDonald Hastings in a B.B.C. Talk.*

ARMY COMMANDER IN BURMA

★



Up in the forward areas Lieutenant-General N. M. S. Irwin has been visiting and talking with the men. Photo shows Lieutenant-General Irwin talking to some of the troops.

Lieutenant-General Irwin talking with some of his officers.

★

Turkey has A New Medjlis

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

ON February 28, Turkey elected her deputies. Four hundred and fifty-five deputies were returned and this is an increase according to revised statistics of 26 seats and not 35 as I had assumed in a previous dispatch. This means that Turkey has now 650,000 men and women more, over the age of nineteen, 650,000 more than four years ago.

Before going any further let us dwell on this point. Turkey is composed practically entirely of Anatolian soil, European Turkey being but a very small contribution to the whole. Anatolia was once upon a time the granary of the old world but neglect and deforestation turned the central Anatolian plateau into a wilderness. Only the fringes bordering the sea were populated. It was Kemal Ataturk's desire that colonisation of Anatolia should be planned from within, that is from the wilderness towards the green sea bordering fringes. He knew that the settlers of the more fertile regions of Anatolia would not have the energy to work their way inland.

INCREASE IN POPULATION

He chose Ankara right in the middle of the barren plateau as the capital of modern Turkey. And then Turkey began to colonize the barren plateau with immigrants from Greece, who had been exchanged for Greeks living in Asia Minor, and Turks from Roumania—The Roumanian Doorudja—and so slowly with the influx of immigrants grew the population of Turkey. For years this was the main cause for Turkey's growth of population. Since the last elections in spring 1939, the frontiers have been closed all the time. In the first place the countries from which came the Turks were mobilising and therefore reluctant to give up any male population and secondly Turkey was not very eager to receive immigrants from abroad at a delicate moment. Therefore, since that time there was no immigration.

The increase in the number of deputies represents an increase of 650,000 over the age of nineteen. The increase in the whole age groups must be something like 900,000—1,000,000 souls.

NATION'S NEW DISPUTIES

But let us come back to the new Medjlis. This time there are 149 new deputies that means that 30 per cent of the new deputies have been elected for the first time. The people who voted in the second degree had a good deal to do with this change. For the first time in modern Turkish elections in sixty per cent of the constituencies, the choice of electing the final list came to the second degree voters. So they chose and it seemed that they preferred the younger generations and those who had not sat in the Medjlis to those who had for many years. The Turkish people taught some of the older generations that the Medjlis is not a sinecure or an old age pensions institution where those with previous merits could sit and sleep peacefully thus obstructing the way to future generations. Doctors and Generals were in the first place sent back to private life, although 8 new doctors and 5 generals were elected.

The most bitter defeat to be suffered by any one was that of Yunus Nadi Albaoglu, deputy of Mugla for over 20 years. He was not re-elected and was beaten in his own constituency by the news editor of the *Djumhuryiet* of Istanbul, a paper with pro-Nazi sympathies which Yunus Nadi owns. The tendency of his paper has earned him the sobriequet of Julius Nazi.

NEW OUTLOOK

The Turkish people have received the New Medjlis with a certain satisfaction because they have themselves contributed to renew the atmosphere in the Medjlis and to lower the average age of the new house. One must not, however, expect wide sweeping reforms from the new Medjlis. Slowly the country is going over to democracy as we know it. I have said this all along and all I want to do just now is to underline the slow, cautious but sure progress in this direction. Turkey has now the war-and-transition Parliament. I had forecast about 120 new deputies, 149 were actually elected.

Bulgaria's Fear

IT is fully believed in the Balkans, as in Turkey, that the Allied invasion of Europe must begin as soon as North Africa has been cleared of the enemy, says the *Daily Telegraph's* Ankara correspondent. Newspapers in Bulgaria draw attention to the possibility of invasion by way of Bulgaria, and point to the fortification of the islands in the Aegean, especially Mudros Bay in Lemnos Island. The evacuation of Bulgarian and Rumanian cities and the special air raid precautions which have been taken in both countries show a fear that the blow will come in this direction.

Germany, already hard pressed for manpower, has no soldiers for the defence of the Balkans. She can spare only a few technical troops, a.-a. defences and fighter planes. Defence of the Balkans is, therefore, left to 30 Bulgarian and 20 Italian divisions. The fighter strength of the Balkans is estimated at 300 planes.

There are strong German forces in Crete—where they have three divisions—in Greek harbours and one on Bulgaria's Black Sea shore. There is feverish activity throughout the Balkans to mobilise labour for defence works.

"Mayling, the youngest and most versatile of the Soong sisters, is known and admired all over the world as Madame Chiang-Kai-shek." Photo shows Madame Chiang-Kai-shek at a tea party in Chungking given in honour of Mr. Wendell Willkie, President Roosevelt's special representative. She is now in the United States of America returning Mr. Willkie's visit.

Leaders of China's Womanhood

THE Soong sisters are the three most remarkable women in China to-day. Their keen intelligence, organizing ability, wit and charm would make them stand out as leaders in any community; but in China they represent not only all that is finest in Chinese women to-day, but the whole effort of the Chinese women to work on terms of equality with men, for victory in their war for freedom.

The three sisters are very distinct personalities, and each has made her special contribution to China in her own way. Eling, the eldest sister, is the wife of Dr. H. H. Kung, China's Finance Minister. An expert on finance in her own right, she has perhaps a more severe practical outlook than the other two.

When the Japanese attacked China in August 1937, Madame Kung threw herself into war work, discovering her marked talent for organization and business. She provided ambulances and trucks for the army out of her private funds, started well-equipped hospitals on her own initiative, organized the sale of Liberty Bonds. When the Industrial Co-operatives were started, Madame Kung gave the movement her full support, and she takes a keen interest in textile and other manufactures. She hopes that in time Chinese women may find greater freedom and leisure when their household work is lightened by running water and mechanical appliances.

CHINGLING THE IDEALIST

Chingling, the second sister, is an idealist, beautiful in character and appearance, who has devoted her life to carry on the work of her husband, Dr. Sun Yat-sen. She married him at the age of 20, when he had only a few more years to live, strenuous years spent in the political education of his people. Chingling worked hard as Dr. Sun's secretary, dealing with his French and English correspondence. After his death she continued his work in the Kuomintang School and served on the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang. When the breach came between Chiang-Kai-shek and the Communists, she retired from public life, urging in her farewell message that the new China must be built on the foundations of the people and peasants. The guerilla warfare which the country people are waging everywhere to-day has justified her prophetic words. Madame Sun was the first of the three sisters to take an active interest in and give her support to the Industrial Co-operatives.

MAYLING

Mayling, the youngest and most versatile sister, is known and admired all over the

world as Madame Chiang Kai-shek. Her energy, courage and practical ability have been tested in many different fields. She has reorganized the Chinese air force, she deals with all the Generalissimo's foreign contacts and correspondence, she directs women's war work, and personally trains teachers to go into the country and organize health centres. She has started war orphanages where thousands of homeless children are growing up in safety and being cared for and educated. Her recent address to the United States Congress has been acclaimed as one of the best speeches ever made by the representative of a foreign power.

War has brought the Soong sisters closer together than at any time since their childhood. Differences of opinion, which divided them politically though never personally, are sunk in the common determination to do all they can to further China's war effort. Chinese women look to them for leadership and inspiration, and their place in history is secured as the three women who have contributed most to the making of modern China.

Sino-British Alliance

WRITING on the forthcoming visit to Britain of Dr. T. V. Soong, the Chinese Foreign Minister, the *Sao Tang Jih Pao* remarks that it will further strengthen the Sino-British alliance. The paper reviews at length the close co-operation and help that Britain has given to China since 1935, when China established her new financial system, and the help given to China by British banking concerns in Shanghai and Hong Kong in working out her financial policy. It recalls the aid given by Britain—by both people and Government in China's war of resistance, aid which has immensely helped in sustaining China's courage and fortifying her confidence in ultimate victory. Despite Britain's own difficulties, the paper continues, that co-operation remains unrelaxed. It cites the £5,000,000 loan for the Chinese stabilization fund and the £10,000,000 credit loan.

In view of her traditional Far Eastern policy Great Britain always needs a trustful friend in the Far East to make British interests there secure, the paper declares. To-day the security of the entire Far East is threatened by aggressive Japan. To remove that barrier to security, it is obviously necessary for China and Britain to strengthen their co-operation. The paper observes that in view of China's needs at the moment, British co-operation is necessary either to restore the function of the Burma Road or to open other routes. Strengthening of the Sino-British alliance is thus demanded both objectively and by practical necessity, says the paper. Such strengthening would be an important sign of solidarity among the United Nations, which in turn would constitute a great force in the defeat of violence and aggression.

Japanese and American Sinkings

ACCORDING to a tabulation made by the American Associated Press, which is based on United States and Allied communiqués and announcements, Japanese shipping losses in the Pacific by April 4 were increased to 535. This figure represents Japanese ships of all types that have been sunk since the attack on Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941.

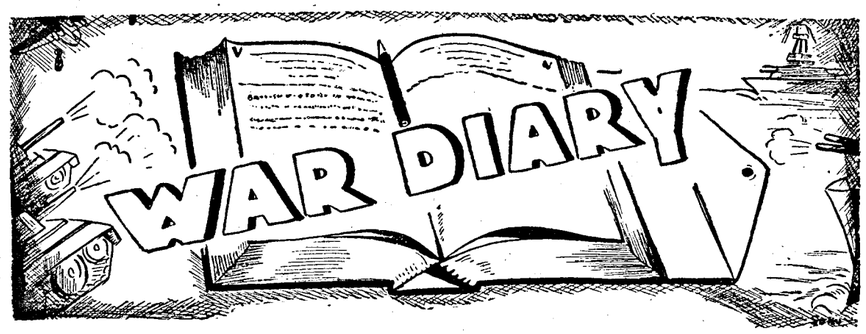
Japanese and American sinkings are tabulated as follows :—

	Japanese.	United States.
Battleships	3	1
Air-craft-carriers ..	6	4
Cruisers	42	8
Destroyers	75	23
Submarines	35	..
Transports	114	7
Merchantmen	200	12
Torpedo boats	1	11
Minesweepers	10	6
Gunboats	7	5
Patrolboats	7	1
Oilers	7	3
Auxiliaries	9	4
Miscellaneous	19	4
Total ..	535	89

The American total of 89 ships refers only to those in the Pacific and the Far Eastern waters. The United States has not announced any losses as a result of any action against the Japanese since February 16.

42 Grandsons in the Army

A 78-year-old Kazakh, Ashim Ibrayev, living in the village of Akbulum, in the Jamboul region, has recently sent his 42nd grandson to the Red Army. All the 42 grandsons of this Kazakh are fighting at the fronts. The Ibrayev family has so far destroyed 200 German Fascists. The old man, Ashim Ibrayev, himself is working as a supply agent for the co-operative societies; he has collected non-ferrous metal and scrap since the beginning of the war in quantity sufficient to produce 2,000 shells.



BRITAIN AND GERMANY

8th Apr.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, made a statement in the Commons on his recent visit to United States. On the question of world peace, he said that the American people shared the view that some authority was needed to ensure by force that neither Germany, Italy nor Japan would be able to repeat their aggression.

9th Apr.—It was revealed that 70 German aircraft were destroyed by the American air force in the raid on Renault works on April 4.

The Royal Air Force damaged a wireless station near Ushant. Enemy air field at Triquiville, near Le Havre was also bombed.

A heavy attack on objectives in the Ruhr was made by aircraft of the Bomber Command.

10th Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked Duisburg and other objectives in the Ruhr. Aircraft of the Coastal Command attacked enemy shipping off the Norwegian coast.

11th Apr.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in South-west Germany and the eastern Reich territory. Transport targets were attacked in France, Holland and Belgium. It was revealed that Krupps works were almost devastated as a result of the Royal Air Force raids on March 5 and 13 and April 3.

Air Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory, Chief of the Fighter Command, revealed that since January this year, 121 German planes out of 960 which crossed the English coast were destroyed.

Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Minister of Production, said: "The spring of our liberation from war has begun. We shall soon be in the high summer of military success."

General de Gaulle presided over a special meeting of the French National Committee called to hear General Catroux's report which said that almost all Frenchmen in north and west Africa were eager to see the establishment of central and provincial French authority as soon as possible. The formation of a Triumvirate to rule the French Empire (formed by General Giraud, General de Gaulle and General Catroux), it was announced, would be placed before the fighting French National Committee.

12th Apr.—Sir Charles Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in presenting the Budget to the Parliament, said that the United Kingdom had spent £1,500 million in the United States on supplies, munitions and capital equipment since the war started. The value of British munitions sent to Russia was £170 million sterling. The cost of the war had reached £13,000 million. The total British expenditure including debt charges throughout the war period was £15,600 million. Britain was spending 15 millions sterling daily on the war.

13th Apr.—The German Radio admitted that Soviet bombers attacked Koenigsberg in north-eastern Germany.

Light coastal forces had short, sharp engagements with enemy patrol craft close to the Dutch coast. Considerable damage was caused to the enemy craft and many casualties were inflicted.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

8th Apr.—In the report of the Institute of Pacific Relations, a proposal was made for the creation of a policy-making United Nations Council, with a subsidiary regional council for the Pacific area.

The Bolivian Government published a decree on April 7 declaring Bolivia at war with the Axis powers and ordering general mobilisation.

10th Apr.—Col. Knox, United States Secretary for Navy, in a broadcast said that the tonnage of the United States fighting fleet would increase by 66 per cent this year.

M. Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador to the United States and the First Soviet Minister to Cuba, told a Press Conference that it was premature to shout "Victory."

11th Apr.—Mr. Philip Murray, President of the Congress of Industrial Organization, said that the United States, in its desire to expedite the production of war materials, had produced far more than the United Nations could use

13th Apr.—Launching a second United States war loan drive to raise 13,000 million dollars by the end of April, Mr. Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary for the Treasury, said that a second front was just over the horizon.

Col. Knox, Secretary for Navy, said: "We still will have to clear up the Mediterranean before the shipping situation is greatly improved. Tunis can be of tremendous advantage."

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

8th Apr.—Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons that India had provided accommodation and, where necessary, support for over 400,000 evacuees.

Bombers of the United States air force attacked Mahlwagon railroad yards in Rangoon. The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Central Burma.

10th Apr.—Royal Air Force planes bombed the Japanese-occupied villages of Angumaw and Magyichaung in the Mayu Peninsula. Enemy road and river transport were machine-gunned in the Taungup area.

A formation of enemy fighters which appeared over south-east Bengal was driven off.

The *Times*, writing on the Arakan campaign, said: "The recovery of Burma and relief of China both depend primarily on a combination of superior sea and air power. . . Until then operations in the Arakan must remain in essence diversionary and defensive."

11th Apr.—The Royal Air Force fighter patrols machine-gunned enemy targets on the Irrawaddy.

12th Apr.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Myitkyina railway line. An enemy-occupied village in the Mayu Peninsula was also bombed.

13th Apr.—The Royal Air Force bombed Yegyanbyin and Aungdaing on the Akyab island and Japanese troops near Ehkaung. Attacks were also made on Paletwa and on Naba junction.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

8th Apr.—According to well-informed circles in Rome, Hitler and Mussolini conferred on the steps to be taken for the defence of Europe against invasion.

Heavy bombers attacked Naples starting fires. Messina was also raided. Liberator bombers attacked Palemo.

The Eighth Army linked up with United States forces from Gafsa. General Montgomery said: "My troops fought splendidly. The fighting was as tough as anything since El Alamein." He also sent congratulations to the General Officer Commanding the Fourth Indian division on the brilliant victory at Wadi Arakit. General Eisenhower sent congratulations on the successful operations.

Mr. Stimson, United States War Secretary, said that the ultimate Allied objective in Tunisia was the destruction of the German Army. It was revealed that 150 Axis planes were destroyed. Axis ground forces also were strafed.

9th Apr.—Sicily and Sardinia were evacuated. It was reported that the Italian Government was likely to shift to Florence or Bologna owing to the recent appearance of Allied planes over Rome.

The Algiers Radio stated that the British were 27 miles from Tunis. Axis forces evacuated Pichon and abandoned Mehares and Mezzouna. Rommel's troops still clinging to the Axis salient west of Noual were in grave danger of being trapped.

At least 130 Axis vehicles were destroyed by the Desert Air Force and more than 200 damaged in attacks on Rommel's retreating forces.

The town of Sfax was again bombed. General Montgomery continued to chase the Afrika Korps which was in full flight.

10th Apr.—The Eighth Army took Sfax. British and American forces took the high ground north and south of Fondouk with 500 prisoners. Rommel once more headed north after the fall of Sfax. General Mannerini, an Italian General, and the headquarters of his Saharan group were captured.

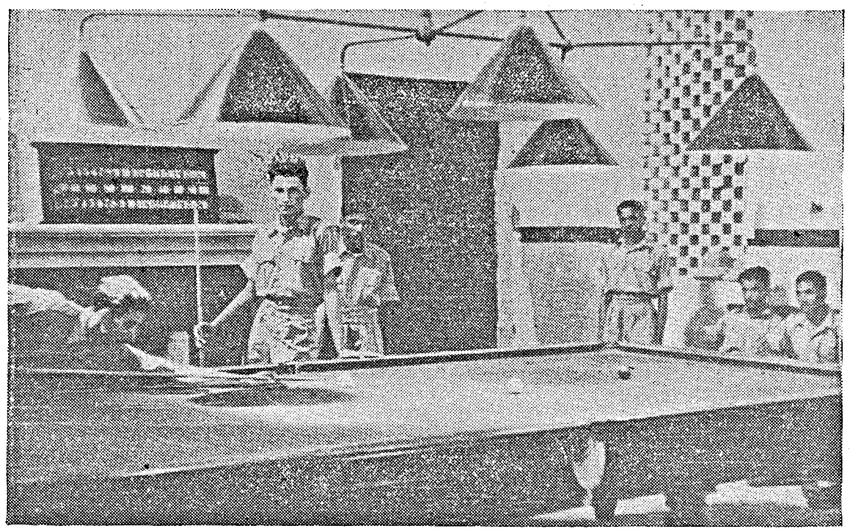
General Montgomery's order to the Eighth Army stated: "I doubt if our Empire has ever possessed such a magnificent fighting machine as the Eighth Army. It may become a household word all over the world. The triumphant cry now is, 'Forward to Tunis to drive the enemy into the sea'."

11th Apr.—Naples was bombed by the air-force of the United States Ninth Army.

The Allies captured Fondouk Pass and Rommel withdrew beyond Sousse. The American forces were 10 miles from Kairouan. The Axis evacuated the important airfield of La Fauconnerie, north-west of Sfax. An enemy convoy was attacked off the Tunisian Coast. Two Italian heavy Cruisers, *Trieste* and *Corizia*, were hit in La Madallena Harbour in Sardinia. Twenty-seven enemy aircraft were shot down.

12th Apr.—Allied troops occupied Sousse and Kairouan. All Tunisia lay within effective fighting reach of Allied short-range fighters. Palermo was again attacked. Docks and shipping at Tunis and Sicily were bombed.

According to a British Admiralty Communiqué. British submarines destroyed or damaged 15 Axis vessels in the Mediterranean.



The Canteen at the A.F.T.T.S. at Ambala, is equipped with two billiard tables, and those who do not play look on, but most of the men "take a cue" and frequent competitions are staged for the enthusiasts.

13th Apr.—According to an Italian communiqué, during the last few weeks the Italian navy lost by air and naval action three torpedo boats, two submarines and one cruiser.

The Algiers Radio stated that General Montgomery's advanced guards reached Enfidaville. An Indian battalion captured an entire German unit of 400 men. Axis forces in Maknassy were trapped.

Four hundred Italian soldiers lost their lives when an Italian transport was torpedoed off Tunis by British submarine.

According to *Reuter's* special correspondent, the North African campaign to date had caused the German and Italian forces 1,253 planes. Allied losses were 498 machines.

In a book entitled *One World* (the full story of the 31,000-mile flight which took Mr. Wendell Wilkie around the world to north Africa, Russia and China last August), he paid a tribute to General Montgomery: "The wiry, scholarly, intense, almost fanatical personality of General Montgomery made a deep impression on me."

14th Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked Italy. Eighth Army units were in contact with the Axis forces at Sebkha Kelbia, a salt lake 20 miles west of Sousse.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

8th Apr.—The Soviets captured several favourable positions south of Izyum. Two-hundred Germans were killed and four guns destroyed. Four German aircraft were shot down.

9th Apr.—German attempts to break-through the Upper Donetz line south of Balakleya were frustrated. The Russians also smashed attacks south of Izyum. In the Kuban, the Soviets consolidated their positions.

10th Apr.—Novorossisk was under siege. The Russian heavy artillery pulverised German positions. Fresh German attacks were beaten back in the Upper Donetz positions. On the Central front, the Red Army won new ground. Torrential rain held up the Soviet offensive in the Kuban.

11th Apr.—According to *Reuter's* special correspondent: "The general opinion in Russia is that a race has now begun between the Allies and Germany for a final blow this year. The problem, as the Russians see it, is whether the Germans will have time to strike again in Russia before the Continent is invaded."

12th Apr.—Massing of German troops on the Leningrad front was reported. The Soviets dropped parachutists in occupied countries. German attacks failed on the Donetz bridgehead.

13th Apr.—In the Kuban, 25 German planes were shot down. On the Donetz front, repeated attacks cost the Germans heavy casualties.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

9th Apr.—M. Yalchin, writing in *Yeni Sahab*, said: "The Germans should not believe that they can treat Turkey like

occupied countries or those under the German yoke—if they do, Turkey is strong enough to kick out the German Commercial Mission with empty hands."

* * * *

SHIPPING

9th Apr.—It was announced that the British destroyer *Harvester* was torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic in March.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

8th Apr.—According to the German News Agency, the Greek government, headed by Professor Logotehetopoulos, had resigned and Joannis Rhallys, the well-known Greek politician, had formed a new Cabinet.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

8th Apr.—Mr. Stimson, United States War Secretary, said that there were indications that the Japanese were increasing their air strength in the south-west Asiatic theatres, but the United States Air Forces had also increased and would be still further increased shortly.

Mr. Walter Nash, New Zealand Minister to Washington, said: "It appears that Japanese expansion has stopped. We are hitting out but are not ready just yet for a major offensive effort." Ninety-eight Japanese planes attacked American shipping near Guadalcanar. A Flying Fortress strafed three ships of a Japanese convoy at Kavieng.

On the anniversary of the fall of Bataan, General MacArthur issued the following message: "A year ago to-day, the dimming light of Bataan, a forlorn ray of hope, fluttered and died. . . Our faithful Filipino wards—16 million souls—gasp in the slavery of the conquering soldiery. . . I pray that the merciful God may not delay too long their redemption."

9th Apr.—Mr. J. B. Chifley, Commonwealth Treasurer, said that four months' campaign in New Guinea alone had cost £150 million. He added that the war might go on for years.

The report of the Institute of Pacific Relations Conference proposed that Allied troops should occupy Tokyo temporarily after the war and Japan should be completely disarmed and deprived of her entire empire including Korea, Manchuria and the mandated islands.

Mr. Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, said: "The Pacific had become a front of lost opportunities. The war will be lost or won in the Pacific."

Mr. J. O. Makin, Commonwealth Minister of Navy and Munitions, said: "Japan has at least 60 airfields in the island arc north of Australia. Japanese strategy is now one of infiltrating through the island arc."

Japanese positions on Kahili in the Solomons were bombed. Allied planes bombed and strafed Japanese barges off Kaukenau. It was reported that the Japanese may withdraw from Lae and Salamaua.

10th Apr.—There was fierce fighting round the treaty port of Swatow in southern-eastern Kwantung province. The fighting followed a Chinese raid which caused considerable damage.

11th Apr.—Ten-thousand Japanese troops, supported by aircraft, launched an attack on the Chinese positions between Tsingtao and Tsinan in northern Shantung province.

Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, said: "Our fighting men will be fighting the enemy for many grim months, may be years, and supplies will be used up in staggering quantities."

12th Apr.—Forty-five Japanese dive bombers and fighters attacking Allied shipping at Oro in New Guinea were defeated by Allied fighters. Twenty-three Japanese planes were shot out of action. Japanese positions were bombed in the Solomons and Aleutians.

13th Apr.—General Blamey, Commander-in-Chief of the Australian land forces in Australia, said that Japan had concentrated 200,000 first-line troops and a great air force north of Australia and may be expected to undertake an offensive at any time.

Commenting on Gen. Blamey's statement, Col. Knox, U.S. Secretary for the Navy, said that a Japanese attack on Australia would require a tremendous sea force and that the Japanese had no such a sea organization north of Australia.

About 100 Japanese aircraft raided Port Moresby of which 37 were destroyed. Five Japanese bases in the Solomons were raided by U.S. aircraft.

AMERICANS IN INDIAN ARMY

Because they believe that it offers the best chance to shoot back at the Axis, six former members of the American Field Service, all of whom have been under fire in the Western Desert, have joined the Indian Army.

These men, having served their contracted year in the American ambulance service, decided that they wanted to go into fighting units, and volunteered as cadets.

The Americans were naturally inclined to join the United States Army, but feared that by the time they returned to their homes, completed the necessary training, and got to a theatre of war, the war would be over.

RAMA DEEPA

RAMA DEEPA is a new device for burning vegetable oils or kerosene for lighting. It is simple in construction and easy of manipulation. Vegetable oil lamps hitherto produced have two oil tanks, one above the other with a feeding pipe to supply oil to the wick. They are not suitable for the use of kerosene oil as fuel.

Rama Deepa is a dual oil lamp and therefore its purchaser will be no loser by his investment, even if kerosene comes back into common use. It covers a wide range of lighting devices to serve all purposes—hurricane lantern, table light, platform (railway) light, bed lights and naked flame 'buddi'.

Since some of the models of Rama Deepa are above the means of the poorer classes, the National War Front, Madras, have arranged with Messrs. Rama Deepa Works, Dowlaishweram (East Godavari District) to manufacture, on a large scale, three of the cheaper varieties of Rama Deepa lights, the bed room lantern, the bed light and the naked flame light.

The stamp of the National War Front will be imprinted on each lamp, and retail prices are fixed for the present at one rupee (bed room lantern), nine annas (bed light) and two annas (naked flame light).

A cheap lighting device alone will not wholly solve the problem for the poor villager. Availability of the illuminant and the cost of lighting have to be taken into consideration. With this end in view, various vegetable oils have been tried with the above lamps and the results are given below. The capacity of the oil tank in the bed lantern and the bed room light is 3 ounces and the duration of light is noted below in the case of each oil:—

3 oz. of groundnut oil burns for	..	21 hours.
,, pungam (karanji) oil	..	20 ,,
,, margosa oil	..	24 ,,
3 oz. of mahwa (Ippa, Illuppah) oil.		20 hours
,, tobacco oil	..	21 ,,
,, mustard mixed with 25 per cent groundnut.		

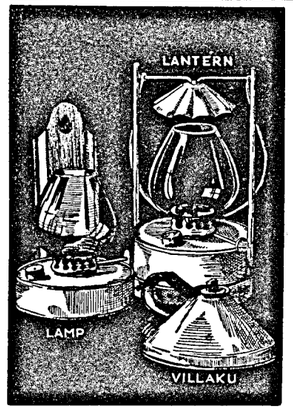
Mahwa (Il- luppah) oil cannot be used in winter as it congeals like coconut oil.

Margosa oil burns longest, and, assuming that the price of one viss (3lb.) of any oil is one rupee, costs the user about one anna per week at the rate of 3 or 4 hours per day, making a monthly lighting cost of about four annas.

With all the above oils, Rama Deepa lights will burn continuously for about eight hours without adjustment of the wick; the flame dies out only when the last drop of the oil is consumed.

The National War Front hopes that the people of South India will use the vegetable oil available in their locality for their lighting and thus save kerosene for essential purposes. They will thus make a substantial contribution to the self-sufficiency drive, since indigenous, and not imported, products will thus be used for essential needs.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT
RAMA DEEPA LAMP



BEDROOMLAMP Rs.1-
BEDROOMLANTERN as.9
VILLAKU as.2

NOTE
3 OZS. OF GROUNDNUT OIL (COST AS.1) WILL GIVE 18 HOURS OF LIGHT. THEREFORE, AT 3 HOURS PER NIGHT A POOR FAMILY WILL HAVE LIGHT FOR A MONTH FOR ABOUT AS.5.

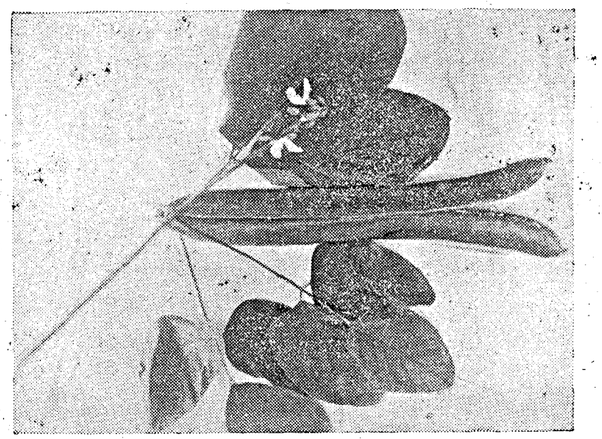
DISTRIBUTORS, SRIPADA NARASIMHA BROS. COCANADA

BURN VEGETABLE OIL
SAVE KEROSINE FOR THE WAR

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Beans and Peas

Sword Bean



Canavalia gladiata, Lat.; *Family Leguminosae*; *Valavarai*, Tam.; *Valavarakka*, Mal.

Description.—A large woody twiner and a perennial; leaves are trifoliate, like that of the ordinary bean. Flowers in the form of racemes; flowers may be pink or white. The pods are large and flat and contain usually more than 10 seeds.

Propagation.—From seeds which can be obtained from dry pods. Seeds are sown in well-prepared beds and buried about an inch deep. Well-rotted cattle manure should be added occasionally.

Cultivation.—The plants are allowed to climb over a trellis, or a fence. Pods are produced in about three or four months; though the plant may appear to die down in summer, it sprouts again when rains set in. Best suited to the plains.

Uses.—The immature pods are used for curries. The tender seeds may be peeled and used as broad-beans.

General analysis.—Water 88·6 per cent; mineral 0·6 per cent; proteins 2·7 per cent.; fat 0·2 per cent; fibre 1·5 per cent; carbohydrate 6·4 per cent; calories per lb. 190; calcium 0·126 per cent; phosphorus 0·092 per cent; iron 0·002 per cent; vitamin B, I.U. per 100 gms. 25; vitamin C mgms. per 100 gms. 50.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1943 No. 33

The time is very NEAR

Dr. BENES

Hungary is seeking to make contact with the Allies by all possible means and will betray Germany at the appropriate moment. Bulgaria has up to the present avoided direct warfare as best she might and is waiting the appropriate moment to change her front. Finland is now sending messages to the Allies saying she is ready to stop war at any time. Antonescu's Rumania is gambling with everything she has and will probably be the first to slip away from the Axis. And in Italy itself, the last Government change was caused by the fact that a plot had been discovered which aimed at getting Italy out of the hands of the Germans. As soon as the first major military invasion units of the Allies stand on the Continent, everything will begin to move. The time is already very near, be prepared for it

Dr. BENES, President of Czechoslovakia, in an Easter Broadcast on April 26

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Adding Fresh Laurels	4–5
Choice before Axis Partners	10
The Balkans are worried	10
Battle of Britain in Reverse	11
Lend-Lease in Reverse	12
Taxation without Tyranny	14
Eighth Army is a Citizen Army	16
The German Navy is at Sea	17
"A Film of Miracles Acted by Supermen"	18
U.S.S.R. reads Shelley	19
Kerosene Economy Lamps	20
War Diary	21

America's Newest Submarine

A new American Submarine "two and a half times as dangerous as some of the submarines we started fighting with," is described by John A. Moroso, war correspondent of the Associated Press of America.

The submarine cost $6,000,000, plus the value of the materials and equipment which the Navy added, he says. Its torpedo tubes—six forward and four aft—make it very effective. On the surface it displaces 1,500 tons, has a speed of over 20 knots, and is over 300 feet long and streamlined. In contrast with the old submarines, it has these features: air-conditioning, superior refrigeration compartments to store fresh foods on long trips, washing machines, and sunlamps for men who often go many weeks without seeing the sun, shower baths, built-in-radios, phonographs and libraries.

◆ ◆ ◆

Russia's New Fighting Machine

The largest war plant in the Southern Urals has begun producing a new type of fighting machine the designers of which were recently awarded Stalin Prizes. By May Day the Red Army will receive a large consignment of the new machines, which workers have named "Stalin Prize Winner."

Many Soviet war factories completed their schedules for the first quarter of the year several days in advance and have contributed considerable quantities of goods produced in excess of the plan to the fund of the Supreme Command of the Red Army. One aircraft factory fulfilled its programme ahead of time although this programme was 23 per cent higher than for the previous quarter. Workers of this factory produced by April 1 enough aircraft in excess of the plan to equip an air division. An arms works has produced enough arms in excess of the programme to equip five air regiments and one infantry regiment.—*Soviet War News.*

◆ ◆ ◆

District Soldiers' Boards

The following District Soldiers' Boards have been formed and are working from the dates given :—

North Arcot (Vellore)	15th March
South Arcot (Cuddalore)	1st April
Salem (Salem)	Do.
East and West Godavari Board (Ellore)	15th April.

The following Boards will form on 30th April :—

Guntur/Nellore (Guntur). Trichinopoly (Trichinopoly).
Chittoor (Chittoor). Coimbatore (Coimbatore).

With effect from the date of formation all complaints from soldiers' families should be addressed to the Secretary, District Soldiers' Board, concerned and not to the Military Welfare Officer, Bangalore.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1943 No. 33

Recent Japanese Diplomacy—Implications Examined

In a recent article in *The Manchester Guardian* Mr. H. G. W. WOODHEAD, Editor of *China Year Book*, has referred to the implications of Japanese diplomacy towards the Nanking Government, of which the Chinese Quisling, WANG CHING WEI, is the head. He writes :

> "When WANG CHING WEI's regime was established in Nanking in March 1940, much play was made of supposed concessions by the Japanese army in the matter of return to Chinese owners of properties which were under military control. The Japanese army, as it advanced into Chinese territory, had taken over, where possible, and operated for its own benefit cotton-mills, flour-mills and other industrial undertakings and factories of Chinese ownership. The alleged concession announced at Nanking in March 1940 proved to be an equivocal one."

Mr. WOODHEAD points out that the so-called return of factories and other properties to the Chinese owners was accompanied by demands for admission, into the business, of a Japanese partner or partners, who controlled the management and had a voice in the distribution of profits. The Japanese move, therefore, failed to achieve its purpose, namely, enlistment of Chinese support for the puppet Government at Nanking. Now another move of a similar character to seek the support of Chinese Quislings has been launched by the Japanese. Referring to this, Mr. WOODHEAD says:

> "Notwithstanding some opposition amongst Japanese business interests, the Japanese armies are handing over properties of 'enemy' nationals—chiefly Britons and Americans—to nominees of the Nanking Government. These properties in Shanghai alone amount in value to many millions of pounds. They include numerous industrial undertakings, most of the public utilities and enormous quantities in real estate. In this way, it is hoped to enlist Chinese support in 'wiping out' Anglo-American interests in Shanghai."

Japanese business quarters have opposed this move. It may be due to the fact that they expect to monopolise the exploitation of British and American properties. It has been revealed by the *Frankfurter Zeitung* that "concerns will in most cases be taken over on condition that private Japanese businessmen or capitalists retain a considerable share in them."

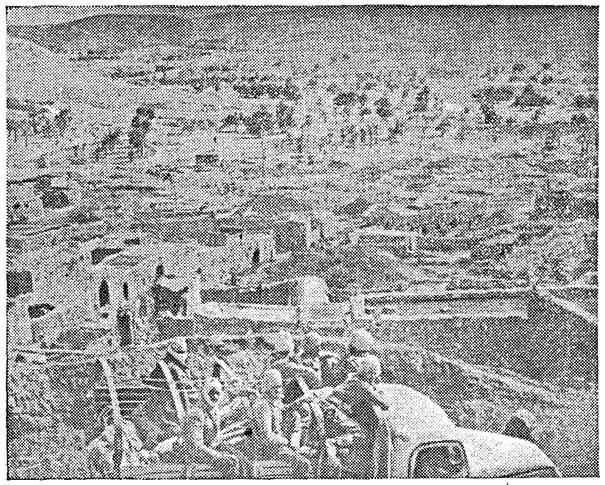
* * * *

Business Dealings with Japan—One-way Traffic.

Contrast the hollowness of Japanese concessions with the comprehensive and genuine renunciation of the privileges enjoyed by the Allies under "extra-territoriality."

(*Continued on page* 6)

Adding Fresh Laurels



Mr. Churchill has paid a valuable tribute, a few days ago, to the "splendid achievements of the Fourth Indian Division in the battle of Mareth and in the recent victory at Wadi Akarit." Photo shows Indian troops of the Fourth Indian Division moving up through a Tunisian village.

INDIA feels immensely proud of the great tribute paid by Mr. CHURCHILL to the Fourth Indian Division which has played a very important part in the Battle of Tunisia. In a message to His Excellency the Viceroy, the Prime Minister refers to "the splendid achievements" of this Division in the battle of Mareth and in the recent victory at Wadi Akarit, and says,

> "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."

Mr. CHURCHILL has expressed to the Princes and peoples of India, Britain's admiration and gratitude for all that the Indian Army has done in Africa, in the Far East, and in India itself, and feels proud that "India's fighting men should now share in the successes which have crowned the long uphill contest in which they have played so valiant a part."

Past Achievements

IN the House of Commons, Mr. L. S. AMERY, the Secretary of State for India, has also paid a valuable tribute to the fighting qualities and gallant action of the Fourth Division. He referred to the leading part played by it in General WAVELL's Western Desert offensive in 1940, its contribution to the conquest of Italian East Africa and its engagements in nearly all the fighting in the Western Desert and Libya, and said :

> "This Division is now adding fresh laurels to its record under General MONTGOMERY in Tunisia."

BRITISH newspapers have also vied with one another in paying their tributes to the heroism of the Fourth Indian Division. One journal recalls the tribute paid to it by General AUCHINLECK, when he was Commander-in-Chief, Middle East. "You got through," said General AUCHINLECK to the troops of this Division, "because you were bold. Always be bold." The journal goes on to point out that this exhortation has been lived up to by the Indian troops, who have with great courage cleared the difficult country between Hellouf Pass and Forum Atabouine in southern Tunisia and were thus "chiefly responsible for turning the Mareth position and forcing Field Marshal ROMMEL into general retreat."

"Finest Fighting Formation"

THE achievements of the Fourth Indian Division have been manifold. In December 1940 it scored a brilliant success at Sidi Barani. It formed the spear-head of a great attack at a dark hour of the Allied cause and won this resounding victory, which was only the prelude of greater victories to come. It broke the hold of the Axis on Cyrenaica by four great victories. Sidi Barani, Libyan Omar, Bir-el-Gobi and Gazala—these mark the four stages by which the enemy was thrown out of that North African province. The laurels won by the Fourth Indian Division in these famous battles brought it world renown. Speaking in the Council of State in February 1942, Sir ALAN HARTLEY said,

> "I should like to tell Honorable Members what a highly-placed British Service Officer on a visit from the Middle East to Delhi said to me the other day about the Fourth Indian Division. He said that it was *the finest fighting formation at present in the Empire.*"

From El Alamein to Wadi Akarit

A YEAR has gone by, and now this great Indian Division has won fresh laurels in Tunisia. From the begining of the battle of El Alamein, the Fourth Indian Division has been in the forefront, and the part played by it at Mareth and Wadi Akarit will remain long famous. General ALEXANDER has referred to this invaluable Indian contribution near Mareth in a message to Field Marshal WAVELL. Operating with "conspicuous dash and vigour," he says, "the Fourth Division, after patrol work of the highest order, pushed forward in the centre of the Mareth Line in the heart of the Matmata mountains."

NOT only in North Africa, but also in other theatres of war, Indian troops have distinguished themselves. It may be recalled that in the weeks preceding the war, Indian detachments were rushed to Aden, Egypt and Singapore, They were in the battle-front in Malaya, Burma and the Middle East. They conquered northern Abyssinia and captured as prisoners the main Italian forces. They also played a conspicuous part in the conquest of Syria.

SUCH is the brilliant record of Indian troops, and yet there are persons who want others to believe that they are only "mercenaries" and that they are not fighting wholeheartedly and sincerely. The laurels which the Fourth Indian Division, in particular, has been winning in the various battles in which it took a leading part should be a convincing refutation of all enemy insults about "forced mercenaries."

INDIAN heroism, prowess and skill in the field of battle have been enshrined in history and legend, but to-day our soldiers have covered themselves with glory and brought greater honour and renown to the land of their birth.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

It was only after the Allies' renunciation of such rights in China that Japan hastily announced her intention to relinquish her rights in China. Some of the factories in Shanghai were handed over to the Chinese and the dawn of a new Asiatic era was proclaimed with all pomp and ceremony. The object of Japan in handing over the concessions is to conciliate the rich merchant class among the Chinese by giving them increased business opportunities, but it may be pointed out that Chinese businessmen would not derive the same advantages from this arrangement as they would have done before Japan entered the war, for there has been, according to the admissions of Tokyo radio, grave restrictions of Japan's exports. It is a one-way traffic to do business with Japan; the countries which send raw materials to Japan get nothing in return. They only build up unusable yen credits in the Tokyo banks.

As regards the poorer people, the Tokyo concessions to the Nanking Government do not mean anything at all to them. They are in a terrible plight what with high prices, shortage of food, and even starvation. Their sympathy with the Chungking regime has been obvious even to the Japanese.

With regard to the Japanese concessions themselves, Mr. WOODHEAD suggests that it would be a good move if the Chungking regime pronounces the Nanking-Tokyo transactions as invalid. Whether it should be done now, or later, should be left entirely to the judgment of the men on the spot. Whatever they may do, one thing is clear: the hollowness of Japan's promises and the real nature of the present manœuvres are well understood by Generalissimo CHIANG KAI-SHEK and his colleagues, and this is evident from the angry outbursts of Tokyo radio and its satellites against them.

* * * *

Lull in Russia—Review of Winter Counter-Offensive.

There is a lull on the Russian front, and much of the time is being taken up by both sides in jockeying into positions for the great campaign in summer. All along the front the Russians seem to be in a much stronger defensive position than they were a year ago. The Russian command has now formally announced the end of the winter counter-offensive and has published a review of its results in territory gained and losses of man-power and equipment inflicted on the enemy.

Let us examine this statement of account and see to what extent the winter offensive has altered the situation on the eastern front and what contribution it has made towards the final victory of the Allies. As compared with the position before the opening of the great summer offensive by the Germans last year, it may be said that the Red Army has wiped out the German gains and left them rather worse off than before. The result of the fighting of the past nine months is that the Axis forces have become relatively weaker than the Russians. The armies of the satellites of Germany have been practically destroyed and terrible losses have been inflicted on the "top layer" of the Wehrmacht, the veteran German divisions which have had more experience of modern warfare than any other troops in the world. Thus the balance-sheet of the German campaign from the summer of 1942 to the spring of 1943 shows an almost completely wasted effort with a very heavy bill of cost. When it is remembered that this was a critical period according to the German time-table when the Red Army was to be permanently crippled and a greater part of the German forces in Russia diverted to meet the threat of the Anglo-American invasions in the west and south, the importance of the results will be clear. The loss of those nine months by the Germans is perhaps the most important turning-point in the war.

As regards the Russians themselves they have regained during their winter counter-offensive the rich corn-growing regions of the northern Caucasus and the Don Basin just in time for the sowing in spring. They have pushed back the German threat to the Trans-Caucasian oil-fields. It was very narrowly that the Russians failed to win back the coal and iron and the heavy industries of the Donetz regions and the grain country of the western Ukraine.

* * * *

Strategic Position: Russians Better Situated than Last Year.

It is of interest now to see how the strategic position stands before the opening of the summer campaign. The Red Army has raised the siege of Leningrad which is a great thing, for it considerably strengthens its right wing covering Moscow. The German salient south of Leningrad has not, however, been removed. But south of Lake Ilmen the German thrust near Demyansk has been eliminated. The Red Army has not yet gained control over Staraya Russa where it very nearly trapped the German army a year ago.

To the west of Moscow, the enemy has been driven out of Rzhev and Vyasma, thus breaking off the German spearhead pointing the capital of Soviet Russia. The capture of Velikie Luki secures for the Red Army a jumping-off point against the great trunk railway between Leningrad and Kiev, 15 miles to the west.

Now Smolensk, Briansk and Orel are firmly held by the Germans and provide a very strong fortified network facing Moscow from the south-west. But the capture and retention of the important

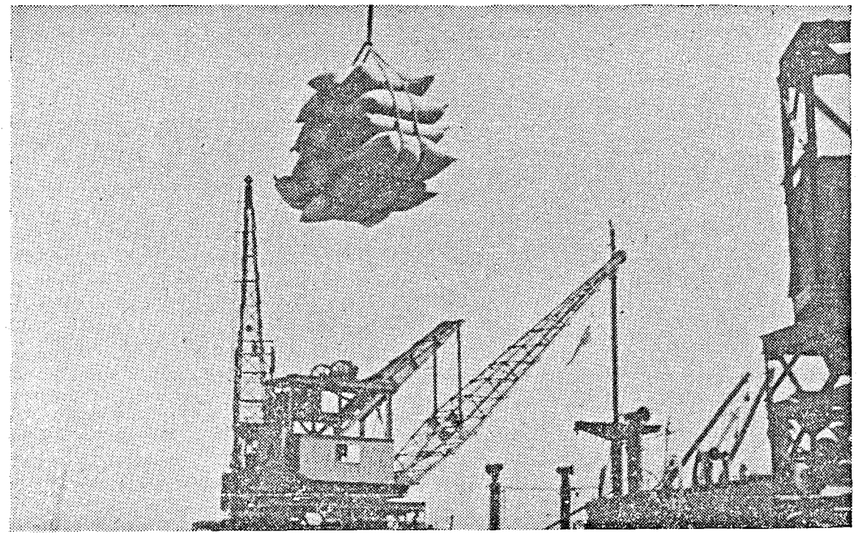
FIVE THOUSAND TANKS A MONTH

Each month now a great tank depot here feeds 5,000 tanks, tank-killers and other armoured vehicles of the latest and most deadly types to the fighting fronts where they are needed. Depot officials said that they hoped to step up monthly shipments to 5,500.

J. C. Davidson, Superintendent of the Ordnance Department, told how Chester wins battles. Late one afternoon the tank depot got an urgent order to ship tanks by special train to catch a convoy. At 5 p.m. Davidson posted a notice requesting all men to work overtime. Davidson said, "The tanks left here at 2-30 the next morning".

One of the "hottest" items at Chester is a new self-propelled 155-mm. cannon. It is the nearest thing to a land battleship. Another "hot" item is an M-13 multiple gun carriage. This has been used in North Africa with highly satisfactory results. General Eisenhower sent a dispatch telling how an M-13, while still on a barge in the process of unloading, shot down four Stuka dive-bombers.

One of the speed-up wonders of the depot is "the oven", alias "the beauty parlour". It used to take an hour or more to dry painted vehicles in old steam-heated ovens, which also took up a lot of space. Now a vehicle rolls underneath a "tent" composed of 1,900 infra-red 240-watt bulbs set into gold-plated reflectors. It dries completely in about five minutes.



Further shipments of Australian wheat have arrived at an Indian port.

Announcement

There was no issue of the *Madras War Review* and its counterparts in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Urdu and Kanarese last week, on account of Easter holidays.

supply centre of Kursk prevents the Germans in the central sector from having direct lateral communication with Kharkov and the south. Kharkov in Russian hands would have been a valuable spring-board for a drive to the Volga; in German hands it has the function of an offensive pivot. It must be pointed out, at the same time, that the Russians have preserved a strong defensive line for themselves by stubbornly guarding the upper and middle reaches of the Donetz river and retaining various bridge-heads on its western bank. Further in regard to railway communications, the Russians are better situated than they have ever been since the original German advance.

The position to-day is something like this: The Germans cannot make up for their loss of a "creative pause" during the winter by postponing their offensive to the middle of summer. They have to strike at the Red Army quickly with all the strength at their command, hoping against hope that the threat of an Allied invasion in the west would be delayed or held off by Rommel in Tunisia and the U-boat offensive in the Atlantic. But the German time-table is not going to work out according to HITLER'S plan.

* * * *

American Production—Japanese Fear and Anxiety. A feeling of fear and genuine anxiety at the colossal American production seems to be spreading in the minds of the Japanese people, and some articles have appeared in Japanese magazines seeking to infuse a spirit of confidence and security into them. *King*, a Japanese magazine, has published a series of articles on the subject. The most important of these is that of Colonel NAKAO YAHAGE, Chief of the Imperial Headquarters Information Bureau; it gives us an idea of the hopes and fears of the Japanese at the gigantic progress of American production. Reviewing America's man-power and its possibilities, the writer says, "The passing of the conscription bill . . . the colossal armaments strength, all these points indicate how firm is the determination of the U.S.A. Government towards war." Referring to the 60,000-plane-a-year plan of President Roosevelt, he says, "Since January 1942, the manufacture of motor cars has been prohibited, while Ford's and almost all the motor-car factories have been converted into factories for building plane bodies and engines, and the area of the plants has been considerably extended. New factories are being built in the Middle West avoiding coastal areas . . . "

The writer goes on to appeal to the Japanese not to be frightened. He says America is carrying on a "war of nerves" by publishing her production figures, and observes, "It is proof to the Japanese that the more America proclaims her prodigious figures, the more it is panting in a painful plight. For the Japanese to get alarmed is to fall into the enemy's trap." The author himself has fallen into this "trap," for he says later "Though America produces millions of planes, they will not be used against Japan, for America aids Russia and Britain. As America scatters its war strength, weak points are bound to appear." The article winds up with the following final peroration: "Let us strive after discipline. Whatever is lacking in material can be supplemented by the spirit of man. This is the conviction of victory. Enhance the spirit of Japan."

* * * *

Bombing of Tokyo Recalled—A.R.P. Activities in Japan. A vigorous campaign has recently been launched to keep before the public mind the possibilities of an allied bombing offensive over Japan. The Vice-Chief of the Information Board, OKUMURA, said at a board meeting of Japan's Central Co-operative Society, "America is at present mobilising her land, sea and air forces and is sparing nothing in training them. As one example, America recently constructed a model Tokyo city in the huge Texas plains and is practising the bombing of Tokyo; although it is only a model, it is about the same size as Tokyo, and we can see from this alone how carefully America is preparing for the bombing of Japan." The raid of April 18, 1942, is recalled in this connexion by a writer in the Japanese magazine, *Oriental Economist* (*Toyo Keizai*). He quotes extensive extracts from *Life*, the American Magazine, of April 29, 1942, dealing with the Tokyo bombable points, and says that things like this "are not commonsense from a military point of view, but obviously it is not for internal propaganda alone." He warns the Japanese that the last bombing of Tokyo should not be regarded as expressing America's developed capabilities. "Further," he adds, "every one in the country is relieved that everything is being done to improve the A.R.P. in Japan." The writer refers to the necessity of intensive and collective training to instil civic habits during air raids, and says that this should not be so vigorously pursued as to interfere with war production. He points out that in a certain district in the west, night work was practically impossible for sometime past, because all the men had been mobilized for practice every night. To make it worse, "members of the home guard and police officers issue contradictory orders, and people do not know whom to follow."

The article lays stress time and again on the danger of dislocating production. "Even though it is a temporary interruption, if it is a part of a general A.R.P. plan for the whole country, if and when enemy planes actually come frequently, it would cause a most regrettable dislocation." Though it is desirable to learn how to put out fires, the A.R.P. practice, says the writer, wears out the body, exhausts the mind and slackens the tempo of war effort. He criticises black-outs because they put a stop to night work, and refers to a report that enough men did not turn up for night exercises. He observes that if the reason was laziness it was a bad show, but if it was because of industrial work, then it was all right. These quotations and observations throw some considerable light on the home front in Japan.

SYNTHETIC WHITE SAPPHIRES

Under the stress of war-time demands, an American manufacturer has developed a successful process for producing synthetic white sapphires—the mineral corundum tough and resistant to heat formerly imported from Europe and widely used in industry. Since domestic production started in the United States two years ago, it has grown so rapidly that the industry is now capable of handling the entire military demand of the United Nations.

Mineralogically, the hardness of the American white sapphire is exceeded only by diamonds. Once they are cut, the man-made gems are also surprisingly tough, in terms of resistance, to breakage by impact. They have a melting point of over 3,700 degrees Fahrenheit.

Many essential uses are already being made of jewels cut from these synthetic stones. They are serving as the jewel bearings of chronometers, compasses, and electrical, fire-control, and aircraft instruments. Other successful, although still experimental, uses of the white sapphires are as thread guides in the manufacture of rayon and as orifices for flowmeters and oil-burning equipment in war industries.

The Red Cross Hospital Library send books to the boys in the desert. Since the war, nearly 2,000,000 books have been dealt with at their offices in Queen's Gate, Bayswater. Photo shows: Packing and stenciling book bales for the Middle East. Mr. F. Parry did the same job of work in the last war.

Choice Before Axis Partners

By WICKHAM STEED

GENERAL MACARTHUR, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied forces in Australia and the South-West Pacific, said recently that the decisive effect of air superiority in this war was not yet fully understood. Coming after the naval victories in the Coral Sea and off the Midway Island which were gained by air superiority, the remarkable achievement of United States and Allied aircraft against Japanese shipping at Kavient, New Ireland, lends special significance to his statement.

Only 26 bombers were used in three attacks, 10 in the first attack and eight each in the second and third. Without the loss of a single bomber, 10 Japanese warships and eight merchant vessels were sunk or damaged and the total Japanese concentration was dispersed.

Evidently aircraft will play an increasingly decisive part in the Pacific and the Far East.

Can air superiority play an equally decisive part in Europe? What Mr. Winston Churchill called a few days ago "novel forms of intense air attack in which many hundreds of British aircraft were simultaneously employed" ensured the success of the turning movement that compelled Field Marshal Rommel to abandon the Mareth Line in Southern Tunisia. New attacks by Eighth Army, United States and British aircraft based on North Africa have struck devastating blows at Naples. Similar blows will fall on all military and naval centres in Italy until the Italians learn that continued subservience to Germany must entail for them progressive ruin. Sooner or later Italian submissiveness and passive endurance will reach breaking point. Germany, who cannot protect her own great cities and arsenals from methodical destruction, will be powerless to save Italy.

PERMANENT EVIL

For the Germans in Germany, British and United States air raids also raise questions both material and psychological. German armies still hold much Russian territory besides controlling the Balkans, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Holland, Belgium and France. While the Germans believed that they were winning the war, they could regard air raids upon Germany as a temporary evil. To-day when the Germans no longer believe in victory but hope at best for a negotiated peace, every British or American air raid on Essen, Berlin, Kiel, Stuttgart or other German war centres makes them wonder how much and how long Germany can profit by the war if one German city after another is wrecked.

This British and Allied air offensive against Germany's preparation is no substitute for an Allied invasion of Europe. It is comparable to an artillery preparation for attack upon an enemy line. But while an artillery preparation affects only a limited area garrisoned by trained troops, a sustained air offensive affects civilian morale besides destroying centres of war production. Over Germany and over German centres in occupied Europe, Allied air offensive has now gone on to a crescendo for some weeks. It will increase. It will reach the climax without a dimuendo until the German spirit of resistance comes to breaking point.

Slowly or swiftly, according to the march of events, the Italians and the Germans will realise that their only choice lies between unconditional surrender and unconditional destruction.

Sooner the Italians and the Germans choose unconditional surrender, brighter will be their prospect of escaping unconditional destruction and stronger their chance of gaining an adequate place in the New Order of freedom and security which the Allied victory will inaugurate.

The Balkans are Worried

By 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 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 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 regime 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-tried 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.

Battle of Britain in Reverse

By PETER MASEFIELD

IN the Allied air offensive in Tunisia we are beginning to see the Battle of Britain in the reverse.

But the air position is very different. The enemy is moving under a hostile air supremacy whereas at Dunkirk British fighters held the air. Provided we can maintain adequate bases for attacks, there is no reason to suppose that the enemy can set up a fighter defence over Sardinia, Sicily and southern Italy which can in any way compare with the defence set up by the Fighter Command in 1940.

Furthermore, at no time during the Battle of Britain did the average weekly rate of loss exceed the rate of replacement. Yet during the last week on all fronts, the *Luftwaffe* is reported to have lost more than 550 operational aircraft—a rate of 2,350 monthly. German production of operational types to-day is certainly no more than 1,800 air-craft monthly, probably less as a result of Allied bombing. Reserves will make good the deficiency for the time being but such a drain cannot be continued indefinitely.

Our policy, therefore, is to make the enemy fight in the air at every opportunity and seek to destroy aircraft on the ground and in factories. Thus day and night raids from Britain are directly influencing both the Tunisian battle and the Russian front.

Besides destruction in factories, hundreds of fighters badly needed in the Mediterranean are kept in France and Germany. We are sometimes warned to be cautious and not to exaggerate the effect of our bombing raids. But in concentrated raids, such as those on Essen, one would find it difficult to exaggerate the devastation caused by nearly 1,000 tons of bombs—some of them 8,000-pounders—dropped on an area about one square mile in less than an hour, especially when a target such as Krupps covers in itself 800 acres (one quarter square mile).

Judging by confirmed reports the damage is usually under-estimated. Bombing in Germany to-day is on an entirely different scale from anything we have ever experienced in this country, bad as that was.—*Sunday Times.*

Lend-Lease in Reverse

By A. P. LUSCOMBE WHYTE

DURING the last war the United States War Department alone spent more than $2,000,000,000 in Britain and France on supplies and services of a kind which the United States are now receiving from Britain and the Commonwealth without dollar payments of any kind.

This one fact, tucked away in the body of a recent statement by Mr. E. R. Stettinius, illustrates the vast extent of what has come to be known as "Lend-Lease in reverse." The United States of America is receiving vast reciprocal Lend-Lease from Britain and the countries of the Commonwealth. Her soldiers are being supplied with arms, billeting, clothes, food, transport and services of many kinds; her airmen with aircraft, bombs, fuel, ammunition, repair services; her ships with fuel, ammunition and port services. To the American continent have flowed vast quantities of arms and supplies—including whole defence factories from Britain. British warships are protecting the American coasts.

And no bill has been represented.

VAST SUPPLIES IN BRITAIN

In Britain alone the American forces are absorbing an ever-increasing amount of materials, space and labour. Between May and November 1942 alone they received supplies, other than construction materials, which would have needed 1,200,000 tons of shipping if they had been sent from the United States of America.

This is actually more than the tonnage shipped to American forces in Britain during that period.

British transports and merchant vessels are doing a large proportion of the haulage between the United States of America and the United Kingdom—without payment, of course—and for the North African campaign Britain provided two-thirds of the warships and transports for the original landing.

The tremendous constructional job of providing barracks, supply depots, hospitals, roads, airfields and other facilities for United States forces in Britain comes under "reciprocal aid." No less than two-thirds of the civilian labour force available for military construction work has been engaged on this task.

Vast sums of money have been poured out by the British Government. Construction costs to Britain's Treasury of airfields and facilities for the United States air force alone already amount to over $500,000,000, and maintenance costs are running at a rate of tens of millions a year. In addition the British Government have been paying out nearly 250,000 dollars a week in wages to civilians directly employed by the United States forces.

Depots, barracks and airfields that can ill be spared by the British forces have been turned over to the Americans. One huge British depot that has been Lend-Leased to the United States air force covers 600 acres and has an operating personnel of 5,000.

Though United States forces in Britain are mainly on army rations they also receive vast quantities of reciprocal aid food. From June to December last they were presented with more than 38,000,000 lb. of flour, potatoes, fruit, vegetables and mixed rations and the figure for this year is likely to be about 300,000,000 lb. This will include 55,000,000 lb. of sugar (closely rationed to the civilian population).

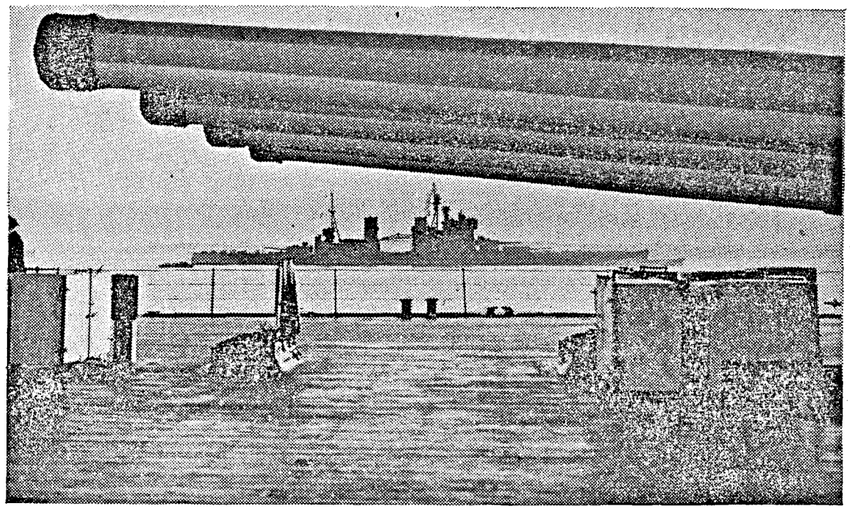
BRITISH GUNS FOR UNITED STATES DIVISION

Arms and warlike stores of every kind are being Lend-Leased in reverse. During the North African landings the American forces were provided with 160 spitfires, more than 500,000 anti-tank mines and grenades; 130 reconnaissance boats, medical supplies for 100,000 men and many other items. One United States Division was completely equipped with the famous British 25-pounder guns.

Among other military supplies that have been furnished by Britain to United States troops as reciprocal aid are 500,000 hand grenades; 15,000 bombs, many of them one-ton "block busters;" 70,000 six-inch shells; 1,000 parachutes; 300,000 camouflage nets; 500,000 electric batteries (in short supply in Britain) a month; 20,000 hundred-pound reels of barbed wire; 4,000,000 pairs of socks; 2,000,000 blankets.

Those figures do not, of course, include the arms rushed directly to the United States of America after Pearl Harbour, when thousands of barrage balloons and AA guns, predictors and other protective appliances were shipped across the Atlantic. The latest machine-tools were stripped from British factories and despatched to the United States of America. One entire shell-making plant—one of the most modern in the world—was dismantled and shipped, and a gun-making factory went the same way.

No charge was made. It is enough for Britain to know that these guns and shells and machines will help to kill enemies and protect friends and allies.



"BIG GUNS" OF BRITAIN'S FLEET.—The 35,000-ton Battleship R.M.S. King George V. *A view taken from beneath the 14 inches guns of a sister ship.*

EMPIRE COUNTRIES RUN THEMSELVES SHORT

The story of direct reciprocal aid to Americans in Britain is impressive enough, but this is only a part of the whole. For reciprocal aid is operating also in India, Egypt, the Middle East, North Africa, Iceland, the Fiji Islands. In the south and south-west Pacific the United States of America is receiving massive aid from Australia and New Zealand. And, it must not be forgotten, America is also being helped by China, by the Fighting French in Africa, by Belgium in the Congo.

In Australia and New Zealand reverse Lend-Lease is absorbing a large part of local food production and constructional industry. "Supplies of food already furnished us resulted in serious civilian shortages in both countries of meat, dairy and egg products, vegetables and canned goods," reported Mr. Stettinius in January 1943. "Both Australia and New Zealand have undertaken a large scale expansion of farm production in order to grow more foods that our troops need." Local foods are being shipped to United States forces in the Solomons, New Guinea, New Caledonia and New Hebrides. Lend-Lease help from Australia started long ago, when quantities of food were rushed to General MacArthur's soldiers still fighting on Bataan.

Now the United States of America, virtually released from the necessity of shipping food to its forces in Australia and New Zealand, is able to use the shipping space for guns, tanks and planes instead.

Up to January of 1943 Australia and New Zealand, with a total population of less than 9,000,000, had supplied the United States of America forces with more than 200,000,000 lb. of food—representing almost all their regular rations—and Australia is also preparing and supplying most of the United States army emergency rations.

In New Zealand, with its population of under 2,000,000 the United States forces are being supplied with the bulk of their food. New Zealand is furnishing blankets and clothing and is turning out 400,000 pairs of army shoes. It has built two large new hospitals for American troops and has diverted so many medical supplies to the United States forces in the Solomons area that for a time such common items as gauze, bandages and surgical cotton were virtually unobtainable by civilians.

LARGE BRITISH CASH PURCHASES

There are other important items in the catalogue of reciprocal aid that cannot be estimated in figures. All Britain's experience of actual warfare—which goes back two years longer than America's—has been put freely at the disposal of the United States. The results of battle experience with American arms are freely communicated, and suggestions for improvements passed on. The latest details of enemy arms are shared. The secrets of Britain's scientific war inventions are not held back.

American industry, it must be remembered, was well-equipped to cope with her own huge war requirements largely because of the vast British orders which had built it up before Pearl Harbour. Before Lend-Lease ever came into being, the British Commonwealth poured out her financial resources into American industry. During the first three years of war, it is estimated, British Commonwealth purchases in the United States of America amounted to about $7,000,000,000, or considerably more than United States Lend-Lease deliveries to Britain during the same period.

Taxation Without Tyranny

By RENE KRAUS

ENGLAND is a poor man's land to-day. High incomes are taxed up to 97·5 per cent, which means, indeed, approaching the taxation limit, whereas small incomes, those below the equivalent of $2,000, are materially increasing. No radical movement has brought about this change, nor is it Bolshevism. It is, to put it in three words, Sir Kingsley Wood.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in Churchill's government, the man who practically introduced the "classless society", is by no means a revolutionary. Sir Kingsley is bent on justly sharing the burden of the war. Victory, it is his fundamental creed, can only be achieved the hard way.

SUCCESS—A HABIT

Before the war, Sir Kingsley's paths fell in pleasant places. Success is a habit with him. Conditions and circumstances have always favoured him. He was the happy-go-lucky type. Life has neither made him hard nor bitter. On the contrary, he was called the softest spoken man in the United Kingdom; diminutive in stature, Pickwickian in appearance. Throughout his career he has managed to disguise successfully how dynamic he is in action. He is a lively English understatement.

To-day he looks a little plump, although food rationing has helped in reducing his waistline. The white hair of the man of 61 is slightly curly. His eyes peer curiously from behind thick glasses. Sometimes they look astonished at the crooked ways of the world. He looks like a kind-hearted minister of the Church rather than the sharp-witted Minister of the Crown he actually is.

Indeed he was destined for the clergy. His father, a Wesleyan preacher in the south of England, decided on the very day he baptized little Kingsley in his own chapel that the boy should become a soldier of God.

EXCELLED IN LAW

But the boy seemed to have few militant qualities, either physically or in the churchly realm. The idea of theology had to be given up. Instead, young Kingsley excelled in the law. At 19, he was articled to a solicitor in Brighton. At 27, he was appointed a justice of the peace. This, it appeared, was his natural destination.

The early settled justice of the peace fell under the spell of Joseph Chamberlain. He followed his idol to London, entered politics and served his way up from the humble dignity of a London County Councilman. His clarity of thought, grasp of detail, and even tempered behaviour soon made him one of the more important Conservative spokesmen in the Council. Besides, he plunged most successfully into Cockney.

PARLIAMENTARY CAREER

He still speaks in that high-pitched voice with a strong accent which endeared him, some 30 years ago, to the working-class voters of his constituency, Woolwich. They called him, due to his voice and his minute appearance, the Cockney Sparrow. This nickname was a life insurance with the electorate. At the khaki elections in 1918, West Woolwich sent him to the House, where he soon acquired a new nickname: Cherub. Were it not for his glasses and his moustache he would indeed resemble the cherubic Cupid that adorned many a Victorian garden.

His predilection for mischief-making fitted into the picture. In Parliament, he developed heckling to a fine art. His first question was usually asked blandly and innocently, but the one that invariably followed had a pretty little sting in its tail. His touch was light and impudent, as funny as a tickle, but far more dangerous. He was entertaining, and never really offensive.

"NAUGHTY BOY"

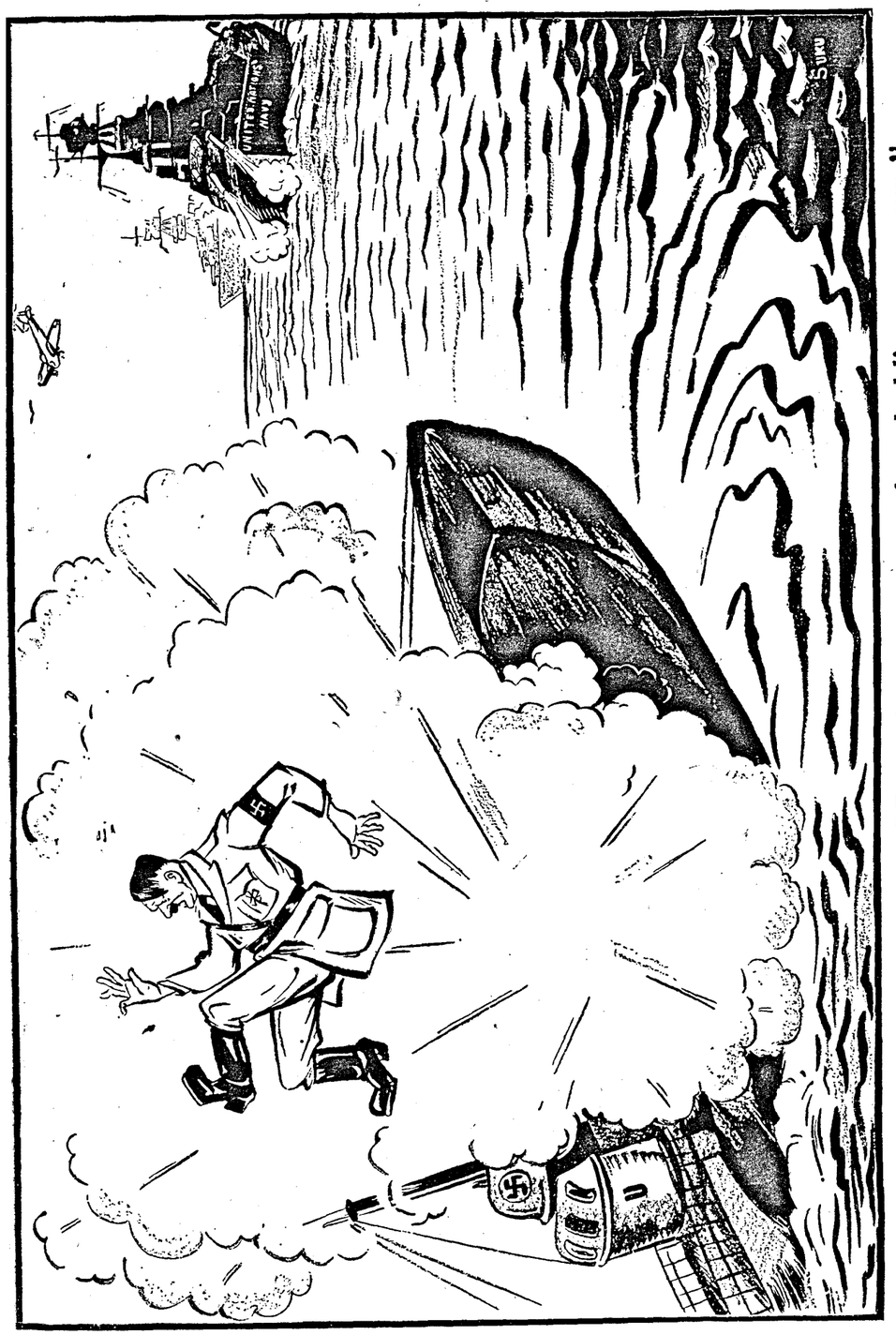
When everyone knew that MacDonald's Labour government was split from top to bottom, Sir Kingsley—who had been knighted in his first parliamentary year—leaned across the opposition front bench and asked with deep sympathy: "No trouble inside the government, I hope?" "You behave like a schoolboy!" Miss Susan Lawrence, a fiery Socialist, retorted. "And you like a schoolmistress!" came his repartee. Indeed, Miss Lawrence did very much look the prim schoolma'am.

But Sir Kingsley Wood was the House of Commons naughty boy only on the surface. His predilection for fun-making disguised a cool, orderly mind, and his measured, mild manners shrouded a good deal of energy. Where other men would approach a problem, he has simply a job to do. Throughout his ministerial career he proved a matter-of-fact man. As a Postmaster-General, he "sold" the post to the public. He attributed his success to a simple formula—to the application of good manners.

AS POSTMASTER-GENERAL

The public, he decreed, was the customer, who is always right. The public wants to be induced to spend its money. The services expanded rapidly. The Post Office made a greater profit than ever before.

(*Continued on page* 16)



THE U-BOAT MENACE.—"We are more than holding our own."
—*Mr. Churchill.*

TAXATION WITHOUT TYRANNY

(*Continued from page* 14.)

A Postmaster-General's job is not confined to selling stamps. In 1930, Sir Kingsley was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Conservative Party. It was primarily to his credit that the general elections, following in the next year, brought about a Conservative landslide.

Outside England, Sir Kingsley Wood remained practically unknown. But at home he became an intimate familiar figure. His meetings were thronged. People wanted to see him on the platform, beaming benevolently through his glasses and uttering agreeable commonplaces in a language everyone understood. Yet he was sufficiently a showman to lift political meetings above the average dull level.

His method was never to antagonize the strong English feeling for what is "good form." He knew what was going on, was interested in everything, liked company, occasional jokes, and good living. Broomhill Bank, his 40-acre home at Speldhurst, near Tunbridge Wells, became a centre of higher middle class life.

DEMANDS INCREASING SACRIFICES

The outbreak of the war crashed into this pleasant life. Sir Kingsley Wood, whom Neville Chamberlain had made Air Minister, seemed not the man with whom Winston Churchill would work in double harness. The astonishment was great and general when Churchill gave him the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer, which is generally considered next in importance only to the Prime Minister's own office.

Longer than three years of wartime service have vindicated Mr. Churchill's surprising choice, Sir Kingsley still wears his iron mask of modesty, friendliness, and good humour. But behind this mask, unbreakable will and determination are at work. To-day, the Chancellor, who spent his life in being agreeable to everyone, demands increasing sacrifices from his people.

Sir Kingsley would have every reason to be satisfied with the results of his administration. But he is much too unassuming to claim, or even accept, the credit. He attributes the sound state of English finances above all to the high war morale of the nation. Under his leadership on the financial front they have won a bloodless, but decisive, victory. The Pound Sterling is the world's healthiest currency.

—(*Condensed from the* Christian Science Monitor).

Eighth Army is a Citizen Army

THE Eighth Army is not an army of professional soldiers. It is a citizen army. It is an army composed of men who never expected to find themselves at war. It is an army made up of people who were devotedly pursuing civilian careers. Some were doing well, some not well, in civil life. But each one was bent upon attaining the greatest possible measure of social security as a civilian.

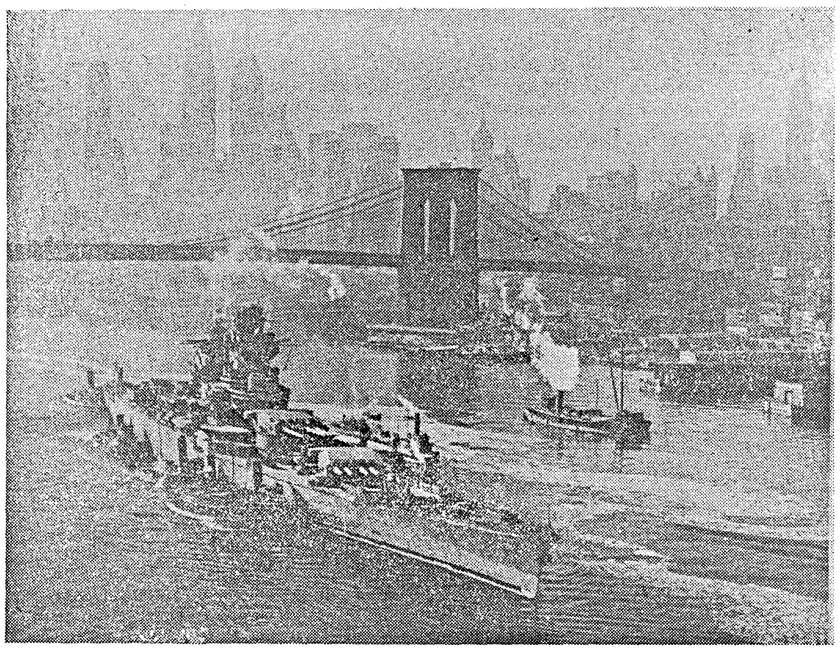
Suddenly their life was changed. Their immediate hopes were compulsorily transferred to cold storage. They were called upon to devote the next years to the necessities of war.

And they obeyed. Brilliantly they obeyed. Newspapers have told us, day after day, stories of their enterprise and heroism in North Africa. They would be inspiring stories anyway. But how much more inspiring do they become when we read that it was a former shop assistant or a former clerk who led an attack on a Nazi strongpoint! These heroes were our neighbours. They sat next to us in tramcar and at factory bench. They helped to repair our lawnmower or ran for the doctor when our children were taken sick. And now they are destroying the tanks of the "invincible" Rommel. They are the spearhead of the fight against forces which seek to make honest neighbourliness a crime and sympathy a sin.

—*Daily Herald.*

Increased Production of Light Metals in U.S.

With an announced goal of 125,000 military aircraft in 1943, the United States is expanding on a vast scale its production of magnesium and aluminium, the two light metals so vital to aircraft construction. A report of the War Production Board states that the war programme provides for nearly 100 times the amount of magnesium produced in 1939, while aluminium production by the end of 1943 will be seven times what it was in the United States three years ago. One quarter of all the magnesium produced will be used in making aircraft. In powder and shavings, magnesium is highly inflammable and the bulk of it will go into incendiary bombs, tracer bullets, and flares. Bauxite fields in the south central part of the United States have also been opened to provide aluminium ore in large enough amounts to make the United States independent of foreign imports of this material.



FRENCH BATTLESHIP IN NEW YORK.—The 35,000-ton French battleship Richelieu *is guided by tugs as she passes by New York City's famous skyline on her way to a United States Navy Yard to be fitted with new gear and armament before going into action against the Axis.*

—United States Office of War Information photo.

The German Navy is at Sea

IT is an axiom that when the Nazis tell the truth they are in a bad way. When they say that the *Luftwaffe* cannot stop the Royal Air Force from raiding Germany, they are telling the truth because they are worried. Likewise, when the commander-in-chief of the German navy is allowed to say in a speech at a Channel port that the war against England can only be won at sea, he is telling the truth. He is telling the German navy in a guarded way that the war in the west has been left by the army and the *Luftwaffe* to the navy until further notice. And, as everyone realizes, the German effort in the west, even in the Atlantic, is defensive. German light naval forces in the Channel ports of France and in the ports of Belgium and Holland spend most of their time trying to protect convoy from British attacks. Even U-boats are carrying out what is essentially a defensive operation with the sole object of sinking ships in order to delay the offensive operations decided upon by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt at Casablanca. This defensive operation the Germans insist on calling the "Doenitz offensive." A German spokesman recently went further and said, "The only offensive weapon that Germany can now use against the Allies is the submarine." He told the German public that all that could be done against the Royal Air Force offensive was for U-boat to sink the tankers which bring oil for British and American bombers.

ONE THING NEW

In all this, there is nothing new except the candour of German spokesmen. For over two years, U-boats have been trying to stop oil from reaching our aerodromes in Africa as well as in England. They have failed, just as they failed to stop American troops and tanks from reaching England and North Africa. And it is not only in the Atlantic that they have failed. In the Mediterranean, U-boats scared away by British surface patrols and Allied air cover have done next to nothing to interrupt the sea communications of the Eighth Army through the port of Tripoli. The time will come when the protection given by shore-based aircraft, aircraft-carriers, destroyers and smaller war vessels will make the Atlantic convoy routes as dangerous for U-boats as the Mediterranean already is. German U-boats will then be in the same position as the

German army and air force; weakened by losses which undermine the offensive spirit of the crews, they will have to admit failure. A sure sign of that failure will be the beginning of our offensive operations on the mainland of Europe.

GERMAN FAILURE

When the Germans say that they can only win the war at sea, we agree. We have said this for 3½ years, and the events of these years have shown that all their efforts to gain command of the sea have failed. The German army in 1940 and 1941 captured vital naval bases in France, Norway, Crete and North Africa, threatening our sea communications in all directions. Still the war went on. Their air force failed, too, in 1941 to put our ports out of action. In 1942 they failed to knock out Malta and our naval power in the Mediterranean. Now, in 1943, they say that they can only win the war by the use of submarines. We are ready for their so-called offensives. We expect a long-and-hard struggle on the Atlantic routes, with heavy losses on both sides. But, whereas our merchant seamen will make their sacrifices in the knowledge that they are helping to win the war, the U-boat crews will know that their sacrifices have no other object than to prolong a war in which the German army and air force have already suffered mortal losses.

"A Film of Miracles Acted by Supermen"

By ERNEST BETTS

AT a private view in London I saw Russia's greatest film of the war—"Story of Stalingrad." This film was sent to Britain by Stalin in return for "Desert Victory," the British film of the Eighth Army.

It is a film of miracles acted by supermen. From streets of the fire, blazing ruins and holes in the ground, it brings you the actual reasons for the greatest military defeat Germany has ever suffered. It is the soul of a hundred Russian communiqués speaking in close ups. Twenty-five cameramen, some of them killed in action, take you into the front line.

For an hour you look over the shoulder of a Russian soldier into the furnace of the city. For a minute before the holocaust, you see Stalingrad at peace, clean and beautiful. It is the prelude to an unexampled horror.

Stalin, says the picture, foresaw German methods of attack. A sinister map throws its arrows behind the city in deadly encirclement of Moscow reaching as far back as Kuibishev and in an instant bombs and artillery are splitting Stalingrad in halves.

It is an assassination of millions of people. But the people rise up in wrath and fury. By the side of that Russian soldier, you see a hundred scenes of deathless heroism and bloodshed.

The pattern of victory becomes clear. The Russians are always one ahead of the Germans. In the burning city they crawl up to within yards of the enemy. Fleets of little boats feed the army across the Volga; Stalingrad's huge tank factory is on fire but carries on. The ruined villages become forts and air sledges whiz up to airfields with munitions and men to fight from twisted bedsteads perched in burning houses.

Every scene is a miracle of resistance and resource.

Here are some of the great pictures of Stalingrad's story:—A bomb falling on a house and razing it to the ground. Masses of guns opening up on the Germans in a great circle of fire. The weight of Russian artillery was one of Stalin's surprises. The savagery of the Germans to 2,000 prisoners of war. Corpses in snow bear marks of hideous brutality. German prisoners are being hauled into captivity by enraged Russians who help some of them along with a good kick in the pants. "Katusha," Russia's secret rocket-throwing device, blitzing General Paulus into surrender.

These scenes, many of them unequalled for horror, all of them glowing with patriotism, explain unforgettably the Russian victory. The heart of Stalingrad is pierced but it goes on beating. The people live on proudly beside death. They are invincible. Behind the ice-cold plan is passion for humanity. That is why this picture is so great. It is without parallel as an epic of human endurance and the will to victory.

—*The Daily Express.*

NEW UNITED STATES TRANSPORT GLIDER LANDS ON SKIDS

A transport glider, one of the largest yet built in the United States, is being used to train American air-borne infantry in invasion tactics. The machine has a new kind of landing gear. The ordinary glider comes to earth on wheels; this one lands on skids, the wheel gear being dropped as soon as the glider has left the ground. With skids, gliders can be brought to a quick stop and landed in a small space when coming to rest behind enemy lines.

U.S.S.R. Reads Shelley

By M. MOROZOV

A number of English poets enjoy great popularity in the Soviet Union, not to mention Shakespeare, who is one of our favourites. Byron is very widely known and has had a profound influence on Russian literature, principally on the two great Russian poets Pushkin and Lermontov.

Chaucer has become well known to us only in recent years. The Soviet translators J. Kashkin and O. Rumer were the first to recreate "The Canterbury Tales" in the Russian tongue.

Robert Burns at once won everybody's heart in the excellent translations done by the Soviet poets S. Marshak and T. Shehepkina-Kupernik.

The above examples suffice to show to what a great degree the popularity of a foreign poet depends on his translator. The art of Soviet poetic translation has made great progress, and excellent works written originally in English have found as it were a reincarnation in the Russian language.

THE FIRST VOLUME

Before the revolution Shelley was translated by one of the most outstanding representatives of Russian symbolism, Balmont. The result was beautiful and musical verse. But for Balmont, Shelley's art was only an excuse for creating his own independent compositions. These poems have nothing of Shelley about them except the name. They are Balmont's. Besides, for Balmont, Shelley was no more than a lyricist.

But for us Shelley is something more. We cannot agree with Mary Shelley that if the poet had not left philosophy for poetry he would have been a remarkable thinker; we cannot agree for the very reason that in his poetry itself, Shelley was a remarkable thinker. In Soviet Russia the first serious work on Shelley's world outlook appeared in a comprehensive history of English literature published by the Institute of World Literature of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The author is the young literary scholar D. Zabludovsky, who is at present in the ranks of the Red Army.

SIGNIFICANCE TO-DAY

Shelley's views on society, first and foremost, call for careful study. Shelley mercilessly lays bare all violence, all crude and brutal oppression. His "Masque of Anarchy" is brilliant in this respect. Somehow these verses have a new ring to-day, in these times of struggle against the Fascist tyrants. In so far as, for Shelley, the temporary sway of the powers of evil and darkness was an anomaly, a departure from nature; he never doubted for a moment the final triumph of all the best in mankind:—

> And Anarchy, the ghastly birth,
> Lay dead earth upon the earth,
> The Horse of Death, tameless as wind,
> Fled, and with his hoofs did grind,
> To dust the murderers thronged behind.

Shelley's indestructible faith in the bright and glorious future of mankind never left him even in his darkest moments. In the breath of the autumn wind he felt the coming spring:—

> If winter comes, can spring be far behind?
> behind?

FIERY SPIRIT

In English and American criticism it has frequently been pointed out that Shelley as early as in "Queen Mab" cast off the world outlook of Godwin and left behind him the mechanical materialism and deism which are so typical of the thinkers of the eighteenth century, and in the essence of his philosophy drew near to Spinoza. But the question as to which aspect of Spinoza's philosophy is most fully reflected in Shelley and what Shelley himself added to this pholosophy has not yet been investigated.

In any case, it would be difficult to find a poet who so powerfully portrays the ceaseless and unwearying creativeness, the infinite potency of the "great mother"—Nature. Although his romantic imagery is "rich and strange," Shelley is no Ariel. He is one of earth's own sons. Could Ariel ever have created, for instance, such a tragedy as "The Cenci?" This tragedy, by the way, was prohibited by the Tsarist censorship and was first staged in Russia only in Soviet times.

A CLARION CALL

His hatred of the frivolous attitude Shelley expressed, as he frequently did, in a paradoxical form when he said to his friend Hogg: "You laugh at everything! I am convinced that there can be no entire regeneration of mankind until laughing is put down!"

On the other hand, his biography is interesting in that the impetuosity and fire of Shelley, that typical Englishman, go to refute the widely spread idea of Englishmen as slow and phlegmatic. Shelley was not only a contemplative philosopher but also a creator of sweet verbal melodies. To-day, the voice of this singer of struggle and freedom sounds a clarion call to the English people, to all progressive mankind who are battling against the dark forces of violence and oppression.

—*Condensed from* Soviet War News.

KEROSENE ECONOMY LAMPS

To meet the existing shortage of kerosene oil the Government of Madras have had under consideration the question of utilising vegetable oils (both edible and non-edible) for illumination purposes. Although some of these oils have been used to a limited extent in the past to light open lamps in Indian homes a more extended use has now become imperative not only because all available stocks of kerosene oil must be conserved for war purposes but also because a universal use of vegetable oils for illumination is admittedly an economic gain to the Province. Since the ordinary kerosene oil lamps do not burn vegetable oils, the Government at the outset realised that a more universal use of vegetable oils required a new type of lamp specially suited to the needs of the average Indian household. Towards this end they have not only initiated experiments at the Government School of Technology, but have also been actively encouraging the design and manufacture of special lamps. A number of such lamps and adaptations have been devised by the public and by Government departments and these have been tested by the Department of Industries and Commerce. Some of these are costly and wasteful of oil and others are complicated in design and not easy to manipulate. While each has its own special merits, it cannot be said that an ideal lamp suited to the needs of the average Indian household has yet been devised for universal application. After a series of tests on lamps and oils, the Government have come to the conclusion that for the immediate needs of the public, "Rama Deepa," the "G.S.T. Burner" and the "Government Tumbler" lamps are suitable for general use.

"Rama Deepa" has already been recommended to the Collectors for trial in the Government Offices in East and West Godavari districts. This lamp successfully burns groundnut oil, pungam oil and tobacco seed oil. It is a portable lantern and its appearance for all practical purposes is precisely the same as that of an ordinary kerosene oil hurricane lantern. Its use therefore does not call for any special skill on the part of the user. The wick of this lamp, however, requires to be trimmed every six hours. These lamps are manufactured by the Patentee Mr. V. V. Sarma, cheap lamps suitable for the poor being specially manufactured on behalf of the Provincial Organizer, National War Front.

The G.S.T. Burner is not a new lamp, but only a new burner. It is designed to fit into an existing hurricane lantern and burn groundnut oil, pungam oil or tobacco seed oil. The fitting of this burner into an existing hurricane lamp is done by taking out the kerosene oil burner and slipping in its place the new G.S.T. Burner. This does not require any special skill as it merely fits into the existing lamp. This burner is cheap and efficient. The oil tank however requires to be filled and the wick trimmed every six hours.

The third lamp is the "Government Tumbler Lamp." This lamp may truly be called a poor man's lamp. Though its candle power is not high, it can be useful to a poor man's home where at present naked kerosene oil lamps are being used. It is portable and wind proof and burns on practically all vegetable oils both edible and non-edible such as groundnut oil, pungam oil, tobacco seed oil, neem oil, illupai oil, castor oil, and pinnakottai oil.

Further particulars relating to prices, instructions for use and centres of supply, etc., in respect of G.S.T. Burner and Government Tumbler lamp may be obtained from the Principal, Government School of Technology, Madras, or from the Joint Director of Industries and Commerce, Chepauk, Madras, and particulars in respect of "Rama deepa" from Messrs. Rama Deepa Works, Dowlaiswaram (East Godavari District.)

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

15th Apr.— During a raid alert in the London area, there was heavy air activity over the Thames Estuary for more than an hour.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command made a very heavy attack on Stuttgart.

The Royal Air Force attacked industrial targets at Ostend and three armed trawlers off the Dutch coast. It was reported that what was left of the great Fiat works after the Royal Air Force bombing was transferred to an unknown destination in Germany.

According to the Paris Radio, the evacuation of all persons who had no vital reason for staying was carried out in Cherbourg and Dieppe.

17th Apr.— A small number of Axis aircraft were over East Anglia and south-east England.

More than 600 aircraft of the Bomber Command in the biggest night operations this year heavily attacked the Skoda armament works at Pilsen in Czechoslovakia and the armament centres of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen. American heavy bombers attacked targets at Bremen.

Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister of Aircraft Production, said that the battle of North Africa was but a prelude to those final blows that must be struck to liberate the peoples of Europe and relieve the besieged Chinese.

18th Apr.— United States Air Force attacked an industrial plant at Zeebrugge. Aircraft of the Bomber Command swept over France, Holland and north-west Germany. The Royal Air Force attacked Dieppe docks.

19th Apr.— Goebbels, in a broadcast, said: "This war is one of the hardest and the end is not even in sight."

British light coastal forces engaged three German armed trawlers off Scheveningen near the Hague, Holland.

A large Axis convoy was attacked by aircraft of the Coastal Command off the Dutch coast.

One of the most ferocious battles of the war between aircraft and U-boats was fought for four days in the Atlantic as a result of which several U-boats were sunk.

20th Apr.—The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Belgium. Transport targets were also attacked from Brittany, across France to Holland and north-west Germany. The docks at Cherbourg, industrial plants at Zeebrugge and railway targets at Boulogne were bombed.

The ban on ringing Church bells on Sundays was removed.

21st Apr.— The Royal Air Force attacked the Baltic port of Stettin and the port and Heinkel works at Rostock. Locomotives and barges in France, the Low Countries and north-west Germany and shipping off the Belgian coast were also attacked.

Berlin was attacked heavily and large fires were left burning.

Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, declared: "Our determination to force Japan into unconditional surrender is just as strong as our determination to put an end to Hitler and Hitlerism."

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, revealed that the shackling of British prisoners of war in Germany still continued.

Mr. Maisky, Soviet Ambassador in London, said: "The Red Army and the whole Soviet people expect that in the military campaigns of this year, the Western Allies will pull their full weight in the common struggle against our common enemy."

22nd Apr.— There was a raid on a north-east Scottish town.

24th Apr.— A few enemy aircraft crossed the south and south-west coasts of England. Bombs were dropped at scattered points.

The Royal Air Force carried out widespread operations against railway and water transport in Belgium and France.

27th Apr.—The Royal Air Force raided Duisburg, one of the heaviest yet made on Germany.

28th Apr.— A strong enemy convoy was intercepted off Brittany. Two supply ships and two escort vessels were sunk and an E-boat was destroyed.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

16th Apr.— Mr. Cordell Hull told a press conference that he knew nothing about a report from Barcelona that Spain was ready to help negotiate immediate world peace. He added that the attitude of the United States Government and as far as possible of the United Nations was unconditional surrender. He also said that the situation at Martinique was still fermenting.

17th Apr.— Colonel Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, disclosed that the United States now had seven fleets in existence.

18th Apr.— Commenting on the statement of Count Jordana, Spanish Foreign Minister, Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the United States Office of War Information, said: "The Spanish suggestion (for negotiating peace) has found no takers at all in Allied capitals."

20th Apr.— Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information, disclosed that the American raid on Tokyo was made from an aircraft carrier.

The American magazine *Mercury* revealed that British Secret Service Agents fooled Hitler in sending Hess to Britain in May 1941.

21st Apr.— The Truman Committee disclosed that approximately 12,000,000 tons of Allied shipping were sunk last year—more than the total tonnage built by the United States and Britain combined in 1942.

22nd Apr.— President Roosevelt, in the course of a statement, said: "The days of exploitation of the resources and peoples of one country for the benefit of any group in another country are definitely over."

President Roosevelt announced the execution of some members of the American armed forces who fell into Japanese hands.

25th Apr.— Mr. Robert P. Patterson, United States Under Secretary for War, said: "It will take the combined sacrifice and wholehearted unity of effort of all the United Nations to carry this war straight to the rotten hearts of their leaders in their homelands."

26th Apr.— Mr. Joseph Grew, former United States Ambassador to Tokyo, said that if the Japanese were allowed to retain and promote the resources of their ill-gotten gains in the Pacific, it would be only a matter of time before they attempted the conquest of America itself.

27th Apr.— The National Committee of the Finnish-American trade unionists urged the United States to declare war on Finland as an enemy of America and the United Nations.

• • • •

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

15th Apr.— On the Arakan front, enemy attempts to infiltrate into our positions in the Gyindaw area were frustrated. The Royal Air Force bombed a Japanese troop position on the Mayu ridge. Six power launches full of Japanese troops were sunk off Ramree island. On the Mayu river, three launches and other craft were badly damaged.

16th Apr.— Two parties of Japanese were ambushed in the Mayu hills. The Royal Air Force bombed enemy troop positions on the Mayu ridge. The Magwe airfield and Akyab were also attacked. Enemy installations in Prome and railway yards at Ywataung and Mandalay were bombed by United States aircraft.

17th Apr.— Mr. Churchill sent a message to His Excellency Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy, paying a tribute to Indian troops now fighting in Tunisia.

General Clayton Bissell, Commanding-General, Tenth United States of America Air Force, said that there had been an increase in Japanese air strength and Japanese air activity in Burma. "They have not hurt us a bit," he said. "We are ready for them and will welcome them."

18th Apr.— The Royal Air Force attacked seven Japanese occupied villages in the Foul Point area and on Akyab Island.

19th Apr.— The Royal Air Force bombed Pinbon. In the upper Chindwin, heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

20th Apr.— The Tenth United States Air Force attacked targets in Rangoon and northern Burma. Bombs were dropped on the airfield at Toungoo.

21st Apr.— The Royal Air Force attacked 500 Japanese troops at a place in Mayu hills. Enemy transport and buildings were machine-gunned in Akyab district.

22nd Apr.— The Royal Air Force raided Imphal. Enemy military objectives in Thailand were attacked by American aircraft. Enemy installations in Rangoon were also attacked.

23rd Apr.— It was disclosed that the Japanese were guilty of murder of British and Indian prisoners of war. The Royal Air Force bombed Akyab airfield.

24th Apr.— The Royal Air Force bombed Pinbon. Transport and other targets in Mayu battle area were machine-gunned.

25th Apr.— The Royal Air Force bombed Maiktila airfield. Bombs were also dropped on Heho airfield and Yenangyaung. Fires were left burning.

26th Apr.— An air raid alert was sounded in Cuttack on April 18.

A Japanese attack south of Buthidaung was repulsed. The Royal Air Force bombed two Japanese-occupied villages on the Arakan coast.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

15th Apr.— General Eisenhower, in a press interview, said: "Every soldier, every Commander, British, French or American, has the firm intention of annihilating the German army in Tunisia." It was reported that 175 to 200,000 Axis troops were trapped and Rommel's desperate defence of Tunis was likely. 30,000 Axis prisoners were taken. Italians were evacuated from Tunisia.

Aircraft of the Bomber Comand attacked the naval base of Spezia in northern Italy, Palermo and Sicily.

Rommel flew to Italy for an urgent military conference.

A Dutch submarine sank a fully laden 4,000-ton Axis supply ship in the Mediterranean. A Greek submarine sank two Axis ships in the Ægean Sea.

16th Apr.— The Morocco Radio stated that the Eighth Army was massing for an attack on a large scale. Italian rearguards were completely wiped out. French troops captured 1,000 prisoners. The enemy was beaten in the high ground north of Medjez-el-Bab. The Royal Air Force attacked enemy airfields in southern Sardinia. The United States aircraft attacked Catania and Palermo harbours. Two Italian destroyers were sunk off Sicily.

17th Apr.— According to the Algiers Radio, very heavy fighting took place in the central sector. The German Radio said that Medjez-el-Bab would certainly have to be evacuated.

The Royal Air Force bombed the harbour at Naples, Messina and Rossano in south Itlay on April 15. The United States aircraft attacked Catania harbour in Sicily.

British destroyers sank two large Italian destroyers in the Sicilian Channel.

18th Apr.— The Algiers Radio stated that Allied forces were 25 miles from Tunis. Enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the Algiers area. It was revealed that since the start of the Mareth Battle, 519 Axis aircraft were shot down and 21 Axis ships were sunk in the Mediterranean.

19th Apr.— The Desert Air Force destroyed 74 Axix aircraft in a single engagement in the Sicilian narrows. There was intensified fighting in Tunisia. Palermo, Ragusa, Ports Torres and Speria were bombed by American aircraft.

20th Apr.— The Eighth Army launched an attack on the Enfidaville line. Allied fighters struck a further blow at the *Luftwaffe's* fleet of transport aircraft. According to the Algiers Radio, Rommel had lost the best of 1,500 aircraft in the past four weeks. British troops seized Kerkenna Islands off the Tunisian coast.

21st Apr.— The Eighth Army captured Enfidaville. Four enemy counter-attacks were repulsed. Nineteen Axis aircraft were destroyed over the Gulf of Tunis.

22nd Apr.— The First Army beat off a heavy attack in Medjez-el-Bab sector. A number of E-boats were engaged off Bizerta. There was a fierce battle on the Eighth Army front.

The Royal Air Force bombed Naples and Sicily.

It was reported that Rommel was seriously ill in Berlin. The headquarters of Afrika Korps were removed to Sicily.

23rd Apr.— The Eighth Army captured Takrouna, the German defence line. Twenty German aircraft were shot down over the Gulf of Tunis. The First Army launched a new assault in the Bou Arada sector.

24th Apr.— A great attack on the Axis perimeter began. Goubellat in Central Tunisia fell into the hands of the British. The Eighth Army was near Bou Ficha. An enemy supply ship was sunk in the Mediterranean. American troops were 15 miles from Mateur.

According to the Algiers Radio, an agreement was reached on all essential points between General Giraud and General de Gaulle.

25th Apr.— French troops took Djebel Mansour and British infantry fought their way to Sidi Medien. All Axis counter-attacks in northern and Central sectors were held.

26th Apr.— Naples was bombed by the Royal Air Force. An enemy schooner was set on fire in the Ionian Sea.

The Allies pierced the Axis lines in the Bou Arada sector. French troops entered the Pont Du Fahs area.

It was officially announced that Rommel and Von Arnim had lost 62,000 men killed, wounded or taken prisoner in North Africa between January 1 and April 15.

27th Apr.— Allied aircraft attacked the submarine base at Angusta on the eastern coast of Sicily.

Fighting continued south-east of Medjez-el-Bab. British infantry cleared Long Stop Hill. Eighty German tanks were destroyed.

28th Apr.— The battle in Tunisia approached its culmination. The British First Army was 1½ miles from Tebomba. The Germans fell back to Pont Du Fahs region.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

15th Apr.— The Red Army forced the Germans back across the Taman Peninsula towards the Kerch Straits and getting nearer Novorossisk. German attacks were held up upper Donetz. It was reported that the Germans were likely to launch an all-out attack on Leningrad with the aim of preventing the Fins negotiating a separate peace.

Soviet aircraft attacked Koenigsberg and Danzig.

16th Apr.— Soviet forces were 60 miles from the Kerch Straits. German troops were rushed by air into the Kuban "pocket."

The Soviet information Bureau emphatically denied the German allegations that the Russians had executed Poles at Smolensk. It was revealed that the Germans themselves executed former Polish citizens.

17th Apr.— There was bitter fighting in the Kuban. Both sides prepared for a final battle of the Taman bridge head. Since the capture of Krasnodar it had cost the Germans 15,000 killed or taken prisoner.

18th Apr.— A German counter-attack was smashed back in the Kuban. In one sector, a battalion of Axis infantry was wiped out and 5 tanks were disabled. An enemy transport of 12,000 tons was sunk in the Barents Sea.

Soviet planes attacked Danzig, Koenigsberg and Tilsit.

19th Apr.— It was revealed that the Germans lost nearly 6,000 men in a series of counter-attacks in the Kuban "pocket" of the Caucasus. In an air battle at the approaches to Leningrad, 8 German planes were brought down and another 19 were destroyed.

20th Apr.— Hitler's Caucasus troops launched another infantry and tank attack. German long-range guns bombarded Leningrad.

21st Apr.— Hitler massed an army of 100,000 men in the Kuban. The Moscow Radio said that 320 enemy aircraft were destroyed last week.

22nd Apr.— Fighting for Novorossisk entered the final stage. The Russians penetrated into the city at several points.

Reports were received from several sources that Hitler was making preparations for using poison gas on the Russian front. Britain and United States of America replied that they would retaliate.

23rd Apr.— There were savage battles in the Kuban and Nazi attacks were thrown back.

24th Apr.— There were artillery duels at the gates of Novorossisk. Two hundred Soviet aircraft raided Intersburg in eastern Prussia. It was disclosed that the Germans put to death 1,500 Jews.

25th Apr.— Russian forces were concentrated south of Novorossisk for a break through.

26th Apr.— The Moscow Radio broadcast a special announcement by the Soviet Government that the Soviet Government had decided to break off relations with the Polish Government.

German attacks south of Balakleya were repelled. An enemy submarine was sunk in the Black Sea.

27th Apr.— In the Kuban, 17 German planes were shot down during the past few days. West of Rostov-on-Don an enemy train transporting ammunition was destroyed.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15th Apr.—German planes flew over Karlskrona in Sweden.

The Spanish ship *Costidio Monte Allegro* was torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic in a daylight attack by a German submarine.

16th Apr.— A Portuguese cargo ship *Santa Irene* was sunk by an unknown submarine in the Mediterranean on the way from Iltay to Lisbon.

17th Apr.— Count Jordana, Spanish Foreign Minister, said that Spain was ready to co-operate in the speedy restoration of world peace.

20th Apr.— The Spanish steamer *Castillo de Monte Alegre* was lost off the Senegal Coast.

An agreement was signed between Germany and Turkey providing for the exchange of 120 millions Reich marks of goods during the next year.

24th Apr.— Sweden announced that her navy would take measures against any German forces laying mines in Swedish territorial waters or against ships firing on Swedish vessels.

* * * *

SHIPPING

21st Apr.— The British submarine *Thunderbolt* was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

15th Apr.— It was reported that Hungary had refused Axis requests for troops to help to defend the Balkans and at the same time withdrew her troops from Russia.

Hitler received Marshal Antonesque, Rumanian Prime Minister, at his headquarters on April 12 to discuss the general political situation and the campaign against Russia.

16th Apr.— Aircrafts of the Fighter Command made deep and widespread penetrations into Axis-occupied territory and north-west Germany.

20th Apr.— It was disclosed that the Germans had made preparations to throw all Frenchmen in France into concentration camps in the event of an Allied invasion.

All Frenchmen between the ages of 16 and 50 were ordered to withdraw 50 kilometres from the Mediterranean coast of France.

It was revealed that two million Jewish men, women and children had been wiped out by the Nazis since they began to march through Europe in 1939.

26th Apr.— Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, said: "Hungary is seeking to make contact with the Allies by all possible means and will betray Germany at the appropriate moment."

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

15th Apr.— Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, said: "The threat of attack can be expected to grow. So must our resistance." Mr. Beasley, Minister of Supply and Shipping, said: "The Japanese are concentrating forces to blast the Allied bases before launching a large-scale offensive against Australia." Lieut.-Genl. G. E. Kenny revealed that the Japanese had too many planes. Mr. H. Stimson, United States War Secretary, said that aircraft supply to Australia would be increased.

General MacArthur stated: "The Japanese have complete control of sea-bases in the western Pacific and outer approaches towards Australia."

16th Apr.— Chinese troops attacking west of Chefoe in the north-east part of the Shantung Peninsula, broke through the first Japanese line of defence.

Dr. Evatt, Australian Foreign Minister, pleaded that sufficient air force should be allocated to the south-west Pacific for delivering new blows to Japan. "Australia is not concerned merely about her security. We fight as trustees for the United Nations."

Mr. Forde, Army Minister, said: "I say unhesitatingly that this war is likely to last several years."

Mr. Drakeford, Air Minister, said: "I warn you that Australia is in danger—in grim danger. In the islands along our northern perimeter looms the impending menace of a great onslaught with all the savagery of which the Japanese mind is capable."

According to United States pilots, Japanese forces on the Aleutian Islands of Kiska and Attu were stronger than ever.

17th Apr.— It was disclosed that the Japanese convoy off Wewak, the main enemy base in New Guinea, had fled. Kiska was raided by United States planes 13 times on April 15. Fires were started.

The resignation from the Bangkok (Siam) Government of Ministers was regarded as confirmation of the disgust over Japan's highhandedness.

18th Apr.— Chinese forces flung back a large-scale Japanese attack east of Ichang.

Allied bombers attacked the dock area of Ambon, causing explosions and fires. A 5,000-ton Japanese vessel was bombed in Bismarck Sea.

20th Apr.— Japanese aircraft raided Guadalcanar. It was disclosed that 754,280 tons of Japanese shipping was sunk or damaged in the north-eastern and north-western sectors from last August to March.

Chinese units carried out successful raids on Japanese positions near Sinyang in Honon.

21st Apr.— General MacArthur's spokesman revealed that the Japanese were rapidly reinforcing their ground and air forces on battle fields north of Australia.

Mr. Wurth, Director-General of Manpower, said: "Australia's manpower position is very grave."

A United States submarine sunk eight large Japanese ships and two tankers and wrecked a large trawler in one week—a total of 37,000 tons.

The Japanese Ambassador at Nanking and former envoy in London, Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu was appointed Foreign Minister in the Japanese Cabinet. It was suggested that Tojo was preparing for a possible German defeat when a peace offensive would be in order.

22nd Apr.— The new Japanese Foreign Minister said that war was rapidly reaching a climax and that all nations had mobilised for the final battle.

The Japanese Cabinet reshuffle was interpreted by the New York *Herald Tribune* as an effort to make a separate peace between Hitler and Russia, and M. Stalin's good offices to be used to bring about peace between China and Japan.

23rd Apr.— American forces occupied Fanfuti Island in the south Pacific without opposition. United States aircraft attacked targets in New Guinea.

24th Apr.— Four Japanese bases in the Solomons were attacked by United States planes.

25th Apr.— Allied heavy bombers attacked Kendari in the Celebes, one of the main Japanese air supply centre bases in the Netherlands. A large Japanese convoy was attacked 300 miles north of Wewak. Five Japanese aircraft were shot down.

26th Apr.— Five Japanese aircraft were shot down in an air combat near Guadalcanar.

The Chinese evacuated Linchwan.

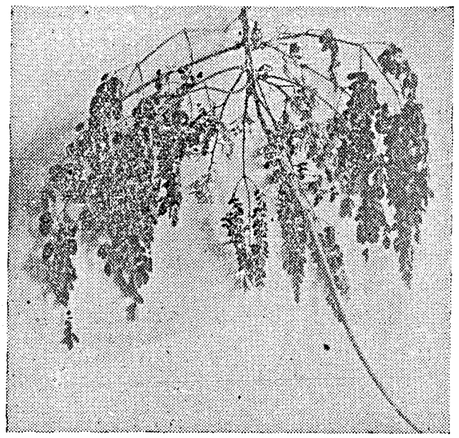
27th Apr.— Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, stated that the Japanese strength in the Pacific was spread out pretty thinly. There was no unusual massing of Japanese strength.

Allied planes raided Ubili, Gasmata and Arame in New Britain and Finschhafen in New Guinea.

28th Apr.— Admiral Ernest King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, declared that the expansion of the Japanese forces in the Pacific had been checked.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Drumstick Tree or Horse-radish Tree



Moringa oleifera (*pterygosperma*), Lat.; *Family Moringaceae*; *murunggai*, Tam.; *Munakkaya*, Tel.; *Muringa*, Mal.

Description.—A tree with tuberous roots and compound leaves. Flowers are creamish white, and form large clusters. The fruits are thin, long and pendulous.

Propagation.—Drumstick plants are usually propagated from cuttings which are planted in rainy weather. But they can also be raised from dry seeds obtained from fruits which are allowed to dry on the plant.

Cultivation.—These trees should be at least 15—20 feet apart. They must be watered during dry seasons, and well-rotted cattle manure and ash added to the soil round about, before the rainy season.

Uses.—The tender leaves and fruits, and the flowers are used a great deal for curries, and the roots and bark in medicine. A valuable oil (Oil of Bew) is obtained from the seeds, and the gum from the bark is used in calico-printing.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1943 No. 34

One Common BLOW

M. STALIN

During the winter campaign of 1942-43, 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 material, encircled and liquidated two enemy armies before Stalingrad, took prisoner more than 300,000 enemy officers and men, and liberated from German yoke hundreds of Soviet towns and thousands of villages

Simultaneously the victorious troops of our Allies defeated the Italo-German troops in Libya and Tripolitania, cleared these territories from 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

M. STALIN in an Order of the Day
broadcast on April 30

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Soviet Ambassador Maisky	6
Technical Struggle between Fighter and Fighter	7
Typhoon: Britain's New Single-Seat Fighter.	8
Three Aeronautical Developments	9
Turning Trees into Aircraft	10
"Eight Corners, One Roof"	10
India's Coast Defence Units: Two Lone Flyers and a Jap Naval Force	11
"One-Man Fight against Japan!"	12
Patrol Activity increases in Arakan: Japs get Worst of Many Clashes	14
Pacific Campaign Plans	14
Old Hopeless Sham	15
Will Italian Fleet come out of its Lair?	16
"Tank Buster" at El Hamma	16
Middle East Crops save Shipping	18
Paving the Way for Allied Land Offensive	18
Story of Gabes	19
War Diary	20
Front and Factory	23

JUNGLE FOLLIES

A SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Calcutta girl, Joyce Langton, who only left school a few months ago, is the first woman to cross into Burma to visit our troops there.

With three other pretty Calcutta girls, Joyce is a member of the Jungle Follies, one of the first concert parties to entertain the advanced troops on the Burma Front.

To get to the Burma frontier they travelled over two hundred miles in a lorry from the railhead, bringing their own props, including a piano.

Two of the girls, 25-year-old Maud McGrath and 19-year-old Irene Johnson, were hair-dressers before they volunteered to join a concert party. The fourth, 18-year-old Pearl Foscholo, was a dancer.

In jungle clearings, by the light of hurricane lamps, the girls sang and danced for the troops on hastily constructed stages made of bamboo.

All the male members of the party were Royal Air Force men. Most of them were professional actors, or musical artistes, in civilian life.

One of the musicians used to play a trumpet in a Salvation Army band.

Everywhere they went the Jungle Follies played to packed houses, either in bamboo huts or in the open, with the troops sitting on the long grass of the jungle.

At the end of the tour, Joyce Langton said: "It was absolutely wizard. I hope to come back soon. The boys were the most friendly and appreciative audience anyone could wish for."

◆ ◆ ◆

JEEP PADRES

IF you see a man bouncing along a jungle road in a small car stacked with groceries—that will be one of the Jeep Padres.

Half grocer—half clergyman, these jungle padres are the most welcome visitors to the forward troops on the North Burma Front.

Back at base, they buy razor blades, soaps, sweets, cigarettes, and other things which are difficult to obtain in the deep jungle. They pile these into Jeeps, and drive hundreds of miles along rough jungle tracks to isolated units.

Once there, they turn their Jeeps into grocery stalls, and are soon surrounded by a crowd of officers and men, anxious to buy the goods which they sell on a non-profit basis.

This is, of course, only part of their job. They hold services for the troops, and give advice on individual problems. Whenever possible, they start improvised churches for the troops.

In one village near the front line, a padre took over a deserted mud-and-bamboo hut, formerly used by villagers, and made it into a church.

He had it whitewashed, and "scrounged" a few old school desks for pews. A rickety table was his pulpit. A whitewashed, tiny windowless room at the back was his vestry.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1943 No. 34

Allied Submarines take Heavy Toll—Scarlet Pimpernel work in Mediterranean.

Allied submarines in the Mediterranean have been successful in taking a heavy toll of Axis shipping. This success has been so pronounced that Axis convoys now consist of more escort vessels than of actual supply ships. "Sinkings of Axis ships in the Mediterranean," says *Reuter's* Special Correspondent on board a submarine mothership somewhere in the Mediterranean, "have been, and are still, 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. The Axis is constantly being denied reinforcements and supplies so urgently needed." The submarines that are harassing Axis supply lines are truly representative of the United Nations, for there are, in addition to British and American vessels, French, Greek, Polish, Dutch and Yugoslav submarines, which are all doing most gallant and effective work. During the six months following the great offensive launched at El Alamein by General MONTGOMERY, Allied submarines have sunk 18 Axis warships and 122 Axis supply ships in the Mediterranean.

But this is not the only job they are doing. "They have had," says Lieut.-Commander THOMAS WOODROFFE in a recent B.B.C. broadcast, "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."

During 1941 and 1942 Axis ships undertook 720 voyages across the Mediterranean to Africa. British submarines sank 216 (30 per cent) and heavily damaged 61 (8 per cent) of these, leaving ROMMEL'S Army with about 60 per cent of its scheduled strength for the final decision in the Battle of Egypt. On October 23, 1942, that is, six weeks before the crucial battle began, Allied submarines launched their heaviest offensive ever, and the result was that not a single tanker reached ROMMEL in time to meet MONTGOMERY'S assault. That was the reason why the Luftwaffe was able to launch only one attack on the Eighth Army in the first four days' fighting at El Alamein, and it also explains the abandonment of more than 500 aircraft in good condition on the air fields between El Alamein and El Agheila.

Axis and Allied Routes to Africa—U-Boats and Battle of Egypt.

Coming to the submarine warfare in the Mediterranean, the one main difficulty facing the Allied submarine commanders was the shortness of the Axis routes. It may be pointed out that the distance between Cape Littino (Crete) to Tobruk is 175 sea miles, and that between Cape Passero (Sicily) to Tripoli 240 sea miles. The longest distance of the Axis routes is between Cape Pessero and Benghazi, about 360 sea miles. The shortness of the route enabled Axis ships to cover 120 sea miles in the eight hours of darkness between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. at a speed of 15 knots per hour. This left the submarines only 4 to 16 hours of daylight to locate and attack their targets. So a great deal depended upon the infallible timing of interception. Another difficulty was that the submarines were not able to surface within torpedo range owing to 100 per cent Axis air protection of all routes.

As regards Allied supplies bound for Africa, they had to cover a very long route which was exposed to attacks from Axis U-boats. The distance from Liverpool to Aden *via* the Cape of Good Hope is 50 times the distance from Naples to Benghazi. For at least half of this distance of 12,000 miles, our ships had no air escort. The Allied supply ships were open to attack for a number of weeks, whereas it was only a question of hours for the Axis ships in the Central Mediterranean. For every British submarine in commission there were up to 5 U-boats. In spite of these advantages for the Axis, the U-boats failed so completely that 50,000 British troops rounded the Cape of Good Hope every month from January to June last year, and won the Battle of Egypt.

It is also well to bear in mind that in the summer of 1940 Axis shipping in the Mediterranean totalled 2,331,291 tons. British submarines sank 1,000,000 tons namely, 43 per cent of their target in the 28 months from August 23, 1940 to January 23, 1943. In 1939 the total tonnage of British and European Allied shipping was 30,840,000. The Axis U-boats sank not more than 7,250,000 tons, that is, 24 per cent of the target, from the beginning of the war to the end of 1941.

These facts and figures give us a general idea of Allied and Axis submarine activity in the Mediterranean.

"Second Front" in North Africa: Italy's Confidence turns into Despair.

In a speech at Birmingham, Mr. L. S. AMERY, Secretary of State for India, referred to North Africa and said that it had become a second front, not by our choice, but by HITLER's reaction to our initiative. By deciding to throw in as much of his reinforcements as possible, HITLER had chosen to make North Africa a second front. It may be recalled that last year on August 3, MUSSOLINI boasted,

> "The Second Front will be opened neither here nor in any other part of the world."

Rome radio said,

> "Italians fight magnificently when attacked. This is for those who would attack us at home. However, the direct attack is dependent on the conquest of Libya by Britain, and of course this is impossible." But Italy's tone of confidence has now completely disappeared, after Libya went the way of other Italian conquests and as the Tunisian campaign is entering on its final phase. Italy not only lost its Empire, but also a very large army in North Africa, and Italian propagandists are now greatly perturbed over the defences of Italy itself.

MARIO APPELIUS, the radio commentator, has now openly warned his countrymen that they must be prepared to face a concentration of the united military strength of Britain and America. Last month (April 12), the Rome radio issued a stern warning to the Italians stating that "the situation is very grave." The announcer added,

> "The war zone is gradually getting near to Italy. We must be prepared to face very hard times."

MUSSOLINI knows what the hard times would be like and is very much worried about Italy's defences. He is now feverishly strengthening his coastal lines. Sicily and Sardinia are evacuating their civilian population, and 40,000 Italian workmen are erecting fortifications in Corsica, Sicily, Sardinia, on the Gulfs of Taranto and Genoa and along the Tyrrhenian coast. The coastal defences, says the Rome radio, are "practically impregnable," and "any enemy fleet which would attempt to approach Italy's coast would be engaged and annihilated by the Italian fleet, which is on constant

guard." But MUSSOLINI's fleet, though strong, is top-heavy and unbalanced. There are seven Italian battleships, but they have not enough destroyers to screen them.

Frantic defence preparations are being made in Sicily and Sardinia. Two civil commissioners have been appointed to co-ordinate civil administration with military measures in the two islands. Though this represents a complete break with MUSSOLINI's normal policy of centralized control, it is due to a deep realization of the imminent threat to the two bastions of Italy's defence line. A large part of the Luftwaffe and a considerable number of anti-aircraft batteries have been, it is stated, transferred from other parts of Europe to the defence of Italy. Reports from Switzerland refer to the appointment of a secret commission to prepare the transfer of the Government from Rome to Florence or Bologna. It is also stated that elaborate instructions have been issued to Italians as to how they should behave in the event of an Allied occupation. Factories have been moved to areas of comparative safety, and what was left of the Fiat Works after bombing by the Royal Air Force was transferred to Germany.

* * *

Feeling in Britain After Dunkirk And in Italy now.

Italy now is more or less in the same position as Britain after Dunkirk in 1940, but there is one great difference. There was no talk of defeatism in Britain, but in Italy suspicion and despair now haunt the people. The prevailing feeling in Britain then and in Italy now may be gathered from two important statements.

> "We shall defend our island," said Mr. CHURCHILL in 1940, "whatever the cause may be, until in God's good time, the New World with all its power and might sets forth to the liberation and rescue of the Old."

Sgr. GAYADA, Mussolini's Goebbels, writing in the *Giornale d'Italia*, says,

> "Capitulation would mean heavy territorial sacrifices. We must continue fighting even if the situation is desperate. In any case the enemy must not penetrate within the Axis frontiers."

LANCE-NAIK YESUDAS, an Indian Christian from Kanigiri, Nellore district, who was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal, for exemplary courage in directing fire against a number of advancing enemy tanks in the Western Desert battle. His gun crew accounted for three tanks.

The difference between these two pronouncements is clear. The first is the voice of a leader who is sure of his cause and of its ultimate victory. The second is the cry of desperation of a person who sees victory receding from his grasp and is frantically urging the people to put forth their utmost effort.

In spite of attempts to bolster up the people's morale, there seems to be a feeling of misgiving among the general public in Italy. There are talks of revolution and defeat, referring to which MUSSOLINI's paper, *Popolo d'Italia*, says,

> "While our soldiers suffer hunger and thirst at the front, how can we tolerate Italians who are betraying them by the infiltration of such ideas?"

In a recently published programme of the Fascist party, CARLO SCORSO, the newly appointed Secretary, demands that all suppressive elements, including those who pursue an appeasement policy, should be asked to resign from the party. Thus we see that when the hour of danger to Italy approaches, MUSSOLINI and his followers are uneasy about the attitude of their own subjects.

Soviet Ambassador Maisky

By BAHADUR SINGH

FOR ten years now, Ivan Mikhailovich Maisky has been Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Britain. His position as Ambassador was often delicate and generally exacting, but Russia was sure of her choice, and to-day, no member of the diplomatic corps is better known to the British public than the Russian Ambassador.

M. Maisky was born on January 19, 1884, the son of a scientist. He was not bred to diplomacy, but he believes that the chief duty of an envoy is to know and to understand the people among whom he must work and live. The greatest foe of good diplomacy, he says, is inertia and indolent aversion to new ideas.

EARLY LIFE

He has been no less indulgent with the Press, for he himself was a journalist in his earlier days. Few people realize that as far back as 1912, M. Maisky earned a moderate living as a free-lance journalist. Although an imperfect knowledge of English hampered him, it was reported that his work was in the old Russian vein—serious, well-informed, written for the intelligent reader, but always topical and always vivid.

Before this time, his youth was typical of the large numbers of Russian revolutionaries living under the Czar. It is the story so often told of underground activities, of persecution and of the poverty and nostalgia of political exile. After the Revolution, M. Maisky returned to Russia in 1917. There were still journalistic interludes in his career, and Russians recall his editorship of a Leningrad magazine. He organized the Russian co-operative movement and led it after the fall of Czardom. In 1921, he headed the Siberian State Planning Committee. Since then Siberia has become the core of Russia's industrial life.

In 1922 he entered the Soviet diplomatic service as Chief of the Press Department of the Moscow Foreign Office. From 1923 to 1927, he was Councillor to the Russian Embassy in London, charged with the task of keeping the Foreign Office informed of Economic developments in Great Britain. It may be said that those who worked with him at that time recall his appetite for blue books and white papers, and radio reports and massive documents. In 1927 he left London, to return five years later as Ambassador, and during the interval he had served for two years in Tokyo and three years in Finland.

INTEREST IN LIFE AND SCIENCE

None of the preoccupations of a diplomatic life have lessened M. Maisky's interest in life or in science. There is nothing introspective or dilatory about him, and his speech is always vigorous.

Nearly a year and a half ago, he slipped unobtrusively into the chairman's seat at the conference held by the British Association on Science and World Planning. He was in a grim mood that morning, and talked "of a humble Ambassador who knows nothing about anything." He went on to assure his hearers that if Hitler won the war, there would be no freedom, no democracy, no culture, no science, no planning in the world. All that the Hitlerian order would mean to us, he said, would be one huge midden throughout the length and breadth of the planet. He was speaking as a representative of a nation that had tasted the tyranny and the terror of the invaders, and his sincerity and belief in victory were intense and unshakable.

TYPIFIES THE SPIRIT OF HIS PEOPLE

The big shots of the ambassador caste may find him baffling and too nimble for the routine of diplomatic circles. In Britain he and Madame Maisky have many close friends in the diplomatic corps.

There is nothing pompous in M. Maisky's nature. Whether he is unveiling a tablet on Lenin's former lodgings in Finsbury or presenting Russian orders to British airmen, the Ambassador's presence and dignity command respect and praise in the British people.

M. Maisky indeed typifies the spirit of his own people, and Moscow has recognized this quality by awarding him the Order of Lenin, one of the highest honours a Soviet citizen can receive.

—Condensed from a recent B.B.C. talk.

Technical Struggle Between Fighter and Fighter

By OLIVER STEWART

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 stinct 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. In the Mark 61 form, the Merlin engine has a two-stage supercharger and gives so much power at height that a four-bladed airscrew has to be used to absorb it all. The engine is a little longer than it used to be, so that the Spitfire has a slightly longer nose to enable it to be fitted in; but otherwise it looks superficially much the same. It carries two cannon and four machine guns, all in the wings, and it has all its old power of manœuvre and control through a wide speed range. In short, it is Mitchell's machine still; but in a much more highly developed form than it was when Mitchell died.

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. In a way I hope that will not be true. I should like to see a new and better fighter coming along. When the finest aeronautical engineers in all countries in the world are striving with all their might to produce a still better fighter, they are bound in the end to succeed. And then, when the new fighter comes out, it will be subjected to vigorous development just as the Spitfire was.

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.

—Broadcast in the B.B.C.'s Empire and North American Services.

Typhoon : Britain's New Single-Seat Fighter

By SANFORD LOCK

BRITAIN'S new single seater fighter, the Typhoon, which the Air Ministry has announced as operating in the air war, is the fastest and most pugnacious aircraft of its type in the world.

It is an out-size in fighters and nearly as large in appearance as that other magnificent new example of British engineering skill, the Mosquito. It is solid and a perfect gun-platform, and it has a single Napier " Sabre " engine of 2,400 h.p. or 100 h.p. per cylinder. Therein lies its secret.

With all that power to play with, Mr. Sidney Camm, the designer, was able to go all out for a phenomenal acceleration and climbing ability. He did not have to design a slim thorough-bred and so lose some robustness. He was able to use ideas of construction that called for power, knowing that he would get it.

The result is an aircraft which, in the words of a famous fighter pilot, climbs " like a rocket," is as " steady as a rock " when its cannon and guns are spitting death and " has the speed of a whipped devil."

BLOODED IN BATTLE

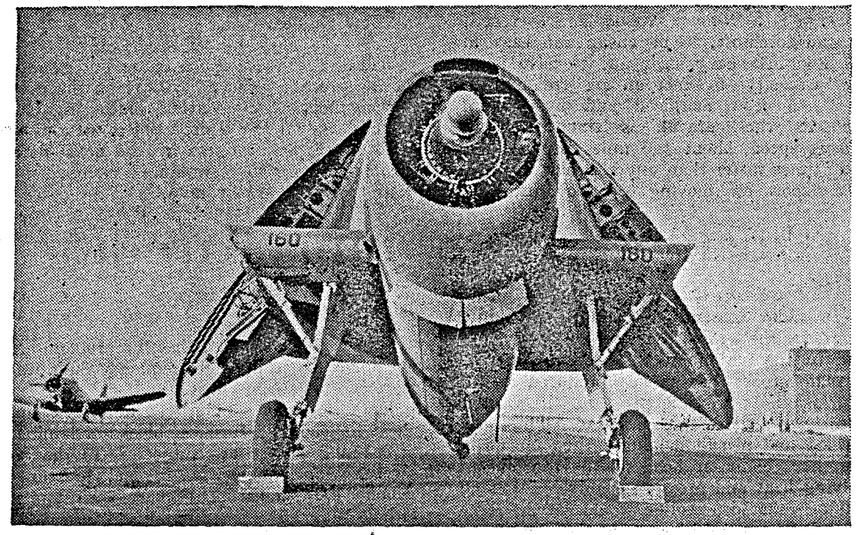
The Typhoon is a younger brother of the famous Hurricane, also designed by Mr. Camm, and a product of the Hawker Company. More than two years ago it was rumoured that it was in production. One year ago Captain Harold Balfour, M.P., Britain's Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Air, flew one of the first products of the type on a test flight. But it was not until the Commando raid on Dieppe last autumn that it was fully blooded in battle. Then, in force, it covered the landing along with Spitfires and Hurricanes, silenced German ground gun positions and helped to provide the " air umbrella " that was formed over the troops all through the operation.

In a recent daylight raid by the Luftwaffe on London, when children and teachers lost their lives in a bombed school, the Typhoon proved its powers. Five of the German raiders destroyed were chased, caught and shot down by Typhoons. Now an entire Typhoon Wing is operating under the control of the Fighter Command. At the time of writing, something like 35 enemy aircraft are reported already to have been destroyed by Typhoon pilots.

VAST POWER

Major Halford, who designed the " Sabre " engine, is also the designer of one of the most famous series of light aircraft engines ever known—the Gipsy range, some of which have a rated horse-power of less than he has put into a single cylinder of the Typhoon's power plant. So much power has never before been concentrated into such small compass. There is more power in the " Sabre " engine than in the greatest locomotives, yet the " Sabre " could be stood heavily in a driving-cab and leave room for the fireman to squeeze in as well.

It was this great power that caused some of the delay before the Typhoon became operational. Full advantage could not be taken of the power until technical genius had overcome the problem of producing an air-screw that would take up all the might of the engine and put it to effective use, with a minimum of wastage. And now, the Typhoon is proving particularly effective in low-level attacks on transport and troop concentrations in Northern France, shooting up goods trains.



HOW U.S. NAVY TORPEDO PLANES STRIKE AT ENEMY.—Wings of the U.S. Navy Avenger *torpedo plane, used in attacking enemy shiping, can be folded back, as shown here, by hydraulic mechanism in a few seconds for quick storage on airplane carriers. The bay along the bottom of the fast and well-armoured ship holds the 1,950-pound torpedo, which is dropped from a low altitude and aimed to strike an enemy ship below the waterline.*

Three Aeronautical Developments

THREE widely different aeronautical developments of significance for the future have just been made known, all of which may be destined to bring about fundamental changes and advances in their particular spheres, writes Peter Masefield in the *Sunday Times*. They are

(1) The use of helicopters for anti-submarine patrol by the British and American Navies;

(2) squadrons of specially armed Royal Air Force " tank buster " Hurricanes in North Africa; and

(3) first flights of an air cargo " tramp " in the United States.

Helicopters are not new. But none had been very successful until Mr. Igor Sikorsky began serious research some four years ago. The Vought-Sikorsky-300 helicopter can be flown upward, forward, sideways, backward and in a circle with absolute precision at any speed within its range. That is, from nought to about 100 miles per hour forward and from nought to about 25 miles per hour in other directions. It can alight on either land or sea.

USEFUL FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

An improved and more powerful version of this helicopter is announced to be in production for the American navy, and presumably this is the machine which will be supplied to the Royal Navy as well. The helicopter is still in its comparatively early stages of development. The load it can lift is small and its range is limited. But its possibility lies in that it can take off from or alight on restricted spaces such as a deck of a merchant ship. Although the helicopter is never likely to supplant the more normal aeroplane for flights of long range at high speed, it is certain to be useful for special purposes.

The second important development is the " tank busting " Hawker Hurricane—that magnificently versatile aeroplane in yet another form. Little may be said of its armament yet except that it consists of a large-bore cannon slung under the wings. Hitherto the largest cannon mounted in fighters has been of 37 mm. (one and a half inch) calibre which fires a shell weighing 1·1 lb. The chief problem in attempting to use heavy guns from the air is to design a gun with a fast enough rate of fire to achieve a number of hits when flying at high speed. The " tank busting " Hurricane opens up new avenues for the tactical development of offensive action from the air against ground forces or ships at sea.

A FRESH CONCEPTION

Finally, a plastic built cargo ship of the air is announced. In the new American Curtiss-Wright Caravan, we see a fresh conception

for the employment of air transport. This aeroplane is a 2-motor monoplane designed, first and foremost, to be cheap and easy to build and lift heavy loads and to have large cubic capacity—in fact an air freight car. Speed has been sacrificed and by modern standards the caravan is slow. But its cruising speed, about 140 miles per hour, is many times faster than any alternative means of transport for moving great quantities of supplies over mountains or across jungles, as in New Guinea.

These three developments are but examples of the present trends. We are on the eve of developments in aviation both in Great Britain and in the United States such as will lead to bigger advances in the next decade than in all the 40 years since controlled flight was first achieved by man.

Turning Trees into Aircraft

AN American aviation company is using a radio transmitter to turn trees into aircraft for the United States. A new development in the manufacture of plywood parts, the radio process has already produced an all-wood, advanced training plane for the United States Army—the Yankee Doodle. All methods of wood and plastic moulding thus far developed had come up against the problem of applying heat and pressure evenly, so that all parts of a moulded section would get the same amount of heat and pressure at the same time. This problem became acute when it was decided to try to make wooden spars six inches thick. In the ordinary steam furnace, the outside edges of this thickness became too hot before the inside was hot enough. A slow-backing process took too long and dried out the wood.

Experiments showed that the problem could be solved by using high-frequency radio waves instead of steam heat, and the idea was adopted. Using a radio transmitter to supply heat instead of a furnace, blocks of laminated wood and plastic are subjected to the radio waves while under mechanical pressure of about 100 pounds per square inch and the whole mass is heated uniformly—from the core outward—in 15 minutes. At the proper heat—usually about 275 degrees Fahrenheit—the plastic glue and the wood merge and become one structural piece with a greater tensile strength and a smoother flight surface than metal.

"Eight Corners, One Roof"

By SELDON MENEFEE

IN contrast with what the Tokyo radio tells the world, her domestic propagandists talk quite shamelessly about Japanese exploitation of the conquered areas for an indefinite period. The doctrine of Hakko Ichiu (supposed to date back to the first Emperor Jimmu) is Japan's self-justification in such policy. Literally, Hakko Ichiu means "eight corners, one roof," or, in other words, "eight corners of the world under the Emperor."

Broadcasts from Japanese-controlled transmitters give us a fairly complete picture of what the coprosperity sphere means in actual practice. Each country is stripped of all its goods which the Japanese want by means of the military yen, a worthless piece of paper which merchants must accept or go to jail. Then Japanese corporations (usually Simitomo, Mitsubishi, Mitsui and their subsidiaries) are formed to take over all of its resources.

In the Philippines, according to the Manila radio, Japanese military authorities have been complaining that the Filipinos have been "spoiled" by the high wages that the Americans have paid them, but lately they have reported that the workers came to terms when they were hungry enough and are now "enthusiastically working 24 hours a day" on construction projects at Cavite and elsewhere. Making sure that the "enthusiasm" lasts, all political meetings of Filipinos are prohibited.

Other items which symbolize Japan's "New Order in Greater East Asia" in all conquered countries include the adoption of Japanese holidays and the Japanese calendar by which 1942 became 2602; the spreading of Japanese-language schools among the conquered people in order to make Japanese the basic language of all Asia; the rechristening of cities, streets and theatres with Japanese names throughout south-eastern Asia.

—*Christian Science Monitor.*

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

"When the history of the war is written, one of Mr. Churchill's greatest contributions to victory will prove to be the continual help and continual pressure he has given, and applied, in the field of scientific research, and practical adaptation of scientific discovery to the waging of war."

—CAPTAIN OLIVER LYTTELTON,
the Minister of Production.

India's Coast Defence Units

Two Lone Flyers and a Jap Naval Force

THE vital war role played by India's coast defence units is emphasized by the story of how two lone flyers from an Indian volunteer squadron sighted and shadowed Japanese warships in the Bay of Bengal.

One crisp April morning, with the sun just rearing his fiery head above the watery horizon, an aircraft of a newly formed Indian Air Force Volunteer Reserve Squadron took off on its first operational flight.

In the cockpit was a young Indian pilot, eager and alert; behind him sat his navigator, of maturer age, a hardy Scot, who a few months before had been a successful business-man in Cochin.

They set an easterly course. In a few minutes the wild and restless blue-black waters of the Bay of Bengal were below them. As the sun rose higher in the heavens the pink-crested rollers flashed a welcome to this lone craft out on its first dawn patrol.

The reconnaissance plane flew steadily eastwards. The pilot's watch showed 0540 hours. Behind, the night sky and dark ocean merged to obliterate the coast line of Eastern India; ahead, another day was already born. As the flaming red and orange of the sun's reflected glory changed to gold and silver over the vast waters, visibility improved.

The pilot and navigator scanned the waves. Not a speck disturbed the even line of the far distant horizon. The navigator spoke to the pilot over the inter-com: "Grand morning. Seems, though, we're the only folks enjoying it around here."

The pilot grinned with satisfaction; his aircraft was behaving splendidly. He, like the navigator, felt exhilarated.

The time was 0554 hours. Suddenly, something caught the navigator's eye. Was that a red flash away to the south? He peered intently through his glasses.

He spoke again into the inter-com: "Can you see red flashes to the south?" he asked.

The pilot swung his craft east-south-east, focused his eyes southward. "Yes, sir," he replied a moment later. "Looks as if somebody's signalling us."

The navigator studied the scene below. "I can see smoke. Must be a patrol vessel signalling us. Probably want us to identify ourselves."

Banking, the pilot veered to the south and opened his throttle.

"I believe there's a couple of ships. One seems to be throwing up a lot of smoke," commented the navigator. "Climb to 8,000 and let's have a closer look."

They flew due south, climbing. The sun was now well above the horizon.

"Good God!" gasped the navigator. "There's a ship afire—a merchant vessel. She's being attacked or I'm blind."

"How many can you see, sir?" the pilot came back.

"Two, three, . . . five. Warships, too. Fly around for a bit."

The navigator examined the spot in detail. His eyes were not deceiving him. Far below was a ring of warships, their guns spitting fire at a helpless merchantman. She was well ablaze. Smoke billowed skywards and floated lazily over the sea; columns of water spouted into the air as shells fell short of their target.

"There's no doubt that's a Jap naval force," commented the navigator. "They're giving her hell."

Through the veil of smoke, widespread over the scene, he identified an aircraft carrier, a battleship, a four-funnelled cruiser and two destroyers. The merchant vessel was of about five or six thousand tons, the usual cargo type. She was on fire abaft the funnel.

It was now 0650 hours. Suddenly three low-winged monoplanes tore through the sky immediately below them.

On instructions from the navigator the pilot took evasive action in case the enemy planes had spotted them. But their luck held. They remained unseen watchers of the drama below.

"We must shadow this little party. See, there's a destroyer heading direct for the merchantman—poor devils!"

The navigator cursed silently. "The destroyer's turning. She's quite close now to the ship. She's opened fire—hellishly heavy fire, too."

Fresh clouds of smoke poured from the hapless victim of the Jap warships.

"That merchantman hasn't a ghost of a chance," muttered the navigator gritting his teeth.

The pilot's watch registered 0706 hours. The navigator was keeping his base fully informed. Regularly he wirelessed his reports, briefly sketched a picture of the action.

Then came the instruction over the other: "Return to base."

The pilot banked steeply, opened his throttle and made for the coast.

* * * *

And so was reported the first news of Japanese naval operations off the East Coast of India. It was just another grand job done by India's own air force. The courageous crew, who ran grave risks in "loitering" above the enemy to discover all they could about the forces engaged, provided a report of great value to our air and naval commanders.

To-day, not many months after this incident, the Indian Air Force has its own fighters as well as reconnaissance and bomber aircraft among its new squadrons with pilots eager to avenge the pounding of helpless merchant ships by Japanese forces.

"One-Man Fight Against Japan!"

A minor private war between an Indian Flight Lieutenant and the Japanese during the Burma campaign has been revealed by a well-known Indian Air Force officer who served with distinction in the Burma air operations.

The Indian protagonist was a 25-year old member of No. 1 Bombay Squadron, a unit whose exploits against the Japs in Burma have provided a glorious page in the short history of the Indian Air Force.

His squadron was ordered to maintain continuous reconnaissance of a large area of Thailand. Toungoo airfield as an operational base for the squadron was untenable owing to the constant attention of enemy bombers and fighters. A detachment of the squadron had moved to Lashio and a detachment remained in Rangoon.

The Flight Lieutenant, however, flew alone to Toungoo, and with his airgunner took up quarters there. His aircraft was a Lysander, and, having no mechanics, he and his comrade had to re-fuel, re-arm and maintain it themselves.

Regularly every day Jap '97' fighters came over the airfield and strafed them. This was all very annoying, but even Japanese shot and shell cannot keep a good man down. Every afternoon up went the Flight Lieutenant to pay his compliments to the Japs and take his revenge; every afternoon he set course for the enemy's lines and airfields; every afternoon he and his gunner shot up the Japs and played merry hell wherever there was enemy game to be had.

HIS GROUSE

This went on for fourteen days. Then the Flight Lieutenant rang up his C.O. and complained bitterly that he considered the dhobi-ing arrangements were . . . well, to put it mildly and respectfully,—bad! With a 'Lizzie' (RAF parlance for a Lysander) to look after and the Japs to keep an eye on, he really could not be expected to do his own dhobi-ing. He had worn his clothes continuously for a fortnight, couldn't something be done about it?

By the time he had contacted his C.O. the military situation in Burma was so critical that nearly the whole of the air forces had been withdrawn. The C.O. was amazed to hear that he was still operating from Toungoo.

"I thought you had left long ago!" his C.O. exclaimed.

"Well, Sir, I received no further orders so I carried on. I had plenty on hand. I have been getting my reports back through the Army. But what about my dhobi-ing . . . . ?"

He was ordered to rejoin his unit immediately. And so his one-man show came to an end—fourteen splendid days of Indian courage and daring.

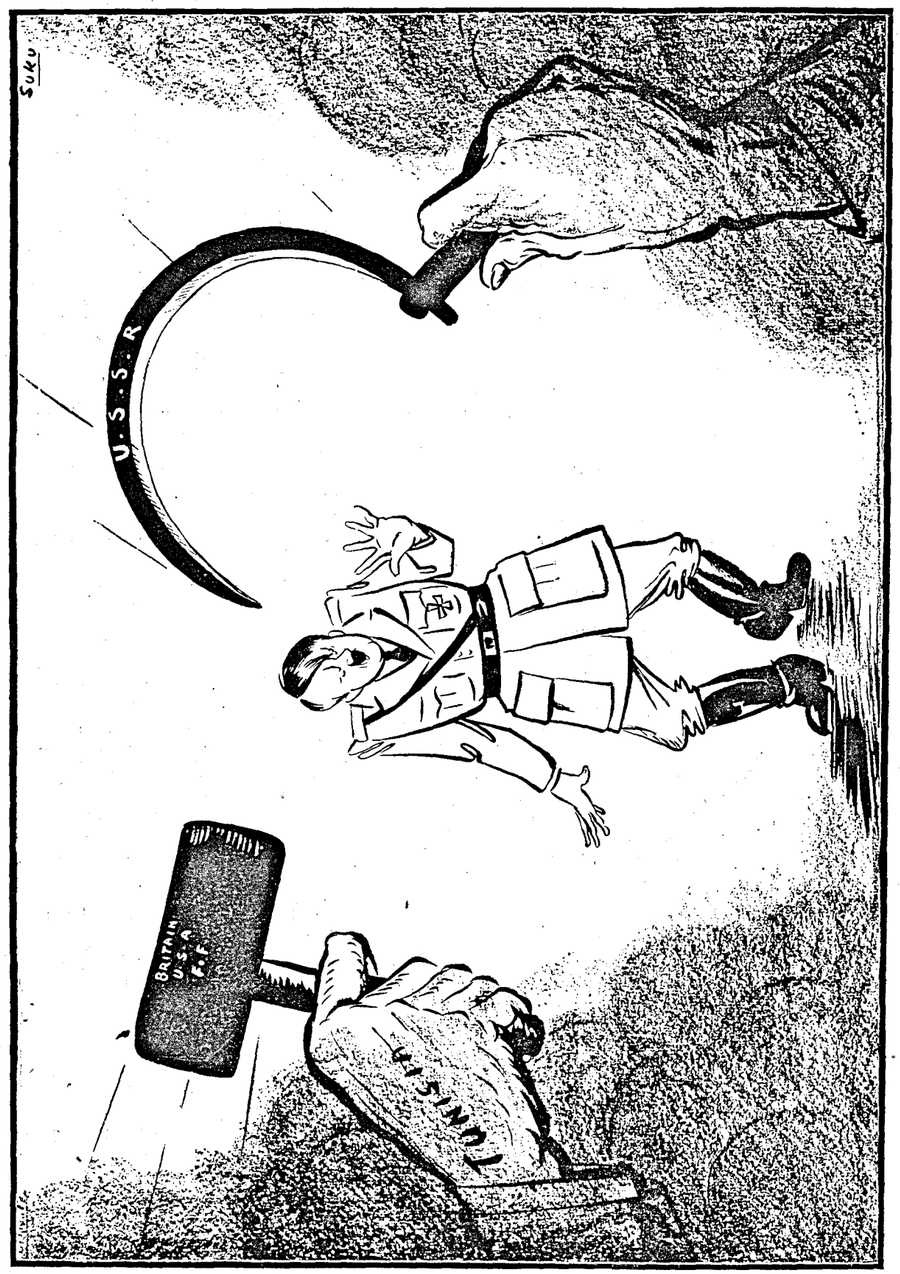
Another story of this same Flight Lieutenant's initiative and pluck—and we may take these accounts as characteristic of what the squadron was doing at this time—has also just been told.

INITIATIVE AND PLUCK

The day prior to the fall of Rangoon two Hurricanes, which were only in need of minor adjustments, were reported grounded at Mingaldon aerodrome with nobody to fly them. The skies north of Rangoon were alive with enemy fighters, but despite the danger, the Flight Lieutenant flew his Lysander to Mingaldon, taking two Hurricane pilots as his load.

Arriving at the aerodrome, he and his fellow adventurers set to work on the Hurricanes and within a few hours they were airborne. He then jumped into his Lysander and headed for base—the last plane to leave Rangoon before the Japs occupied the city.

A SECOND FRONT



In a speech at Birmingham on Friday last (April 28), Mr. L. S. AMERY, Secretary of State for India, referred to North Africa and said, "It has become a second front, not by our choice, but by Hitler's reaction to our initiative."

Patrol Activity Increases in Arakan

Japs get Worst of Many Clashes

PATROL activity on both sides has reached a new pitch of intensity on the Arakan front, states an *Indian Army Observer* writing on April 25.

Many minor clashes and one or two larger ones have occurred. Most of these have been in the wild, tangled hill country on the Mayu Peninsula, and they have gone so far definitely in the favour of troops, British and Indian, who have never been more lively or successful in this tricky form of warfare since the campaign started.

The Jap, in his efforts to press northward towards Maungdaw and Buthidaung and the road joining them, has repeatedly sent out patrols to feel for our men and to repeat the familiar tactics of filtering into our positions. The night before last, for example, this kind of activity went on all through the hours of darkness. Not only did it fail to bring the enemy any reward—our troops defeated every attempt—but it also brought him a number of new casualities to add to the considerable losses, he has suffered recently.

Murderous little battles have been fought at many points in the hills and at other places on the front. Here is one that is typical.

A small patrol of Punjabis spotted eight Japs sitting eating below a position they had been digging. Other enemy had occupied the position itself. Moving silently as close as possible our troops opened up with tommy gun fire on the unsuspecting eaters.

Heavy reply was drawn from other Japs and the Punjabis had to withdraw to a safer spot. But later observations showed that of those eight enemy, five were dead and two badly wounded.

Successes, small as they are, show enterprise against opponents who are never more dangerous than in this kind of country.

The artillery and the Royal Air Force have also continued their good work and between them have inflicted further causalties estimated to total about one hundred and fifty. A large number of these occurred during a bombing raid on Jap concentrations at Gudabyin. On the Mayu river enemy activity had developed on the coastal plain below Lambaguna, some miles south of Maungdaw, and a certain amount of digging has been reported.

It would be unwise, however, to infer that this indicates any defensive intentions. Rather is it to be expected that the Jap will make increasingly vigorous thrusts at our positions guarding the way to Maungdaw and Buthidaung.

Pacific Campaign Plans

A. D. ROTHMAN, the Sydney *Morning Herald's* Washington correspondent, says that opinion there is that it would be incorrect to consider the visit of the representatives of the Pacific commanders as missions sent by those commanders to ask for reinforcement of the Pacific. It is now thought that they were called to Washington principally to discuss with the United States Chiefs of Staff new plans for the Pacific campaign, and that while the supply question loomed large, the emphasis was rather on implementing the Casablanca Conference decisions so far as the war against Japan is concerned. There is a feeling in informed circles in Washington that the next step against the Japanese will be an effort to take Rabaul. It is understood that the campaign for Gudalcanar was regarded as a preliminary effort to recapture Rabaul.

One authority told Rothman: "You need only see the reconnaissance photographs of Rabaul harbour, with some 60 ships therein, to realise immediately that it is the keystone of Japan's southern empire and if it were seized it might mean the collapse of that empire."

ADDITIONS TO PACIFIC FLEET

It is contended in Washington that General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Halsey are not men who can sit and wait, and that they will take the offensive at the earliest opportunity, and press it to the full with what they have, rather than wait until they get all they think they need. That leads to the question, "What is available in the Pacific for an important offensive?" It is thought that there is more than is generally believed. It is emphasised, for instance, that there have been major additions to the Pacific Fleet; principally new battleships, which have restored the pre-Pearl Harbour balance. Moreover, there has been a steady arrival of newly commissioned aircraft-carriers, principally converted cruisers and merchantmen, with larger types of the *Lexington* class well under way or being commissioned. Thus it is felt there is adequate naval power to mount a considerable offensive.

However, it is admitted that there is a shortage of land-based planes, and it is questionable whether Kenney or Sutherland succeeded in getting any outstanding additions to the South-West Pacific's *pro rata* allowance, although it is believed they did not leave Washington empty-handed. It is pointed out that land-based planes are for defensive purposes, designed to defeat the Japanese efforts to reinforce their present holdings, while naval accretions are definitely offensive weapons, making possible a full-scale attacks on Rabaul. It is thought that with the conclusion of the Guadalcanar and New Guinea campaigns it was found that Australian and American land forces had shown the effects of the fighting they had been through, and appreciable reinforcements would be necessary for mounting a large-scale amphibious venture against the Japanese.

Old Hopeless Sham

EACH succeeding utterance of the Japanese Fuehrer, General Tojo, pays more wonderful compliments to the other end of the Axis. He promised last summer that he would soon join hands with them "and mete out the final blow to their enemies," writes the *Daily Telegraph*.

The spring edition of this pledge assured Germany and Italy that they are pushing back all enemy offensives with "unshakable morale and military strength" and collaboration between them and Japan was still increasing. With the courtesy and the imitative genius of his race, he almost equals the European Axis leaders in the fervent efforts to persuade his countrymen that the United States and the British Commonwealth are quarrelling and will never agree.

As far as words can demonstrate loyalty, General Tojo only draws the line at applauding Hitler's Bolshevik bogey. When he deals with action, he makes it clear that the Japanese warlords have given up hope of anything from Germany and Italy and will do nothing for them.

REVISED VERSION OF THE BRAG

The eyes of Japan's militarists are now concentrating on China. It may be said that they have been for five and a half years since the hopeful predecessor of General Tojo announced that "China must be beaten to her knees," but Tojo recently put out a revised version of that brag. The massacres, plundering and devastation have all been in vain if the war is only "just starting."

Japan has now made a fundamental change of policy and now "all efforts of Britain and the United States to separate the new China from Japan must fail."

General Tojo has just been inspecting the Japanese army in China which is said still to number one million men after a year of continually frustrated and futile attacks. Nothing in the position offered him much comfort. Large areas of Japanese forces are immobilized by guerillas; where they have conquered territory they have made it a desert.

The method by which Tojo proposes to extricate his army from this morass is only the old hopeless sham of "Sino-Japanese co-operation." The puppet Government set up at Nanking under President Wang Ching-wei by the Japanese is the "new China" which never will desert Tokyo.

As Wang and his fellow Quislings never had any power while Japanese arms were in the ascendant, their capacity to make "new China" now is something less than dubious. Tojo may hope that his proposal will create divisions, weakening the stubborn resistance of the real China, the China of Chiang Kai-shek; but that he is reduced to such a vain hope and such a stale device betrays the magnitude of the difficulties which, as he confessed, he sees ahead. No cajolery will persuade the Chinese to cease their fight against Japan's hideous brutality. They will not surrender their airfields or let the Japanese army have freedom of manœuvre. They know that the Japanese strength in ships and planes is going down every day and the American strength is increasing; they are well aware that Tojo knows it also and fears the consequences. China is assured of equipment and all forces necessary to punish the infamies of Japan; the Tokyo warlords have to read the writing on the wall.

FLYING FORTRESS OF THE SEA

The United States has developed a sea-going version of its famous Flying Fortress bomber. Called the *Sea Ranger*, this new craft is intended for United States Navy's use as a patrol bomber. It has a very long range, powerful armament, and carries a heavy bomb load. The *Sea Ranger's* two engines deliver as much power as the Fortress's four engines. Of all-metal construction, it has complete accommodation inside its streamlined hull for ten men. Like the deadly Fortress, the *Sea Ranger* is heavily armed against enemy fighters. Guns bristle from its nose, top, sides and bottom.

Will 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*, and 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 last month; in a broadcast from there on March 23 he insisted that the sealanes 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.

"Tank Buster" at El Hamma

TWO years ago this month small but very gallant bands of the Imperial troops were making their way to the shores of southern Greece where the navy was to try to take them off. The sky was thick with German aircraft, writes the *Sunday Times* military correspondent.

Those who arrived in Egypt staggered on the shore at Alexandria ragged, almost barefooted, drawn and haggard with the strain of their sufferings. For they had come through one of the most terrifying experiences of modern war and ceaseless attack from the air without adequate defence. The same kind of trial but ten times as great lies before the Germans and their hapless Italian comrades in Tunisia.

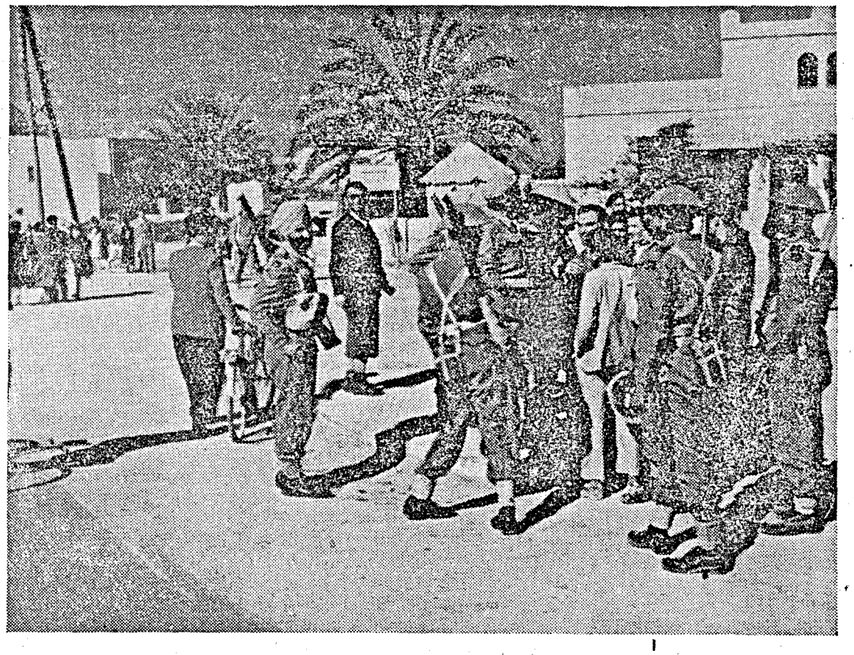
It is possible that the battle of El Hamma will prove to have been a milestone in military history. It was one of those historic occasions when a new weapon and a new method make their appearance on the battlefield and give a fresh turn to the art of war.

For the first time an aeroplane, known as "tank buster" attacked an enemy tank formation, not assembling in the rear or engaged in refilling, but in battle array in grips with our troops. The effect of the attack was devastating and contributed largely to the German defeat.

It is an event of so much importance because the swing of the pendulum between the tank and the gun showed signs of sticking at neutral. The final clash at El Alamein in which Rommel lost almost all his armour, was not a battle of whirling tanks and swift manœuvre. It was an artillery duel.

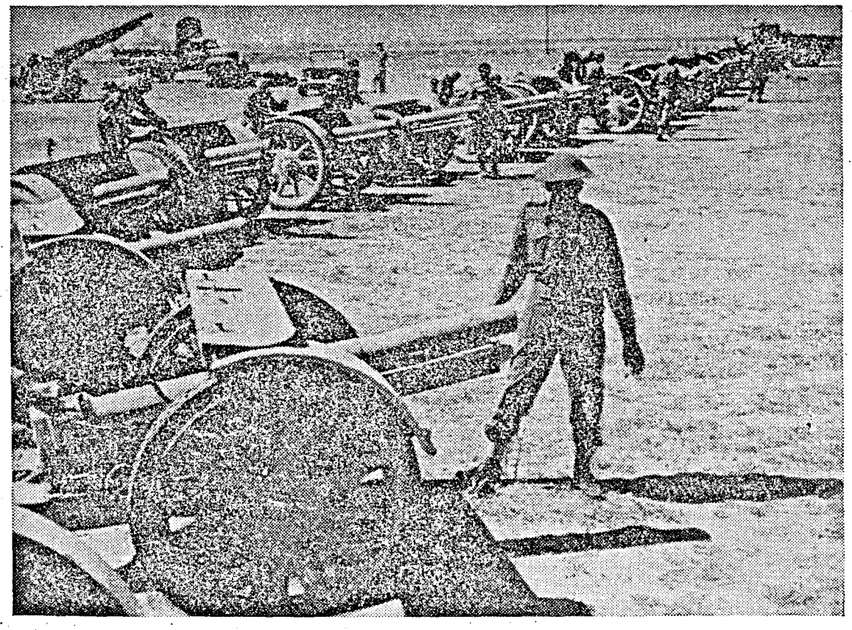
General Montgomery has evolved a method based on both the extended use of artillery and on lowflying aeroplane. It must not so simple a development as might be thought. The divebomber did not meet the case. It was ineffective against tanks and could not protect itself. A new machine was needed and the "tank buster" armed with cannon and machine-guns was evolved. But the results have already been most promising.

INDIAN TROOPS ENTER SFAX.



Units of the Fourth Indian Division were the first troops to enter Sfax which was one of Rommel's main bases in Tunisia. The troops received a tumultous welcome from the French and Arab population. Photo shows Indian troops fraternising with French inhabitants.

SPOILS OF WAR.



Much enemy equipment was captured by the Fourth Indian Division in the Gabes and Sfax areas including several French guns which had been used by the enemy. Photo shows Indian troops with captured guns.

Middle East Crops Save Shipping

GOOD crops in the Middle East during 1942 saved 500,000 tons of shipping, said Commander R. G. Jackson, Director-General of the Middle East Supply Centre, at a Press Conference in Beirut.

He was describing the work of the Centre in bringing supplies to the Middle East and making the region as far as possible self-supporting.

The use of oil in place of coal had obviated the importation of 500,000 tons of coal a year, he said. Imports of certain goods to various countries had had to be restricted to facilitate the transport of war materials but these restrictions did not affect the food situation in these countries.

He pointed out that there was no famine in the Middle East and compared this condition with that of Europe, whose crops were being taken by the Germans.

Careful watch had been kept on the supply situation in each country, especially in Syria, to which country it was necessary to supply cereals at the end of 1941 and the beginning of 1942.

Fortunately this year's crops were satisfactory, said Commander Jackson, and there was a possibility that Syria and the Lebanon would not need help in this direction. Thus more transport could be devoted to the importation of war material to finish off the war in North Africa.

Paving the Way for Allied Land Offensive

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

ROUND-THE-CLOCK bombing of Germany from bases in the British Isles increases in force. Its development will bring in the last phase of the war.

The scale of the attack, as the last few weeks have shown, has greatly increased. As the year progresses it will increase still further with correspondingly greater damage to Germany's industrial and military power, paving the way for an Allied land offensive on the Continent of Europe.

As the air offensive develops, Germany has to find more men and material for home defence with a consequent reduction of resources for attack. At the present time 750,000 highly trained German soldiers are chained to home defence against Allied air raids. Another 750,000 fulltime German workers are engaged in civil defence—a total of 1,500,000 is already contained by the air offensive.

LOSS TO GERMAN WAR EFFORT

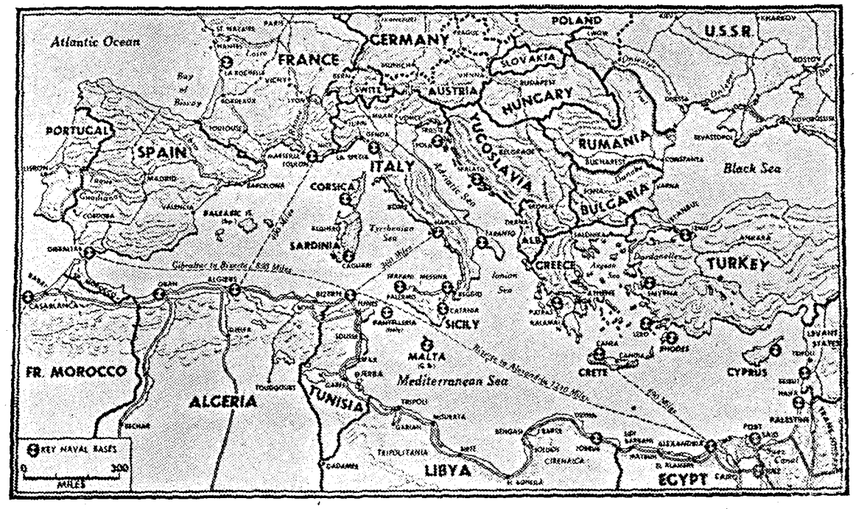
To this figure of manpower must be added the loss to the German war effort of those factories and workers producing materials required for civil defence and anti-aircraft batteries which could otherwise be turned to offensive uses elsewhere.

Well over a quarter of the Luftwaffe must be retained to counter Allied air attacks. An other quarter is compulsorily engaged in the North African theatre. Progressively, the Allied air forces are forcing the Germans to use and use up their aircraft by stretching the chain of defensive patrols and multiplying the uncertainty of the point of attack, forcing the Luftwaffe to fight on several fronts from Britain to Norway and from the English Channel to the Mediterranean. An idea of the growth of air attack can be got from two significant facts.

Since the war began, aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command have delivered well over 100,000 tons of bombs on German targets. More than half this total was dropped during the last 12 months. Apart from sustained night bombing raids, thousands of sorties were flown by the Bomber Command alone in daylight raids during 1942. These daylight raids were made on nearly half the days of the year with factories, airfields, shipping, transport, power stations and other military targets as their objectives.

ITALY HIT BOTH WAYS

The intensity of night raids is persistent and remorseless. As much is packed into half an hour now as the Germans put into two nights when the Luftwaffe bombed London. Berlin, in the raid which forced Goebbel to admit some of the truth about the damage, was bombarded in a short saturation attack by a very much greater weight of bombs than was dropped on London during the heaviest German attack. Italy is raided both from British bases and from North Africa. Nazi convoys must now run the gauntlet in the "bomb alley" before supplies can reach the enemy forces in Tunisia.



THE MEDITERRANEAN WAR ZONE.—This base map of the Mediterranean war zone is serviced for possible use in connection with news development. The anchor symbols show naval bases and the dotted lines show important sea routes and distances.

—United States Office of War Information photo.

Story of Gabes

THIS is the story of Gabes and of what the Germans did to the town. Let M. Marcel Giraud, the police chief of Gabes, tell you the story:

"The Germans came on November 20. It had been a happy town until then. The sorrow of France was ours of course, too, but we were hopeful.

"There was plenty of food, and our children played in the sun. But the Germans and Italians had no food. Rapidly they laid the countryside bare. We thought that bad; but worse came soon.

"The Gestapo got to work. One day recently the Gestapo circulated a list of women in the town whose husbands or menfolk were still fighting for France. There was no attempt to veil the meaning. Our women had kept out of the way of the Germans, but that dreadful night German soldiers, many of them drunk, ravaged through the town, forcing their way into houses and attempting by force to molest the women who had been named for them.

"Mothers sent their children running to me for help. I got my gendarmes together. The Germans had disarmed us. We hadn't much hope. But the Italian carabiniere had heard about it too. Of their own accord they came with us with carbines levelled, and drove the Germans out into the streets again. All that night, and for many nights afterwards, we stood guard with Italian police over our womenfolk.

"In the Jewish quarter of the town the Germans rioted as they pleased. We couldn't do anything to help them. Jewish homes were ransacked and robbed of every scrap of jewellery, gold and silver, and money. The Germans went through the town like a swarm of locusts. Every bit of machinery, every public and private vehicle, every bicycle even, was taken away."

—*News Chronicle.*

LISTENING IN

Recently a Belgian in a Brussels Cafe said to a friend, "Well, I must go home now, to listen to the Engl sh news."

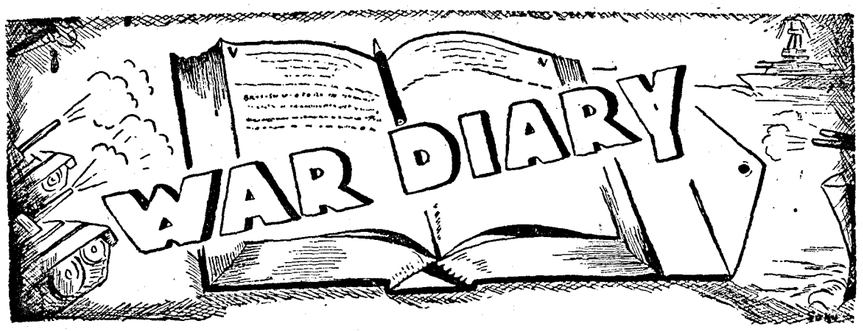
The Gestapo were waiting for him. When he arrived "Do you listen to the Short Wave?", they demanded.

"Every day" replied the Belgian.

"Where is your Radio?"

"Oh! I have not got one, but the walls are thin and I listen to the Nazi Officer's next door."

—*Broadcast by A.I.R., Madras.*



BRITAIN AND GERMANY

29th Apr.—During an offensive sweep off the Dutch coast, light coastal forces engaged an enemy armed trawler near Ijmuiden.

The Royal Air Force laid mines in the Baltic sea.

30th Apr.—An enemy convoy off the Dutch coast was attacked. The Royal Air Force carried out sweeps over Northern France. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed over the Channel.

1st May.—The Royal Air Force heavily bombed Essen and other objectives in the Ruhr. An enemy mine layer was damaged off the coast of Brittany. Transport targets in Northern France was attacked. Two German salvage boats were sunk in Oersund.

2nd May.—There was an air battle with the Royal Air Force off Norway. Port installations at St. Nazaire were attacked. A most successful action off Terschelling was fought against four heavily armed enemy patrol craft.

3rd May.—The Royal Air Force bombed the iron and steel works at Ijmuiden in Holland. Mosquito bombers attacked the railway workshops at Thionville in Lorraine.

Mr. Churchill received the following message from M. Stalin: "I welcome the bombing of Berlin, Essen and other industrial centres of Germany. Every blow delivered by your Air Force to vital German centres evokes the most lively echo in the hearts of many millions throughout the length and breadth of our country".

4th May.—United States bombers raided Antwerp.

5th May.—The Royal Air Force raided Dortmund in West Germany.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

29th Apr.—Mr. William Batt, Vice-Chairman of the War Production Board, said that the United States would produce 100,000 planes in 1943.

30th Apr.—Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, repudiated all past agreements with the High Commissioner of Martinique, Admiral Robert.

1st May.—Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of Navy, said that ship sinkings by submarines were much lower in April than they were in March.

Mr. Stettinius, Lease-Lend Administrator, said that the Soviet Union had received more Lease-Lend planes than any other military theatre. The total Lend-Lease aid up to April 1, was 10,319 million dollars.

3rd May.—An unidentified plane fired four machine gun bullets over Brooklyn. Three shells pierced an apartment house roof.

4th May.—The Maritime Commission announced that 157 ships totalling 1,662,000 dead-weight tons were delivered during April—another record for ship building by American Merchant Marine Shipyards.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

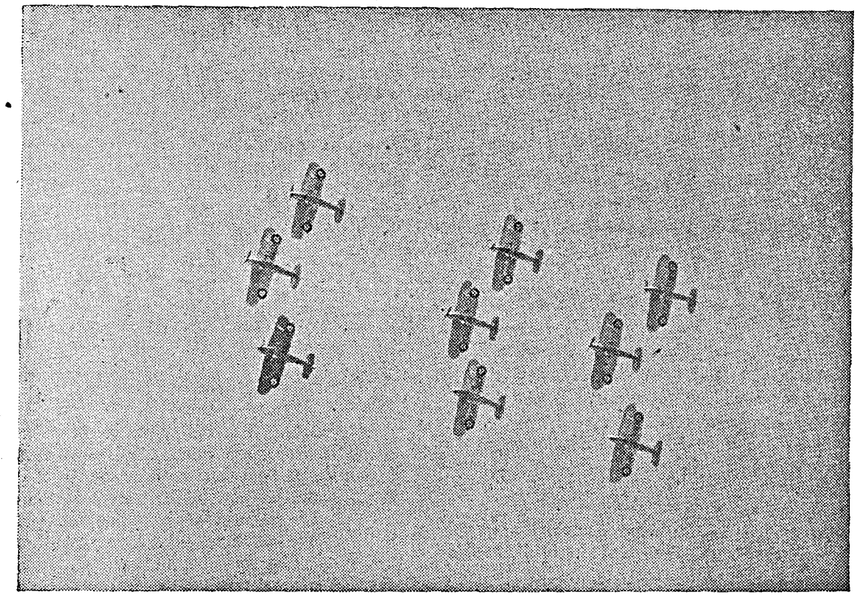
29th Apr.—The Royal Air Force bombed enemy objectives along the Mayu bridge. The Japanese-occupied village of Nagabyawchaungwya was set on fire. Enemy installations were attacked at Nsopzup, Nanyaseik and Tahona.

30th Apr.—In the upper Chindwin, the Royal Air Force attacked the Wuntho area. Bombs were dropped on enemy-occupied villages on Akyab Island.

An alert was sounded at Jorhat (Assam). Some enemy planes were sighted which were chased away.

1st May.—The Royal Air Force bombed objectives at Myingyan on the Irrawady. The United States Air Force attacked the Sula Pagoda docks in Rangoon.

2nd May.—The Royal Air Force bombed a Japanese troop position in the Myittha valley. Mandalay railroad sidings were also attacked.



TRAINING PILOTS FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORCE.—Picture shows how pilots are trained at No. 1, Flying Training School in India. Formation flying is one of the many things the pupil has to learn—both taking off and landing in formation.

3rd May.—Some sharp encounters took place on the east side of the Mayu ridge. Enemy objectives south of Buthidaung were attacked. Blenheims attacked Indau, an oil town on the Chindwin.

Enemy bombers attacked an airfield in south-east Bengal. One Japanese bomber was shot down.

4th May.—The Royal Air Force bombed Akyab town and started a number of fires. Enemy bombers attacked Buthidaung and Bawli Bazaar. Enemy rail-road installations at Ywataung and Maymyo were bombed by United States Air Force.

5th May.—Fighting in Arakan flared up again. The Japanese renewed pressure against our troops holding positions on the eastern side of the Mayu hills.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29th Apr.—British forces occupied the village of Sidi Ahmas, 10 miles north of Medjez el Bab. The French forces captured Jebel Estena. The fall of Pont Du Fahs was reported to be imminent. Eleven Axis ships were damaged or destroyed and 12 aircraft shot down in the sealane between Sicily and Tunis.

The Royal Air Force bombed Naples, Messina, Syracuse and Lampedusa Island.

30th Apr.—Part of the Italian fleet returned to the Gulf of Taranto. The French were within sight of Bizerta. British troops captured Sidi Abdallah. An Axis merchantman and an E-boat were sunk in the Gulf of Tunis. The El Aouina airfield in Tunisia was bombed.

1st May.—Ten enemy ships were sunk in the Mediterranean by British submarines. Direct hits were scored on eight vessels. Liberator bombers attacked Messina harbour.

American troops captured an important hill 16 miles from Mateur. The first army repulsed two violent enemy attacks.

2nd May.—An Axis ship was sunk in the Aegean Sea. Two Italian mine sweepers were attacked off Cape Bon. The Germans landed troops in Rhodes.

American troops mopped up the area of Jebel Tarhent. The British First Army advanced along the road to Tebourba.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, Financial Secretary to the War Office, said that the final stage of the Tunisian campaign had been reached.

3rd May.—Allied troops captured Mateur. United States troops made a slight advance in Sidi Nsir area.

Successful attacks were made on two Italian mine sweepers, a German R-boat, an enemy motor vessel and a merchantship in the Mediterranean. Five enemy bombers were shot down.

General Giraud in a broadcast said that all Tunisia would be liberated this month. He added: "This will be the beginning of a bitter struggle but I believe that the war against Germany will be over by 1944."

4th May.—French forces reached positions 13 miles from Bizerta. American troops were 8 miles south of Tebourba. Bizerta docks were bombed.

It was disclosed that between 150 and 200 Axis ships were sunk or severely damaged in the Mediterranean in April.

5th May.—The Pont du Fahs-Enfidaville road was cut by French troops. American troops were within 5 miles of Ferryville. It was announced that 5,000 Axis troops were taken prisoner last fortnight. Several Axis airfields were captured.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29th Apr.—The Russians launched a large scale attack from the Kuban bridgehead. There was intense air activity on the Leningrad and Kuban fronts. The Nazis scattered fake leaflets to deceive Russian guerillas.

30th Apr.—Soviet aircraft sank one large transport and a trawler in an enemy convoy. Koenigsberg was bombed by the Russians. One hundred and sixteen German planes were shot down in the past two days.

1st May.—Russian troops resumed offensive in Kuban area. On the Leningrad front, Soviet units wiped out 200 Germans.

In an order of the day, Stalin said: "The German-Italian Fascist camp is on the verge of a catastrophe . . . Two or three more powerful blows are needed from the West and from the East in order to make the catastrophe for Germany a fact."

2nd May.—The Russian army continued to advance in the Kuban.

3rd May.—During the week ended May 1, 21 German aircraft were destroyed. West of Rostov, Soviet airmen blew up an Axis train. A new German night attack at Chuguyev was repelled.

It was reported that General Jani, Hungarian Commander-in-Chief, would withdraw Hungarian troops from the Eastern front.

4th May.—The Germans evacuated Krimskaya. The Red Army was locked in a savage battle in the Kuban pocket. The Moscow Radio announced that 54 German aircraft were shot down in air combats west of Knasnodar in the past two days.

5th May.—Soviet aircraft made heavy raids on Bryansk and Minsk.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1st May.—M. Hansson, Swedish Prime Minister, said that whether reasonable or not, there was a feeling that the war might soon be over.

4th May.—According to a Madrid report, Herr Himmler, the Nazi Gestapo Chief, failed to secure an interview with General Franco during his recent visit to Madrid.

* * * *

SHIPPING

1st May.—The British destroyer *Beverley* was lost.

3rd May.—The British submarine *Turbulent* was lost.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

2nd May.—Marshal Petain broadcast a speech to French workers. He said: "After 30 months of trial, endeavours and disappointments, many of you might have lost courage. . . . The Armistice has put an end to fighting, but it has not done away with defeat. . . . The soul of France will not be revived without your patient and earnest support."

According to the German Radio, M. Laval and M. Cathala, Vichy Finance Minister, were wounded by an assassin after a meeting with Hitler.

The Vichy Radio said that Allied military operations against Martinique could undoubtedly be expected.

4th May.—It was reported that Hitler had demanded from M. Laval all Frenchmen between 18 and 40 to be sent to Germany unconditionally and France to join the Anti-Comintern Pact.

All Russians and Republican Spaniards residing in Vichy were arrested.

According to a Geneva report, at least 15,000 persons had been arrested in France so far following the recent purge undertaken by M. Laval.

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

29th Apr.—Forty Japanese planes raided Kunming, capital of Yunnan province. On the Shansi-Honan border, the Japanese forces were defeated.

Mr. Morgenthau, United States Secretary of the Treasury, disclosed that Japanese troops slaughtered every man, woman, and child in the coastal areas of China.

It was reported from Chunking that the Japanese were concentrating the number of Chinese puppet troops from 100,000 to 600,000 supplying them with large quantities of British and American equipment captured in the early stages of the Pacific war. These forces were intended to be used in Burma, Malaya, East Indies and Philippines.

The Berlin Radio declared that the Japanese would undertake a powerful offensive in the Pacific when the Allies struck against Germany and Italy by invading Europe.

30th Apr.—Flying Fortresses bombed the Japanese-held area at Kahili in the Shortland Island area. Japanese installations at Gatere on the Kolombangara Island in the Central Solomons was bombed.

1st May.—Mr. Forde, Army Minister, said that in addition to the 200,000 troops concentrated by the Japanese in the north, the enemy had built sufficient airfields to accommodate 1,500 aicraft from Timor to Rebaul.

2nd May.—Timika in Dutch New Guinea and Nabaire were bombed. At Manokwari, a 5,000-ton enemy cargo ship in the harbour was hit.

3rd May.—Twenty-one Japanese bombers and 30 fighters made a heavy raid on Darwin. Thirteen enemy planes were destroyed. Japanese positions at Munda and installations at Kiska were attacked.

The United States Navy Department disclosed that American submarines had sunk more than 125,000 tons of Japanese shipping.

Mr. F. M. Forde, Australian Army Minister, said: "The Darwin raid, taken with the heavy Japanese submarine activity off the east coast of Australia, shows that Japan is not standing still but that her policy is an offensive and aggressive one."

4th May.—Mr. Makin, Australian Minister for Navy and Munition, said: "The Japanese are concentrating submarines in waters round Australia to effect the same position as that created by U-boats in the Atlantic."

It was announced, that American forces occupied Russell Islands north-east of Guadalcanar in February without opposition.

Seven Japanese planes were destroyed in large scale air battles over Hunan province in Central China. The Japanese used parachutist troops during an attack on the slopes of Taihanshan mountains. The Chinese repulsed the Japanese attack at Huayung.

5th May.—United States submarines sank six Japanese ships and probably another in the Pacific and the Far East. Japanese planes were shot down over Yunnan.

Front and Factory

THERE are signs that the competing claims of the front and the factory in Germany have not by any means been finally met by the recent total civilian mobilisation in the Reich itself and the industrial conscription in subjugated Europe, writes *The Times*.

Information from a neutral source speaks of the controversy—which may yet become a conflict—between Speer, who is responsible for war production, and the High Command. According to this, Speer has complained that the comb-out of industry has been carried to excessive lengths. He is thinking, as he is bound to do, of skilled labour. No doubt the closing of hundreds of thousands of businesses supplying civilian needs and the flocking of the released labour into war factories were good propaganda but what Speer gained in quantity, he more than lost in quality.

It is reported that he is now urging that there should be a drastic comb-out of the army to give back to the war industry the hundreds of thousands of skilled men—the number is put as high as that—it needs, if it is to deliver the formidable mass of weapons ordered and required for this year's campaigns.

CORRECT BALANCE

The correct balance between the front and the factory depends on a nice calculation of many factors. Without exaggeration, its immediate import as evidence that the German leaders have not achieved or perhaps have not succeeded in maintaining such a balance brings a certain reassurance to the Allied peoples.

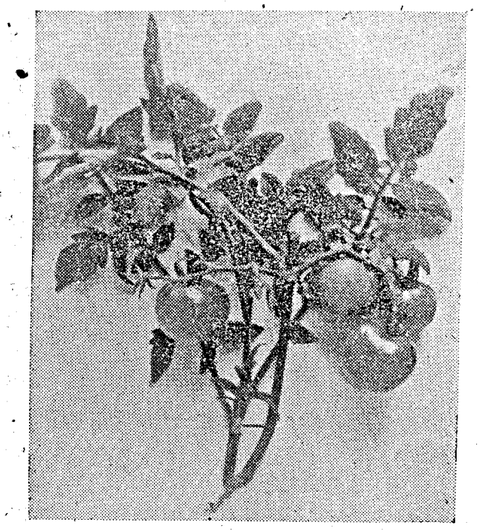
Germany in fact has reached a stage when things can no longer be done strictly according to order or according to plan. The timetable of Hitler's war went long ago. Now it appears that his schedule of production is losing something of its old smoothness and certainty. The campaign in Russia has upset all calculations both for armed forces and for industry now that the Royal Air Force offensive, applying a new technique, powerfully seconded by the growing American air force in these islands, which constitute as the Germans themselves say a great aircraft-carrier off the western coast of Europe, is adding physical disruption on an unmistakable scale.

Civilian life in Germany is, however, still bearable and the spirit of her people is far from the breaking point. There has been some recovery of confidence since the calamity of Stalingrad but no real relief from the difficulties that press on her from many sides. Germany will squeeze Europe still more remorselessly as these difficulties increase.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Fruit Vegetables

Tomato



Lycopersicum Esculentum, Lat. ; Fam : *Solanaceae* ; *Thakkali*, Tam. ; *Thakkali*, Tel. : *Thakkali*, Mal.

Description.—A herbaceous plant with hairy stem and leaves. Fruits are fleshy berries, used a great deal as food.

Propagation.—From seeds which can be either bought, or taken from thoroughly ripened fruits, from which the seeds are extracted in water and dried (not in the sun).

Cultivation.—Seeds should be sown thinly in boxes or pots which are filled with light sandy soil, and kept in the shade. Seedlings spring up in about 10 days, and then the pots or boxes should be moved to a place which gets the early morning sun. When 3–4 leaves have been formed, the seedlings may be transplanted into old tubs or big flower pots which should be filled with a fairly rich soil mixed with a small quantity of well-rotted cattle-manure. Tomatoes can also be grown on raised beds, in open ground, preferably in a sheltered spot facing the morning sun; the plants should be about 1½ to 2 feet apart. The roots of the young plants should be well covered with soil. As the stems are herbaceous, supports should be provided in the form of strong stakes, fence or low trellis. Only the main stem should be allowed to grow at first, the side shoots being pinched off as they appear; also the leaves if they are too many. When a few good clusters of fruits have been formed, the main stems can be stopped and the side-shoots allowed to grow. Top-dressings of rich soil, and weak liquid cattle-manure once or twice a week can be applied with great effect. Remove any diseased plants and burn them, and spray the healthy plants with a weak solution of pottasium permanganate. The fruits can be protected from insect-pests by covering them with muslin-bags.

Season.—In the plains—July to November; in the hills—March to June.

Uses.—Ripe fruits are eaten raw, in salads. They are also used for making curries, and in the preparation of jams, drinks, pickles, chutneys and soups.

General Analysis.—Water 94·0 per cent; mineral 0·7 per cent; protein 1·9 per cent; fat 0·1 per cent; fibre 0·4 per cent; carbohydrate 2·9 per cent; calories per lb 100. calcium 0·018 per cent; magnesium 0·011 per cent; phosphorus 0·049 per cent; iron 0·004 per cent; vitamin A—I.U. per 100 gms. 1700; vitamin B—I.U. per 100 gms, 36; vitamin C mgms. per 100 gms. 21·1.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1943 No. 35

DUNKIRK'S DEBT REPAID

H.M. THE KING

GEN. EISENHOWER

THROUGHOUT the six months during which you have been in command of the Allied Forces in North 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

H.M. THE KING *in a message to* GEN. EISENHOWER

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
A Crushing Defeat	4–5
The Salvage Front	7
Submarines' Part in Battle of Africa	9
Volte-Face among Italian People ?	10
Von Papen in Turkey	12
North Sea is a British Lake	13
Russian Industry prepares for Summer	14
China: Resistance and Reconstruction	16
Parachutists as Infantry	17
" Skip Bombing " Technique	18
Rama Deepa	20
War Diary	21

Our Photographic Competition: Award of Prizes

Nine candidates competed for the prizes announced for our photographic competition. They were from all over the Madras Presidency, such as, Chidambaram, Coimbatore, Erode, Guntur, Madras, Tanjore and Trichinopoly. Two entrants were disqualified, because they did not conform to the rules; one of them sent negatives, instead of photographs!

The entries sent in by *Mr. N. R. Natesan*, 26, Mangapathi Naicken Street, Chintadripet, Madras, were adjudged the best. He gets the following prizes:—

First prize (Rs. 20) for " A well being sunk."

Second prize (Rs. 10) for " Improved cattle."

As announced, a prize of Rs. 3 each was given for the best photographs in each of the subjects, and the same competitor gets all these prizes for the following entries:—(i) House-building; (ii) A Finished Well; (iii) Terrace of Fields; (iv) Vegetable Gardens; (v) Poultry-keeping, and (vi) A Wedding.

◆ ◆ ◆

A DELIGHTFUL PROGRAMME

OF BY FOR THE TROOPS

ARE YOU INTERESTED ?

—Then tune in to Madras every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

YOU'D LIKE IT, and LOVE IT!

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1943 No. 35

Merchant Shipping Situation: Axis exaggeration of sinkings.

Our readers would have seen in last Saturday's newspapers that Mr. ELMER DAVIS, the head of the United States Office of War Information, has disclosed that during last month (April), Allied merchant shipping losses were less than half of those during March. Referring to the German claim of having sunk almost half a million tons, he said that it was " considerably exaggerated." He pointed out that heavy Allied losses at sea might continue until the escort ship programme got underway in the next few months. A number of statements have also been made recently on the U-boat menace and the merchant shipping situation. Towards the end of last month (April 28), Rear-Admiral LAND, Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission quoted Mr. CHURCHILL's statement that the United Nations had a greater merchant tonnage in service to-day than they had a year ago, and said, " That statement can be affirmed, but in affirming it let us add we are still—as we have been since war began—definitely short of ships." Mr. LAND gave some figures regarding the building of merchant ships. There are more than 30 shipyards with more than 250 quays, which are building big ocean-going merchant ships. There are about 40 other shipyards, from which types of auxiliary craft are turned out—some for merchant shipping, some for Lend-Lease, and the others for the armed forces. These shipyards are located in 24 out of America's 48 states. Parts and materials for merchant ships are produced by nearly 1,000 other plants which are in three-fourths of the states.

On April 30 two statements were made by authoritative spokesmen in United States and Canada. One was by the United States Navy Secretary, Colonel KNOX. He revealed that sinkings by submarines in April were much lower that they were in March. " During the past four months," he said, " we have been steadily adding a number of surface units and aircraft to the battle with submarines." He shared the hope of Admiral KING that, within four to six months, the submarine situation would be brought under control. The other was a joint statement by Mr. MACDONALD, the Canadian Navy Minister, and Mr. POWER, the Canadian Air Minister. The statement has outlined a plan chalked out at the recent Anti-Submarine Conference held in Washington. In accordance with that plan, Rear-Admiral L. W. MURRAY, of the Royal Canadian Navy, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the North-west Atlantic. The anti-submarine operations of the long-range Canadian and American bombers, which are patrolling in mid-Atlantic, will be directed by an

(*Continued on page* 6)

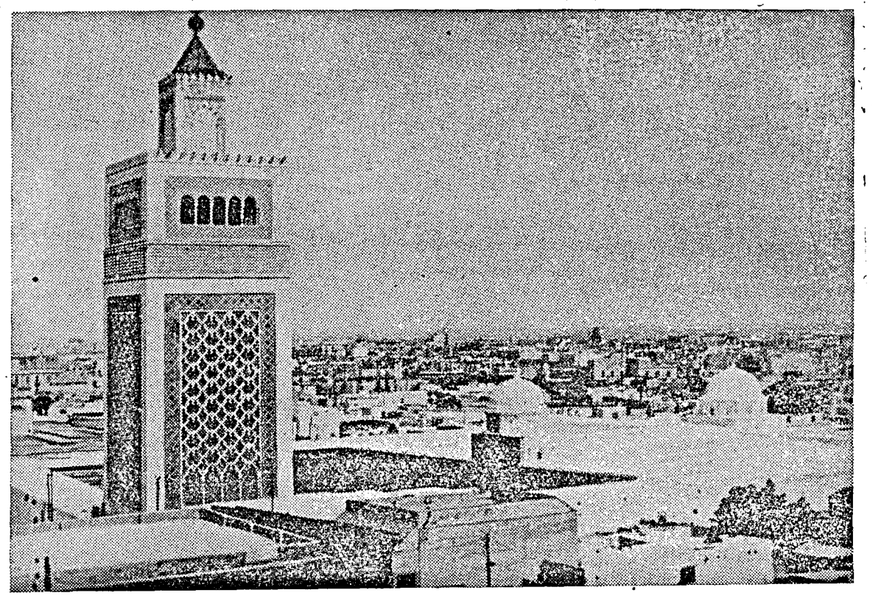
A Crushing Defeat

IN his review of the war situation, in the House of Commons on Monday (May 10), Mr. ATTLEE, Deputy Prime Minister, referred to the great victory won by the United Nations in North Africa—a victory which sent a thrill of joy not only through the hearts of the British people and their Allies, but also of well-wishers all over the world. He paid a growing tribute to the men who had driven the enemy from Tunis and Bizerta and inflicted such a crushing defeat on the Axis forces. The success of the Allied plan in Tunisia depended on the co-ordination of movements of large bodies of troops of all arms fighting on a 100-mile front of difficult and broken country. Mr. ATTLEE pointed out that, in this great battle, American and British, French Metropolitan and Colonial troops, New Zealanders and Indians, all played their appropriate part. The co-operation between men of different nationalities and the co-ordination of military, naval and air forces stand out as most notable in the Tunisian campaign. This mutual understanding brought the campaign to " a pitch of perfection we have never hitherto attained." It was this perfection of co-operation and co-ordination which was responsible for the dramatic suddenness with which the two great enemy strongholds fell. Both Bizerta and Tunis were captured on Friday last (May 7) within a quarter of an hour of each other.

REFERRING to the recent Axis fighting in Tunisia, a B.B.C. commentator says that it is " rather like a reckless mountain-climber who has lost his grip. He falls and then for a moment he clutches his grip, falls, and then he clutches again, and again, he falls." The loss of Massicault, a key-point in the Axis defensive system which was well placed on the Medjez-Tunis highway. was one such fall and it helped in hastening the closing stages of the battle. It was a strongly fortified position and was surrounded by powerful defences and it became evident that if the Axis was not in a position to hold such key-points as Bou Aokoz and Massicault, it could not hold any other positions along the whole of the road to Tunis. So when General ANDERSON, Commander of the British First Army, launched what is said to be a very brilliant example of sustained blitzgrieg ever known in the history of British arms, the German front got fractured, and ultimately collapsed.

THERE were four great armies in the final fierce battles preceding the great victory of Bizerta and Tunis, namely, the American Second Corps, the Fighting French, the British First Army and the British Eighth Army. All these maintained a sustained general pressure against Axis positions everywhere along the 100-mile perimeter ever since the capture of Enfidaville by the Eighth Army. The American Second Corps was pushing on in the extreme north towards Bizerta from the Cape Serrat area. Further south, the British First Army after capturing Longstop Hill and occupying the hills on either side of the Medjez-el-Bob-Tebourba road thundered across the river valley and marched on to Tunis. The Eighth Army was maintaining an incessant pressure from the south. Between the First and the Eighth armies were the Allied French Forces which formed the left flank of the Eighth Army and helped in the capture of Pont-du-Fahs. The capture of Pont-du-Fahs severed the vital supply route to the Axis forces facing the Eighth Army and forced them to withdraw, to avoid being taken in the rear. The capture of Tebourba opened the way into the plains towards Tunis and the occupation of Mateur gave the Allies control of the direct road and railway between Bizerta and Tunis.

THE progress of the Allied armies in these different sections was steady and comprehensive and made the Axis forces fight under new conditions which were easier for the Allies and harder for them. A grouped and concentrated army when it stands at bay on open space will take a lot of beating, as instanced by the long resistance of the encircled German Sixth Army at Stalingrad. But such an army fighting in a mountainous area has not the advantages of terrain. The enemy was driven step



A GENERAL VIEW OF TUNIS

by step in Northern Tunisia from the mountainous regions down to the flatter and easier plains. By the time the final stage of the battle for Bizerta and Tunis was reached, the air superiority and mechanised power of the Allied group of armies were ready to stage the fitting dramatic climax to the whole North African campaign.

NOW the Axis forces have retreated into the Cape Bon Peninsula which Von Arnim wants to turn into a second Bataan, but the Peninsula has been blockaded by Allied forces and the enemy attempt at a large-scale evacuation is bound to end in failure. This means that the debt of ' Dunkirk ', in the words of His Majesty the King, has been repaid. It has been repaid to the full.

BUT this is only the beginning. Mr. CHURCHILL is busy seeing to that. His visit to Washington is likely to have consequences which the Nazis little dream of. Casablanca has driven the Axis out of North Africa. The Washington talks spell the doom of the Axis in *Festung Europa*.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page* 3)

American officer. From the mid-Atlantic the British bombers will take over the work of patrolling. Thus over the entire Atlantic route between North America and Europe an air "umbrella" has been established. This "umbrella" planned by the Canadian Government has eliminated the 600-mile corridor gap in mid-Atlantic, to which the Germans had been making frequent references as "a graveyard of Anglo-American shipping."

* * * *

Berlin's Spring Offensive fizzles out—Result of Allied Counter-Offensive.

The main theme of the Berlin radio in recent months was the threat of intensified submarine warfare in spring. "Wait for the spring and the abatement of the winter gales," it said. The spring has come and gone and winter gales have abated, but sinkings of Allied ships have also abated! That is why the fantastic claims of GOEBBELS' propaganda department have now been pitched in a lower key. The Berlin radio's claim for the month of April is only 423,000 gross tons. This is the lowest figure since December 1941, and it is less than half of Berlin's total claim in March 1943. The fanfare of trumpets which used to accompany the announcements of Allied shipping losses, was significantly absent, because of the smallness of the claim. GOEBBELS evidently feared that wide publication of such a small claim would falsify the expectations raised by the much-heralded U-boat spring offensive. His claims have always overstated the actual facts, but now the progress of Allied shipping construction has made him lie harder than usual. For example Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER, the First Lord of the British Admiralty, said on March 3, 1943:

> "From December 1 last to February 28, our tonnage losses have been *much less* than in the corresponding months of last winter."

And yet Berlin claims that there was an increase of 40 *per cent* over the claims for the corresponding period of 1941–42! GOEBBELS is trying hard to counter the Allied statements that shipping losses are being more than replaced by new construction. The counter-offensive to the U-boat menace began last summer when Allied replacements began to outstrip the actual sinkings. In September 1942, more than a million deadweight tons, of shipping were produced in the United States, and so GOEBBELS pushed up his claims for September to more than a million gross tons (1,000,000 deadweight tons, about 700,000 gross tons). Towards the end of last month (April 28) Berlin declared,

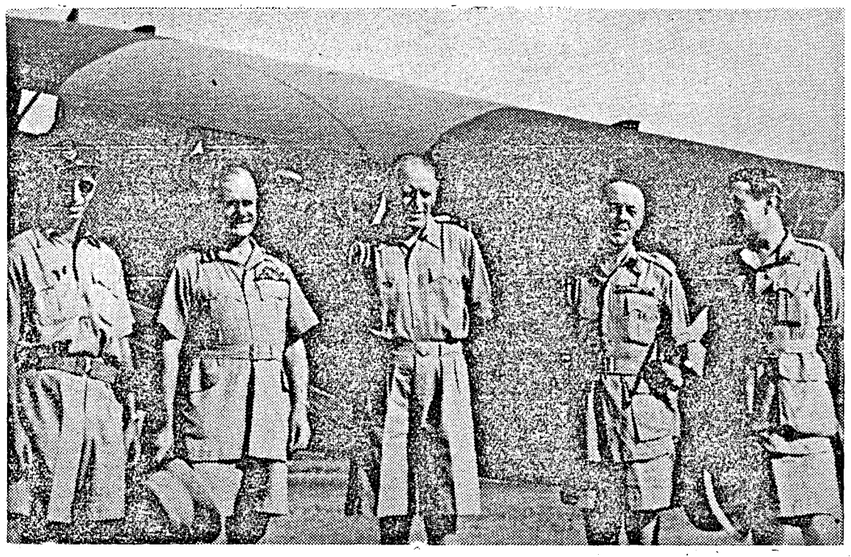
> "In spite of all the juggling with figures—between deadweight and gross registered tons—there can be no denying the fact that the sinkings of Anglo-American tonnage are still by far surpassing the new construction."

* * * *

Pace of Allied Production and Axis Sinkings: German Plan Gone Wrong.

As usual no figures were given to prove this generalisation. But the fact remains that the United Nations are building merchant ships at the rate of 1,250,000 gross tons a month now. This is more than what Berlin has claimed to have sunk in any month of this war. It may be pointed out that the average monthly claim of the Berlin radio from the beginning of September 1939 to the end of March 1943 was 601,405 gross tons, and that of the period April 1942—March 1943 was 788,073 gross tons. The highest monthly claim ever issued from Berlin was in November 1942—1,035,200 gross tons.

It would thus be seen that something has gone wrong in the German plan to deal a shattering blow at Allied shipping in the spring of this year. This may be due to severe U-boat losses in recent weeks. Further in the Northern Hemisphere the hours of daylight increases with the approach of summer, and this means that the U-boats have a much shorter time to do their nefarious work. The convoys in the North Atlantic route are now enjoying greater protection by surface escorts than they did at any previous time. They are also having sufficient air escort throughout the voyage. These facts show that the pace of Allied production is greater than the sinkings and this, there is no doubt, is a gratifying feature of the present shipping situation.



GENERAL WAVELL, Commander-in-Chief, India, made a tour of defences and outposts in Assam. Photo shows General Wavell (2nd from left) with Air Vice Marshall Stephenson (3rd from left) (A.O.C., Bengal Command) and Lt.-Gen. Irwin (4th from left) (G.O.C., Eastern Command).

The Salvage Front

By HAMISH F. SIMPSON

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 tonight 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 neglect.

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 that when you have to shift from one bungalow to another and have to empty your almirahs, writing desks, chest of drawers, and book cases, how 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 whether inadvertantly 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 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 to still 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 them less frequently than they did 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 pipe and tobacco pouch. 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 store room? A large number of babies might be 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 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

RED CROSS POSTAL MESSAGE SERVICE

The Indian Red Cross Postal Message Service has been extended to the following countries:—

Japan, Korea, Formosa, Shanghai, Hongkong, occupied China, Thailand and French Indo-China.

Messages relating to personal or family matters only may now be sent by persons in India, not being prisoners of war or interned civilians, to their relatives in the abovementioned countries who are neither prisoners of war nor civilian internees, through the Red Cross Postal Message Service under the conditions prescribed for the Service.

The extension of territory does not, however, cover an extension in the number of languages which may be used. These are English, French, German, Italian, Norwegian, Danish or Dutch.

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 got to be conserved as best as it could possibly be done, 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 very 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 considered as lazy and careless, which, after all, is the only excuse I can offer for my not collecting 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 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.

—A recent talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

Submarines' Part in Battle of Africa

WHEN the war in the Mediterranean is over and various factors in the campaign are balanced, the part played by Allied submarines in the battle of Africa will have an important place, observes the *Daily Telegraph* special correspondent with the North African forces. He adds:

In a long talk with a senior submarine officer I heard something of the story describing the vital part that submarines of the British, Polish, French and Greek navies are playing in the final severing of the dwindling Axis supply lines in Tunisia. One flotilla alone, the senior officer said, has sunk, since the day of the first landings on November 8, 50 large ships and an enormous number of small vessels, trawlers, motor barges and the like which have been the mainstay of Kesselring's sea communications. Other flotillas have done equally well in proportion to the available target. Total successful attacks have been amazing.

LOST TO THE THREE ARMS

The enemy do not run huge convoys of stores with the ships presenting a magnificent target, because they dare not. Instead, they run their supplies very often in individual ships or two-ship convoys ringed round with destroyers and E-boats. They sweep the seas on either side, then watch the waters from the air; and still we sink their vessels and vital supplies. General Eisenhower said the other day that 50 per cent of the ships which left Italy for Africa had been lost to the three arms of the vital battle—the submarine, surface vessels and the air.

How it has been done on the part of submarines is one of the campaign's miracles. The main reason has been the cool courage, resolution and daring of the young men who command the vessels. Talking to a group of them on a submarine depot ship somewhere on the North African coast, I heard, something of it.

Their ages ranged from 24 to the "old man" of the party . . . who was 37. One of them told me cheerfully how he was disappointed when he went in search of targets into an enemy harbour. He saw ships inside the harbour and fired three torpedoes through the entrance. Pressing still further to get

a view of the results, he slid up to a 15-foot patch, which meant that the submarine was half out of water.

"The first thing I saw," he said, "was the local fire brigade turning out. The next thing was a horse and cart about 50 feet away. It was all right, and I slid off again."

STORY OF THREE SHIPS

Commander Ben Bryant, the submarine "ace," told a story of three ships creeping along "within a cuckoo-spit of the Italian coast." The first two ships he torpedoed; the third did not wait, but, turning under full helm steered straight for the shore and beached herself. "So I went in and fished here and there."

The stories are endless, but one of the greatest of them all was told by the senior officer himself. It is the story of the Malta flotillas who carried on throughout the long hammering of the devoted island. When conditions became impossible for repair and maintenance ashore they worked out a system of spare crews which took over incoming submarines from the weary fighting crews, steamed out to sea and carried out maintenance under the water during the day and on the surface at night.

Volte-Face among Italian People?

By C. M. FRANZ ORO.

ORTTICO FASCISTA, the outstanding Fascist political review edited by Signor Battai, former Minister for Corporations, published a leading article of striking importance in its March number. The article indicates the seriousness of the internal political situation and is an admission of *volte-face* among all classes of the Italian people, which is tantamount to a repudiation of Fascism.

"Certain significant demands," says the writer, "have arisen in the Italian soul of to-day, demands which are responsible for general restlessness and impatience."

THE REASON

"One may be astonished that this attitude should be found in all circles and in all parts of Italy. Some people try to attribute it to fickleness of character and war weariness. But this attitude is, in its essentials, inspired by demands which give life to the already common language used to describe a series of problems fundamentally identical, and one must admit that times have never been as favourable as at present for the encouragement of egoism."

The writer does not profess to justify the "retrograde attitudes which flourish so frequently in these difficult years," but admits that "they are expressions of political sufferings arising from the less happy progress of public affairs, from alteration in the fortune of war and from everything which is not proceeding according to general desire.

OTHER DEMANDS

"One demand," continues the writer, "is for a thoroughly prepared and equipped military force proportional to our numerical strength. The Italians have not suffered so much through what they have lost in the war—and they have lost things to which they were deeply attached—as from the material impossibility of immediately reconquering them even at the cost of heavy sacrifices."

"Another demand is for competent political government inspired as far as possible by sincere desire to serve. It should be the expression of a political class constituted by the best ruling minds available to the country. Public opinion regards the day of experiments and improvisation as passed."

"NEO-LIBERALISM"

After admitting that there is a demand for more vigorous progress towards social justice, the writer confesses to the widespread existence of "certain neo-liberalism with which many people appear to have become suddenly possessed. This neo-liberalism is responsible for most suggestive references to the re-establishment of human dignity, of liberty of the individual and all liberties which are invoked in movements of hard sacrifices."

But to the above-listed "political demands"—the very things which Fascism has denied and destroyed for 20 years—the writer adds others of an "ethical" nature, chief among which is "the demand for criticism."

THE COMMON CRY

He proceeds: "There is also a demand for honesty, for competency and for a sense of responsibility and courtesy in all those who in any way attend to public affairs." The article ends, of course, by saying: "Steps must be taken to settle the more pressing problems."

The article is most probably from the pen of Battai himself. Some may wonder why Mussolini, having thrown Battai and others out of his Cabinet under suspicion of being too moderate-minded or even pacifist-minded, allows publication of such surprising opinions. People in Italy—in the cities, factories and fields—are crying out "When will it be over?"

The *Popolo d'Italia* says that these people are "only defeatists." But Mussolini, who used to be so fond of quoting sayings of ancient Rome, should remember that the Romans considered "vox populi" the voice of God.

FRONT LINE PICTURES FROM TUNISIA

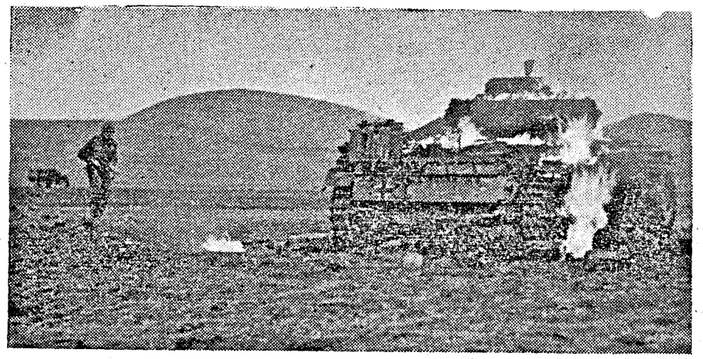
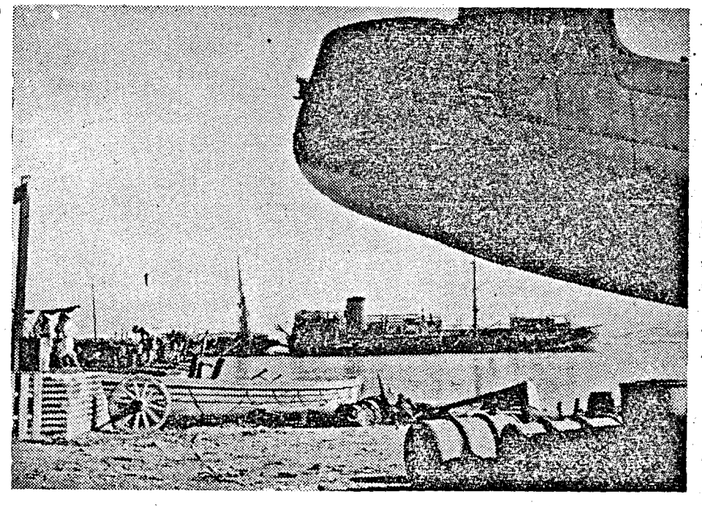


Photo shows a German tank burning fiercely after a duel with United States and British anti-tank units in the Medjez-el-Bab area.



Seen from beneath the nose of an abandoned Italian flying boat, an axis supply ship settles gracefully on the bottom of Matruh harbour. Caught by the Royal Air Force it was but one sample of the air-striking power which the Eighth Army found had paralysed the enemy's rear.

Lt.-Gen. Sir B. Freyburg, G.O.C., N.Z. Div., and Lt.-Gen. (now General) Sir B. Montgomery relax at a concert by the New Zealand Army Entertainment unit.

Von Papen in Turkey

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN.

FRANTZ VON PAPEN, the German Ambassador to Turkey, has been extremely quiet for nearly over one year. Now and then he would put in a truly Prussian baronial appearance, either to open or close some exhibition or to present somebody in the Turkish Government with cabinets containing drugs, first editions of German works bound in leather or sometimes when the political cauldron was boiling to present a German replica of some Turkish work of art.

A few days ago, he left on a tour of south-eastern Anatolia and we all thought he went to inspect the German consulates that have lately not been up to the mark in their business of reporting what was going on across the Syrian border. But no, von Papen, accompanied by Frau von Papen, merely went to Mersin to draw inspiration from the Mediterranean spring climate, the blue skies and the cypress trees for his next act of great statesmanship. He delivered a speech a few days ago before a packed audience of white-shirted, black-trousered, uniformed components of the German colony of Istanbul. The setting: ceremoniously Nazi, the occasion: the day of the dead and especially those fallen on the Russian front during the last year.

DID NOT MENTION HITLER

To go over Papen's speech again would be to accord him gratuitous publicity. I shall refrain from going into the details. But one, or rather two points are worth mentioning.

One is what he said and the second is what he did not say. In the first place the whole speech was a tirade against Russia with very much of the Bolshevik bogey and something about the necessity of the European peoples to unite and face the menace.

What he did not mention throughout his speech was the name of his beloved Fuehrer, and he also said nothing about the Nazi Party. Now on such occasions when Germans meet to commemorate something one must say something about the beloved Fuehrer and the Nazi Party even if they were jointly responsible for the dead the Germans of Istanbul were commemorating. But von Papen said nothing.

Von Papen is again at his very old tricks, only he lacks something of the finesse of the diplomat when he tries to transpose on the diplomatic plan what he used to do himself with gangs of hired thugs during the last war. I mean it is more difficult to disrupt relations between countries—especially when these are on the winning side—than to blow up coal ships by placing sticks of dynamite in their holds.

Papen's speech contained such sticks of moral dynamite. He is trying again his old game of creating divergences of opinion between Turkey and Russia. At the same time by not mentioning his beloved Fuehrer and the Nazi Party he is trying in public to support the whispers which he himself has put into circulation to the effect that he, Frantz von Papen, the grave digger of the Second Reich, is now going to be the leader of the Fourth Reich and perhaps repeat his grave-digger role again.

The ideas are not bad but they serve neither him nor his country and what is more they seem to annoy the country he is accredited to. But anything is good enough now for this slick diplomat if he can only trouble the waters or even taint them with the reflection of his horsy face.

TURKEY WITH UNITED NATIONS

The facts are there for all to see and Turkey has taken her place on the side of the United Nations. The Premier's speech said this clearly if not in actual words and the implication is all we want. There is no doubt about it, Germany is getting every day more worried about what is going to happen to her "fortress of Europe." Where will the blow fall and when? This is the question everybody is asking.

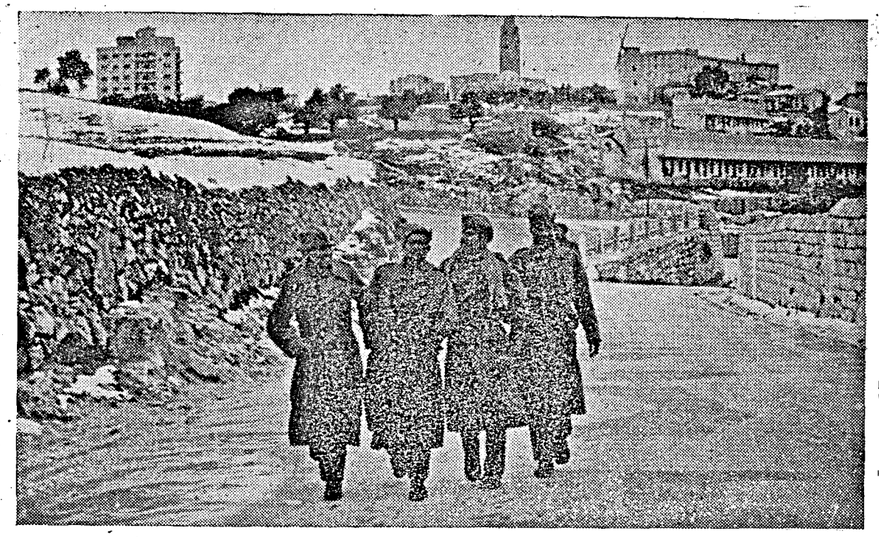
Von Papen's speech is a provocation and also a feeler. The provocation part of it does not seem to have succeeded because nobody is taking any notice of what he says except that he has begun to say it badly. It is obvious, however, that he is trying to feel his way about. His direct contacts do not seem to have given him a clear intention of Turkey's future action.

In his speech von Papen tries to draw at least the Tukish journalists. So far with no least the Turkish journalists. So far with no has arrived in Turkey. Perhaps the honourable Herr Doktor will be able to find out what von Papen could not.

BRAVE NAZI

The latest anti-nazi joke going the rounds tells of an anti-aircraft soldier in Germany who got a gold medal with this citation; "During an R.A.F. raid over Berlin, after having exhausted all his ammunition, he continued to shout 'Boom-Boom!' at the top of his lungs, —*obtaining the same result.*"

—From an A.I.R. Broadcast, Madras.



Indian troops serving in Syria and the Lebanon have been able to enjoy Alpine sports this year as heavy falls of snow have occurred throughout the area. Ski-ing is in full swing. The towns and villages nestling in the valleys are indeed picturesque. Photo shows snow in Jerusalem.

North Sea is a British Lake

By WILLIAM STAPLEY.

FITTING into its place in the vast jig-saw of Britain's strategical war plan, the newly developed sea-and-air blow, carefully prepared and brilliantly executed over many months, is beginning to pay handsome dividends in the way of a new headache for Hitler and his generals.

British airmen have been doing a lot of train-busting during the past six months or so. They have played such ducks and drakes with the movement of vast supplies of material needed for the building of Hitler's invasion "wall" that an alternative method of transport had to be found. Transport by sea was the obvious alternative. The Germans adopted it.

CHECKMATE

And that was where the other part of the British plan fell into its place. Waiting for just that move by the Germans was the Royal Navy—the Navy and its little ships, its flotillas of swift motor torpedo-boats and now motor gun-boats, officered and manned by daring souls who are in the direct tradition of the Elizabethan sea dogs.

Those little ships are now coming into their own. They are making it deadly clear to the Germans that the North Sea is British-controlled. All of it from the Channel to the top of Scotland and beyond. And not merely our side of it, but the enemy's as well.

SIMPLICITY ITSELF

Britain's little ships have struck. But not alone. Their work has all been correlated with that of the Coastal and Fighter commands.

Operationally, the business is simplicity itself. The Fighter Command's planes do train-busting—and drive Germany's transport work to the sea. Then the Coastal Command's planes spot that movement—tell the little ships just what the German boats are moving and where. And Beaufighters of this Command also make day attacks on those German craft, swooping in and wreaking destruction with torpedo and shell under the escort of the Fighter Command's Spitfires and Mustangs.

THE NET RESULT

The little ships do the rest, darting in with torpedo and shell, sinking their German quarry, and darting out again. The net result is that to-day a 24-hour sea-and-air blitz is in progress against Germany's rail and sea transport to the West Coast defences.

Let me pick five aces of the little ships of Britain—ships which have driven Hitler's convoys into furtive dark night affairs.

TOOK HEAVY TOLL

There is Hichens—or rather, there was Hichens—Lieut-Commander R. P. Hichens. In peacetime, Falmouth, solicitor and yachtsman. Thrice D.S.C., holder of the D.S.O.

A lucky shot by a German gunner struck him down a few weeks ago. But he had made his mark, had taken a terribly heavy toll of German convoy traffic.

And Dickens—Lieut. P. G. C. Dickens, great-grandson of the famous Charles. Bearded and adventurous. He too has made his mark in this battle of convoys.

And Peter Scott, son of the famous father who blazed new trails in the Antarctic. Bird-lover, and etcher of many beautiful pictures, to-day son Peter is seeking Germans in Germans' own waters.

STILL BEATING THEM

And Kenneth Gemmel, engineer in civil life, aged 34, sailor to his finger tips. Just before the war he led his schooner *Valiant* against all comers: sailed her from Dover to Christiansund in a trip that beat nine of Germany's crack yachtsmen. To-day, he flies at his masthead the pennant he carried then. And he is still beating the Germans against whom his seamanship and dash are pitted.

Then there is Tralayney—"Trouncer" they call him. He was christened Ian, and is 26. A great name. His great-great-grandfather raided the seas as a Cornish privateer.

SALTY DARING

In these leaders of Britain's little ships the salty daring of Britons through the centuries has come again to life. So watch the communiqués that tell of these "light coastal forces" action. They are the very spirit of Britain. They are making history, and they are day-to-day chronicles that set down an immutably bitter realization for Hitler—the realization that the North Sea is Britain's now and ever more. Reincarnated captains of the little ships of Britain through the centuries ensure it, we like to think.

—*The Sunday Dispatch.*

Russian Industry Prepares For Summer

By G. KOLMANOV.

NOT only the Red Army, but the entire Soviet Union and all its industry and national economy is preparing for the summer battles.

It is common knowledge that now-a-days the issue of war is largely decided in factories and mills, scientific institutes and farmers' fields: for to-day even wheat grown by farmers is a weapon of war. That is why special importance attaches to a number of events which occurred in the Soviet Union during the last few days.

The first of these events is the report on the successes achieved by the Soviet iron and steel industry during the first quarter of 1943, and Government awards to a large group of Russian metallurgists.

According to an official report, the iron and steel industry, during the first quarter of 1943, considerably increased the output compared with that of the first quarter of 1942, thus showing that it has overcome all difficulties which confronted it during the first stage of war.

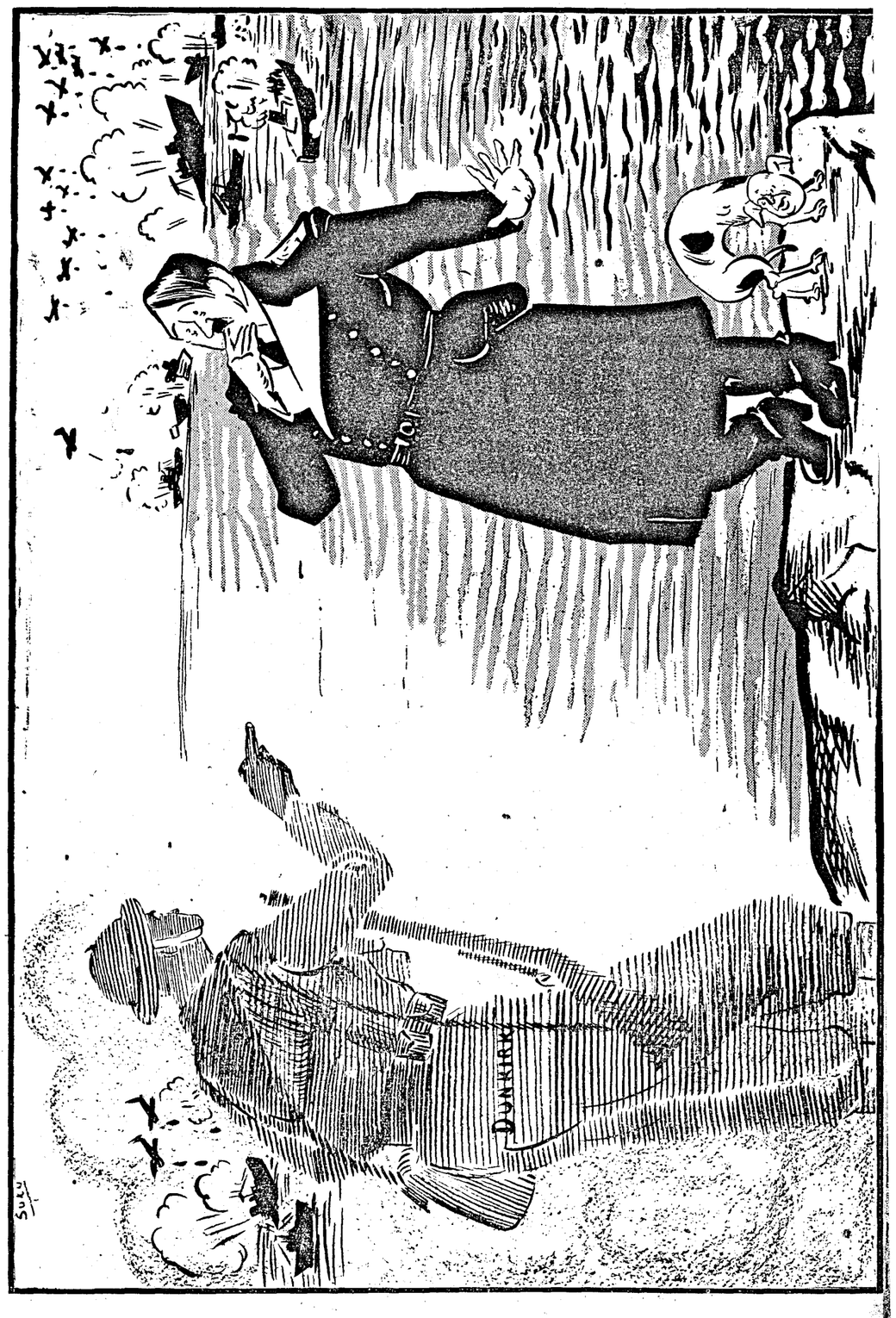
The Germans captured Ukraine in 1941. That necessitated the prompt transference of all the Ukrainian metallurgical plants to the east. The second metallurgical base created by Stalin in the Urals and Siberia many years prior to the war, bore the brunt of war demands for metal, until the plants, evacuated from the Ukraine, commenced operations in new places, and until new plants were constructed.

This difficult period has now been left behind. The successes achieved by metallurgists were recognized by Government which awarded orders and medals to over 800 workers, engineers, factory directors and scientists.

Similar interest was evoked in Soviet circles by the publication of the State plan to increase livestock in 1943. Soviet farming has also had to overcome numerous difficulties caused by war: among others, the difficulties arising from drafting a section of the male population into the army.

Despite this, large-horned cattle, sheep and goats in collective farms increased during 1942 by 11 per cent. The same year the peasantry sold to the State 49 per cent more meat than in 1941. War could not shake the economic foundations of the Soviet countryside.

The collective system of land tenure reveals ever new and greater potentialities of further progress. That is why the Government of the U.S.S.R. found it possible to plan increase in the development of livestock during 1943, providing for the increase of 11·8 per cent in herd of large-horned cattle; 13·5 per cent in sheep and goats and 16·4 per cent in pigs.



IT'S YOUR TURN NOW!

China: Resistance and Reconstruction

By H. D. LIM, *Head of Chinese Central News Agency, London.*

"IN the first few months of war," said Mr. H. D. Lim, London head of the Chinese Central News Agency, in a B.B.C. broadcast on April 27, "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 realized 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.

DEMOCRACY

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 begun 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, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek envisaged that the People's Political Council should be the embryo of the future parliament of China. The 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.

CHINA'S SACRIFICE

It is for these 'war and peace aims,' that the Chinese people have made their supreme sacrifice. They have unstingingly 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.

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."

—From a B.B.C. talk broadcast on April 27.

New Uses For Coal

American coal mines will produce 600,000,000 tons of bituminous coal in 1943 an increase of 30,000,000 tons over last year's production, to help carry out the military programme of the United States and her allies.

Coal is one of the basic sinews of war. It powers 85 per cent of America's rail roads, generates 46 per cent of her electric power. A ton of coal is used for every ton of steel produced in the United States. Now coal is being employed in ever-increasing quantity as the raw material for industrial synthetics from which hundreds of vital military products are being made. Chemically converted, coal is already the source of such diverse products as tyres, parachutes, aircraft turrets, healing sulfa-drugs and explosives. New uses for the versatile black mineral are constantly being developed in research laboratories.

More than 6,000 mines are in operation in the United States. To meet this year's expanded schedule of production, they will be producing 11,500,000 tons of coal every week, highest sustained output in United States history.

TRAINING OF MECHANICS FOR THE INDIAN AIR FORCE.—This photograph taken at the Poona Engineering College shows how youths in all parts of India are being put through a special course of training at nine centres in different parts of India to enable them to qualify as mechanics for the Indian Air Forces. Under the scheme 2,000 mechanics are to be trained each year for two years. The course lasts for 12 months. When a class have dismantled an engine they are taught to familiarise themselves with every component part. These trainees are examining a carburettor.

Parachutists as Infantry

CORRESPONDENTS in North Africa have been sending glowing accounts of the work performed by British parachutists with the First Army. These parachutists were, it is said, one of the mainstays of that army throughout the early anxious months. This is what *The Times* correspondent in North Tunisia writes about them:

The parachutists have shown themselves magnificent infantry, pre-eminent in physique and steadiness of nerve, born guerilla fighters, mobile and tireless, tremendous marchers with an undefeatable spirit. In the march-fighting around Tamera and Sejenane they were the backbone, first of a dogged defence, and then of an irresistible attack. It was they who captured Jebel Mansour at the beginning of February in a night attack.

But many of their greatest feats have been achieved in swoops and skirmishes among the hills, which kept the enemy constantly on tenterhooks. The parachute battalion which dropped at Soukel Arba on November 16 moved on to Beja the next day, knocked out six Italian armoured cars, and then took to the hills between Beja and Mateur, where for the next three weeks they rallied the local French and became a nightmare to the enemy. They made raid after raid on enemy strong posts, often marching as far as 35 miles in a night. They used to lurk by the roadside and ambush convoys so successfully that by early December they were almost completely equipped with captured enemy transport. In the second half of December and the first half of January the parachutists were playing a less mobile role, holding the sector astride the Beja-Mateur road with French infantry and United States artillery. But they kept in their hand by sending out a succession of deep fighting patrols.

FOUGHT ON IN MUD AND RAIN

Things were not going so successfully, however, in the northern sector. Sejenane had fallen and the enemy were pressing on towards Jebel Abiod. The parachutists were sent for, and on March 8 they went in at Tamera to stiffen a hardpressed defence. For a fortnight, sometimes forced back and sometimes actually surrounded, they fought on in mud and rain. They beat off attack after attack, retook a position here and a position there, and brought new strength and courage to less experienced troops who were fighting beside them. Their pride and fighting spirit rose to sublime heights.

One battalion, after eight days' continuous fighting without sleep or hot food, was withdrawn for a short rest. Bivouacs and cooked meals awaited them 40 yards from where their transport stopped. But they were so exhausted that they could not walk that short distance for food, rest and shelter. They

rolled out of their trucks and fell asleep instantly beside them in the rain. Within two hours they were awakened and put back into the line to repel an enemy attack. They got up and went back and beat off the attack.

A TRAY OF GRENADES

At another desperate moment, when a small body of parachutists was surrounded and was on the point of being wiped out, a private with a tray of grenades walked calmly through the storm of fire to the slit trenches where his comrades crouched, shouting "Cigarettes? Chocolates?" The enemy was beaten off. The tide turned, and an hour before midnight on March 27 the parachutists moved forward with infantry towards the first objectives in the three-day operation that freed Sejenane.

The next day the Germans counter-attacked with their own parachutists. They too have been used for months as infantry and are good troops, perhaps the best in Von Arnim's army. They attacked all day and almost surrounded our parachutists, but in the end the attack weakened and broke. Our men went on to their second objectives and spent the rest of the night mopping up the enemy in the woods. The parachutists had no more opposition in reaching their final objectives.

Many things have contributed to the excellence of parachutists as infantry. They are unusually mobile, partly because of their remarkable marching powers and partly because by training they are accustomed to manage with much less transport than ordinary infantry. Their physique is well above the average, and no man becomes a parachutist unless his nerves are good. But the most important factor of all is probably their pride in themselves as the *corps d'elite*. They are young but they have proved themselves time and again.

"Skip Bombing" Technique

AN extraordinary feature of the skip or skid bombing, which is being used with such deadly effect now in the South-West Pacific, is that Flying Fortresses designed for substratosphere bombing have become by this means in effect 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 hole the target on the waterline.

The term skip bombing is self-explanatory and the idea underlying the technique is simple. The target ship has the greatest difficulty in depressing her ackack guns quickly enough to meet a sudden swoop at deck level.

At night flares can be used to light up targets and dazzle the gunners.

Bombs may ricochet along the surface into the vessel's side, and thus produce a similar effect to a torpedo. If the bombs drop too steeply and sink, they may 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.

The Bismarck Sea Battle was the first time skip bombing was used in the South-West Pacific on a large scale. The technique was developed in New Guinea by Major William Benn, of Washington, an aide of Lieutenant-General Kenney, commanding the Allied air forces in the South-West Pacific. Experimental runs were made against an old hulk near Port Moresby.

In the first raid wherein skip bombing was employed in this area a Fortress sank a freighter and cruiser in Rabaul harbour before the Japanese knew what had hit them.

In one raid three freighters, two light cruisers and three destroyers cost only 30 bombs.

In the Bismarck Sea Battle 12 Mitchell bombers scored direct hits on 11 ships by this means, and at Kavieng eight Fortresses also scored 11 direct hits.

★

Together in War and Peace

"For a peace which could endure, they should need not only close understanding between themselves, the British Commonwealth and the United States, Russia and China, but the full co-operation of all the United Nations.

Together, we shall win the war and win the peace. Nothing less will content us. It is our duty—yours and mine—to hand on to our children a world in which freedom can live and man command his soul."

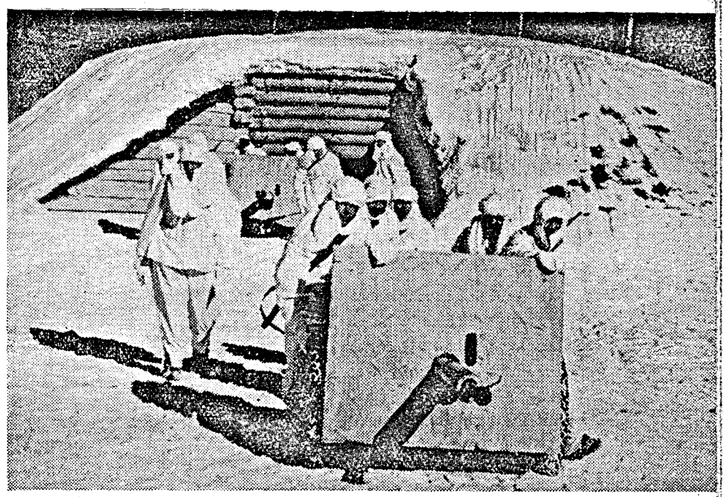
—MR. ANTHONY EDEN, *the British Foreign Secretary in a broadcast to the Canadian people.*

THE RUSSIAN FRONT

A great change is now noticed in the Nazis taken prisoner by the victorious Red Army men, and those captured during the earlier battles of a year ago.

Formerly confident and sure of a German victory, the Nazis now seem dispirited, with fears of a German defeat, and only glad to be out of the war and its hardships.

Photo shows varied expressions on the faces of a batch of German prisoners taken on the central front.



White clad Russian artillerymen bringing their mobile guns from a huge dug-out at an outpost on the northern front.

These dug-outs, strongly constructed and covered are invisible from the air and afford safety and shelter for both the crews and their guns, not only from enemy shell fire, but also the icy weather of a Russian winter.

Telephone communication brings the guns into action on any part of their sector within a few minutes.

Russian infantry advancing under the support of artillery against a village held by the Nazis on the southern front.

RAMA DEEPA

RAMA DEEPA is a new device for burning vegetable oils or kerosene for lighting. It is simple in construction and easy of manipulation. Vegetable oil lamps hitherto produced have two oil tanks, one above the other with a feeding pipe to supply oil to the wick. They are not suitable for the use of kerosene oil as fuel.

Rama Deepa is a dual oil lamp and therefore its purchaser will be no loser by his investment, even if kerosene comes back into common use. It covers a wide range of lighting devices to serve all purposes—hurricane lantern, table light, platform (railway) light, bed lights and naked flame 'buddi.'

Since some of the models of Rama Deepa are above the means of the poorer classes, the National War Front, Madras, have arranged with Messrs. Rama Deepa Works, Dowlaishweram (East Godavari District) to manufacture, on a large scale, three of the cheaper varieties of Rama Deepa lights, the bed room lantern, the bed light and the naked flame light.

The stamp of the National War Front will be imprinted on each lamp, and retail prices are fixed for the present at one rupee (bed room lantern), nine annas (bed light) and two annas (naked flame light).

A cheap lighting device alone will not wholly solve the problem for the poor villager. Availability of the illuminant and the cost of lighting have to be taken into consideration. With this end in view, various vegetable oils have been tried with the above lamps and the results are given below. The capacity of the oil tank in the bed lantern and the bed room light is 3 ounces and the duration of light is noted below in the case of each oil :—

3 oz. of groundnut oil burns for..	21	hours.
„ pungam (karanji) oil ..	20	„
„ margosa oil	24	„
3 oz. of mahwa (Ippa, Illuppah) oil.	20	hours.
„ tobacco oil	21	„
„ mustard mixed with 25 per cent groundnut.		

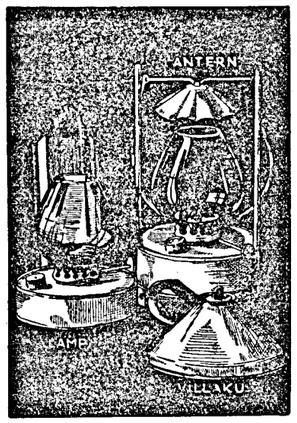
Mahwa (Illuppah) oil cannot be used in winter as it congeals like coconut oil.

Margosa oil burns longest, and, assuming that the price of one viss (3 lb.) of any oil is one rupee, costs the user about one anna per week at the rate of 3 or 4 hours per day, making a monthly lighting cost of about four annas.

With all the above oils, Rama Deepa lights will burn continuously for about eight hours without adjustment of the wick; the flame dies out only when the last drop of the oil is consumed.

The National War Front hopes that the people of South India will use the vegetable oil available in their locality for their lighting and thus save kerosene for essential purposes. They will thus make a substantial contribution to the self-sufficiency drive, since indigenous, and not imported, products will thus be used for essential needs.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT
RAMA DEEPA LAMP



BEDROOMLAMP Rs.1-
BEDROOMLANTERN as.9
VILLAKU as.2

NOTE
3 OZS. OF GROUNDNUT OIL (COST AS.1) WILL GIVE 18 HOURS OF LIGHT. THEREFORE, AT 3 HOURS PER NIGHT A POOR FAMILY WILL HAVE LIGHT FOR A MONTH FOR ABOUT AS.5.

DISTRIBUTORS, SRIPADA NARASIMHA BROS. COCANADA

BURN VEGETABLE OIL
SAVE KEROSINE FOR THE WAR

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

6th May.—New and extensive German anti-invasion preparations were reported from Norway.

The Royal Air Force Coastal Command set up a record during April in its war on U-boats. Since the beginning of the war they had made 881 attacks on U-boats and engaged more than 1,600 Axis aircraft in combat.

7th May.—About 10 people were killed in a raid by four German planes on an East Anglian coast town.

The creation of a Danish naval force to join the Allied navies was announced.

According to the *Daily Mail* Naval correspondent, Britain to-day had enough convoy escorts, both surface ships and aircraft, to turn from purely defensive to directly offensive tactics against U-boat packs in the Atlantic.

8th May.—An alert was sounded in London. Four out of 13 German raiders which visited Britain were brought down.

9th May.—An enemy armed ship was damaged off the coast of Brittany.

10th May.—Speaking on the fourth anniversary of the Winter Help Campaign, Hitler called for further sacrifices from the German people.

11th May.—Admiral Sir John Torvey, former Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet gave the warning that the German battle fleet might come out for action.

Mr. Anthony Eden reiterated in the Commons that the Allies' peace terms were unconditional surrender.

12th May.—Dr. Schacht, the German financial expert, was expelled from the Nazi party.

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

6th May.—Mr. Elmer Davis, Chief of the United States Office of War Information said that there was no question but that there would be Allied operations in Continental Europe this summer.

The launching of 16 more merchant ships was announced.

Mr. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administrator, reported that in March Lend-Lease exports were the highest on record and totalled 705 million dollars.

8th May.—Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's special envoy in India, returned to America.

The Paris Radio stated that the United States Government were negotiating with Portugal for a temporary occupation of Cape Verde Islands.

It was reported that Allied Governments, including Russia, had been "orally but officially" informed of an Anglo-American post-war plan envisaging a World Council of Four Powers and a Committee of Eight Nations on which smaller powers would serve in rotation.

11th May.—It was reported that Churchill and Roosevelt would soon meet for discussing the next logical step before the Allied invasion of Europe.

Five German submarines attacking westbound Allied convoys in the Atlantic theatre were sunk on May 6. Several others were heavily damaged or probably sunk.

12th May.—Mr. Churchill arrived in Washington and was in conference with President Roosevelt. Field Marshal Wavell was a member of Mr. Churchill's party. This was Mr. Churchill's fourth meeting with the President. President Benes also arrived in Washington.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

6th May.—There was active patrolling on the west side of the Mayu ridge. Toungoo was bombed. A sharp attack was made on the railway installation at Prome.

The Japanese attacked an airfield in south-eastern Bengal.

7th May.—United States bombers attacked Namtu mines in Burma. Railway installations at Myohaung junction in Burma were also hit. Bombs were dropped on rail-road installations at Prome and Pyinmana. The Japanese made a thrust in the Maungdau-Buthidaung area.

8th May.—East of the Mayu ridge, the enemy obtained a position astride the Maungdau-Buthidaung road. The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese troop positions in the Mayu Peninsula.

9th May.—American aircraft attacked rail yards in Rangoon. The Royal Air Force attacked enemy objectives at Mayohaung.

10th May.—American cargo planes landed in India after completing the longest and largest mass flight in history.

The Tokyo Radio claimed that the Japanese had occupied Buthidaung. It was not confirmed. American aircraft attacked the Japanese barracks at Mamyo, rail-road yards at Yamethin and Kyankse and enemy installations in Kamaing area.

11th May.—It was reported that with the loss of Buthidaung, Allied troops would move further north towards Cox's Bazaar.

* * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

6th May.—Allied long range fighters attacked several small enemy vessels in the Aegean Sea, north of Crete.

American troops captured Djebel Cheniti and Djebel Achkel. The First Army captured Djebel Bon Aonkaz. Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of State for War, said that the noose was tightening around the Axis army in Tunisia and the campaign was entering its final phase.

Mr. Elmer Davis, Chief of the United States Office of War Information, said that the Axis leaders feared that the Italian people would welcome an Allied invasion and were therefore trying to whip up a feeling of hatred for the Americans.

Sgr. Mussolini, addressing a crowd of people outside the Palazzo Venezia, said that the Italians were suffering from 'African disease' —their whole longing and craving aim at a return to Africa. "Italy must and will return to Africa."

7th May.—British and American forces captured Tunis and Bizerta. The occupation was complete.

On the eve of the offensive, General Alexander issued the following Order of the Day: "Soldiers of the Allies, you have proved yourselves masters of the battlefield and therefore you will win this last great battle, which will give us the whole of North Africa. The eyes of the world are on you and the hopes of those at home. Forward, then, to victory!"

The Royal Air Force attacked the harbour at Reggio de Calabria and Trapani, Marsala and Isola Favignana (Sicily). Considerable damage was done.

A 5,000-ton cargo vessel owned by the South African Government was torpedoed and sunk off the South African coast by an Axis submarine.

8th May.—The Allies captured Pont Du Fahs and Bir Mchenga. Many thousands of prisoners were captured. British tanks and infantry mopped up demoralized Axis troops south-west of Goubellat. Tunis and Bizerta were practically cut off from Europe.

9th May.—General Eisenhower stated that organized Axis resistance had ended in Tunisia. Three German divisional Commanders were captured. The Germans were machine-gunned by planes on their 'Dunkirk' beaches as they tried to get away in small craft. The Algiers Radio said that about 120,000 Axis troops had been encircled. Twenty thousand prisoners had been taken.

The Soviet Press hailed the Allied victory in Tunisia as a prelude to a second front. His Majesty the King sent a message to General Eisenhower.

Partial evacuation of Toulon and Nice were ordered.

10th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked the airfield at Pantellaria. Flying Fortresses attacked Palermo. Sicily also was attacked.

Cape Bon peninsula was blockaded by Allied naval and coastal forces. Since May 7, 50,000 prisoners had been captured. The *Luftwaffe* and *Regia Aeronautica* withdrew from the battle altogether. Von Arnim was still reported to be in Tunisia.

According to reports from Zurich, the Axis authorities rushed through the evacuation of civilians from the French Riviera coast. Work on the Riviera fortifications were also speeded up.

11th May.—Goering held a conference with Mussolini and military chiefs in Rome.

It was reported that Hitler would entrust Rommel with a new task after his complete recovery. Axis forces in the American sector surrendered unconditionally.

It was revealed that Axis armies in North Africa left a total of 476,000 prisoners in Allied hands since 1940 and up to May 9. Of these, 280,000 were Italians, 106,000 Germans and the remaining unspecified.

Pantellaria was again bombed, also Messina.

The First Army reached the outskirts of Hammamet on the shore of Cape Bon. German forces in Zaghouan mountains asked for armistice terms. The French Command demanded unconditional surrender. The Fourth Indian Division took part in the break-through from Medjez salient to Tunis. Axis troops were completely bottled up.

12th May.—Allied forces reached the extreme tip of Cape Bon Peninsula. Axis forces were encircled.

It was officially announced that von Arnim was taken prisoner at Cape Bon.

The Morocco radio stated that Italy was expected to take over both parts of Savoy and part of the French Mediterranean coast as a consolation to the loss of the African Empire.

A state of emergency was decreed for the Calabrian Peninsula.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

6th May.—In the Kuban valley, north-east of Novorossisk, fierce battles were fought. Four hundred Germans were killed in one sector alone. German defences were pierced.

7th May.—The Russian army advanced beyond Neberzhaevskaya in the Kuban and occupied a number of important heights north-east of Novorossisk. Soviet long-range bombers bombed the railway junctions of Dneipnopetrovsk, Kremenchug and Bryansk.

8th May.—The Russians occupied several hills of tactical importance in the Kuban. The Moscow Radio stated that 350 German aircraft were destroyed on May 6. Thirty Russian planes made a concentrated attack on the Finnish port of Ketka.

9th May.—The Germans massed large fresh forces at various points of the 2,000-mile front stretching from the Arctic to the Black Sea.

10th May.—The Russian troops advanced towards Novorossisk. During the week ended May 8, 930 German aircraft were destroyed or damaged in air combats.

11th May.—It was reported that a new Soviet offensive was to be launched in the Orel sector.

The Soviet Government rejected Sweden's protest over the bombing of Verkre Island near Karlskrona on April 29.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

7th May.—The Spanish Ambassador, Senor Cardenas, after seeing President Roosevelt, said: "Spain decides every day to stay out of the war."

10th May.—Speaking at the Town Hall, Madrid, General Franco said: "We have reached what is usually called the dead end of this struggle. After three years of war, it is folly to delay making peace."

* * * *

SHIPPING

6th May.—The British submarine *Sahib* was sunk in the Central Mediterranean.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

6th May.—It was announced from Sofia that martial law had been proclaimed in the Bulgarian Black Sea coastal territory.

Large quantities of leaflets dropped by German planes threatened the National Bands of Greece with severe action.

It was revealed that between 100 and 400 Norwegians had escaped every week for the last six months to Sweden.

9th May.—Martial law was proclaimed in Holland.

Over 100 persons were arrested following wrecking of a German jamming radio station at Toulon.

The Germans, fearing an Allied invasion, cut all Greek communications with the outside world. There was a reign of terror.

Wilhelm Kruger, Gestapo Chief in Poland, was shot dead by Polish patriots.

[Kruger was responsible for the reign of terror in Poland.]

* * * *

THE FAR EAST

6th May.—A 5,000-ton Japanese cargo ship was hit and left burning and two 500-ton ships were possibly destroyed when Wewak town and port were heavily bombed.

American bombers attacked the Hanoi-Haiphong area in Indo-China and Samah in Hainan Island.

7th May.—Chinese forces, after bitter fighting recaptured Saio Island off south-east Kwangtung coast near Fukien Port. It was reported that the Japanese were preparing to withdraw from the Tai Hang Shan mountains on the Honan-Shansi border.

Five Allied merchant vessels were sunk east of Australia as a result of enemy submarine operations. Japanese installations at Munda in the Solomons were bombed by Allied aircraft.

United States planes bombed and strafed Attu island in the north Pacific.

8th May.—It was revealed that United States forces occupied Amchikta Island in the Aleutians last January without opposition. Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said that the American occupation of Adak and Amchitka formed part of a programme of advances which he termed "aggressive offensive" warfare.

In repeated broadcasts the German press and radio declared that "if the Allies attack Europe, the opportunity will be seized by the Japanese, not merely for strategic reasons, but because of moral obligations."

To this, the Tokyo radio replied. "As the relations between Japan and Russia are based on an existing Neutrality Pact, such intrigues merely revel the originator's desperate plight."

9th May.—Japanese positions on Attu Island were shelled. A Japanese transport crowded with troops was sunk off Madang.

Mr. William Hughes, Australian Prime Minister, said: "Germany's star is setting, but the war with Japan might go on for years."

Japan lodged a strong protest with Peru against the economic measures taken against Japanese property owners.

10th May.—American bombers raided a Japanese airfield near Canton starting big fires. Forty enemy fighters were destroyed.

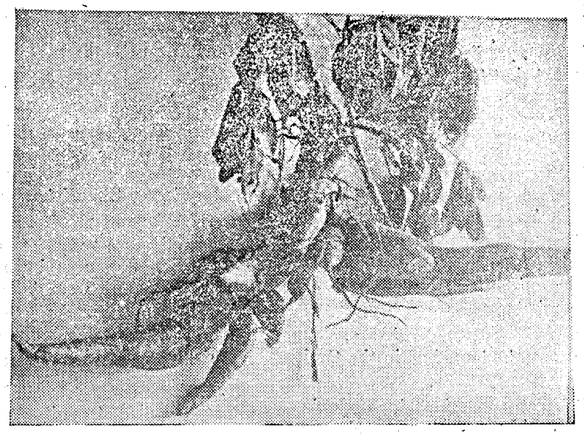
The village of Horobetsu on the south-eastern coast of Hokkaido, one of the islands forming the Japanese home country, was shelled by an Allied submarine.

12th May.—The Japanese aerodrome at Vunakaran was attacked. Fighting flared up in Mubo area of New Guinea. Jap positions in Munda were bombed.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

Tuberous and Root Vegetables

Tapioca or Cassava



Manihot utilissima; Fam: *Euphorbiaceæ*. *Maravalli-kelanju*, Tam.; *Kappa or Maracheeni*, Mal.

Description.—A shrubby plant about 6–8 feet high with erect slender stems, palwately divided leaves on long red stalks, and large tuberous roots, full of starch; the juice of the roots contains small quantities of hydrocyanic or prussic acid. There are a number of varieties differing in foliage, and size and colour of tubers.

Propagations.—Tapioca plants are propagated from mature stem-cuttings about 6–12 inches long, planted in a slanting position with a little over half the length of the cuttings below the soil, and at distances 4 to 5 feet apart. The soil must be kept moist till the leaves begin to sprout.

Cultivation.—This crop can be grown in all types of land, even in dry localities and upon poor soil. Mounding the plants and weeding are necessary. The tubers are ready in 9 to 12 months, according to locality and variety. The tubers should be eaten within 2–3 days after they are dug; otherwise they may develop poisonous properties. Even during these 2 or 3 days it is best to keep the tubers under moist soil.

Seasons.—There are two common varieties in Malabar—one planted in April and lifted in December and the other planted in January and lifted in August.

Uses.—(1) The starchy roots can be peeled and steamed and eaten with curds or chutney. (2) The tubers can also be used for curries. (3) A starchy flour called "manioc flour" can be prepared from the tubers in different ways—(*a*) The tubers can be cut into very thin slices and dried in the sun and then ground into flour, when necessary. (*b*) Good "manioc flour" can be obtained in another way. The tubers are skinned washed and ground into pulp. A wide-mouthed pot is three-quarters filled with water, and a coarse piece of muslin tied to the mouth, so that the folds descend into the water. The pounded meal is then put into the muslin "bag" little by little, and squeezed so that the flour drains off into the pot. When all the flour has been thus separated, the muslin is removed and the starch allowed to settle. The water is then drained off, more fresh water added, stirred well and the mixture allowed to settle again. After the water has been drained off 3 or 4 times, there may be a thin layer of brownish incrustation on the top of the starch; this can be scraped off with a spoon. The starch is then dried in the sun, and while drying, the lumps are broken up. When the flour is completely dry, it is rolled out on a stone grinder and the flour sifted through a sieve—Manioc flour is used for making sweets and for starching cloth. (4) Tapioca roots can also be cut into extremely thin slices, steeped in boiling water for a few minutes, the water drained off and the thin slices dried in the Sun. These chips and also the manioc flour can be preserved in air-tight tins for quite a long time. The chips can be fried in oil or ghee and then sugared. (5) The granulated "tapioca" of commerce is prepared from the tubers. (6) Tapioca is also grown as food for stock.

General analysis.—Water 59·4 per cent; mineral 1·0 per cent; proteins 0·7 per cent; fat 0·2 per cent; carbohydrate 38·7 per cent; calories per pound 795; calcium 0·069 per cent; phosphorus 0·092 per cent; iron 0·0009 per cent; vitamin A—nil; vitamin B—I.U. per 100 gms. 26; vitamin C mgm. per 100 gms. 38·8.

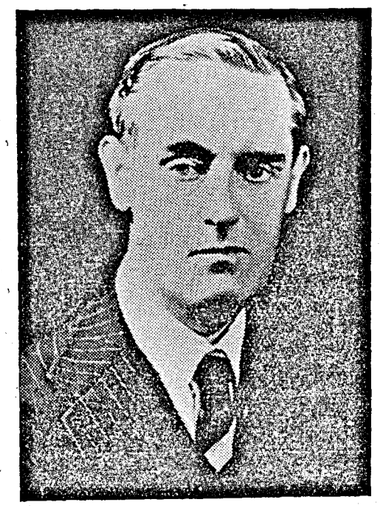
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1943 No. 36



H.E. LORD LINLITHGOW

Flushed with Victory

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 Nazism that has cast its deadly shade, over the length and breadth of continental Europe

We shall rejoice that our famous Fourth 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 Field Marshal Wavell's great campaigns, and in General 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

H.E. LORD LINLITHGOW, in a broadcast from Delhi, on May 14

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Running Commentary	3	Turkey and Tunisia Campaign	13
Tunisia Day	4–5	Breaking open Fortress of Europe	16
Problem of Food Supply	7	Greatest Air Offensive in History	16
Air Power in War	9	Heroism of Three Royal Engineers	17
General Alexander : A sketch	12	Generals " A Band of Brothers "	17
Muslims Help the Red Army	13	War Diary	18

THE GERMAN WAY

A soldier returned to Berlin from the Russian front with a slight wound and went to a hospital for treatment. He found two doors, one marked "Officers" and the other "Troops." He went in the door marked "Troops" and found two more doors, one marked "Seriously Wounded" and the other marked "Slightly Wounded." He went in the door marked "Slightly Wounded" and found two more doors, one marked "Party Members" and the other "Non-Party Members." He went through the door marked "Non-Party Members" and found himself in the street again.

When the soldier returned home a friend asked him what the hospital had done for him. He replied: "Nothing, but the organization was perfect."

—*Newsweek*, Dayton, Ohio.

◆ ◆ ◆

A DELIGHTFUL PROGRAMME

OF BY FOR **THE TROOPS**

ARE YOU INTERESTED ?

—Then tune in to Madras

every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

YOU'D LIKE IT, and LOVE IT!

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1943 No. 36

The Position in Russia: Preparation for Big Battles. *Reuter's* Special Correspondent in Moscow reports that Red Army forces in preparation for big battles ahead have smashed their way across the Donetz and captured important positions near Lisichansk. This is the first big flare-up on the Ukraine since the Spring, and the Russians have, after fierce fighting, succeeded in repulsing the Germans. After gaining a foothold on the German side of the Donetz, the Russians attacked two strategically important hills, and it is likely that another ding-dong struggle will develop here. The Russians have captured and consolidated the bridgehead across the Donetz at a point which is stated to be excellent for starting an offensive against the Don Basin industrial region. After a few days of comparative lull, fierce fighting has started again in the Kuban, but as yet, no large-scale battles are in progress. Comparatively small forces are being used both by the Germans and the Russians in attempts to gain certain heights, roads and supply bases. The Kuban bridgehead is the only relic of the great gains made by the Germans in the Caucasus in the summer offensive of last year. They want to cling to this as long as possible. They have managed to build, by taking advantage of the difficult terrain, a solid line of fortifications stretching between Novorossisk and Krymskyaya and the Kuban river. They are having the feeling that a rapid Russian advance will be deterred by the extensively flooded area, but General MASLENMIHOV's troops have broken the German defence line and Krymskyaya is already in Russian hands. One Soviet thrust has made good progress towards the northern defences of Novorossisk and the other has captured some positions commanding the southern suburbs of the city.

* * *

Kuban and the Crimea: German Fear and Russian Objective. The importance of the Kuban bridgehead lies in the fact that it can be used as a spring-board by the Germans for another attack on the Caucasus, and that is why the Germans are very much perturbed at the prospect of losing it and exposing their whole position at the southern end of their main front to the Russian attack. It may be pointed out that the Crimea is not far beyond the Taman peninsula, and it is there the Germans have some of their main supply depots for their southern sector. The Germans want to protect their vital base and the Russians want to neutralise the Crimea before the great summer offensive begins.

The other sector in which there has been some activity is the Leningrad front. During the last winter, the Russians had

(*Continued on page* 6)

TUNISIA DAY

GENERAL ALEXANDER

TO-DAY (May 21st), the people of India are celebrating the magnificent victory achieved by the United Nations in Tunisia. There have been a number of successes at which India has rejoiced, but nothing like this has ever happened before—a victory so complete and full in a vital theatre of war, a victory in which Indian troops have taken a very conspicuous part and brought great credit and renown to the land of their birth. His Excellency the Viceroy said in his broadcast on Friday last, "We shall rejoice that our famous Fourth Indian Division was in at the kill." And it was troops of this Division, it may be noted, that bagged General von Arnim, the Commander-in-Chief of the Axis forces in Africa. His Excellency also recalled the part played by other Indian troops which are not now in Tunisia, but which took part in the great campaigns of Field Marshal Wavell and the splendid last stand of General Auchinleck that saved Egypt. Our troops won great fame in 1940, 1941 and 1942.

ON this Tunisia Day, the peoples of India, whatever their caste, creed, colour, civilisation or culture may be, will recall the achievements of Indian troops and feel immensely proud that it has been given to these troops to share in the great victory, which definitely spells the doom of the Axis in Europe.

THERE is no doubt that Tunisia represents a giant stride in the Allied march towards final victory. North Africa is now a spring-board for an attack on Hitler's *Festung Europa*, and the Mediterranean, the great strategic highway, has been opened, making it easier for Allied aid to reach Russia in a much shorter time. The distance between Gibralter and Suez is about 1,800 miles, while the way to Suez round the Cape of Good Hope is about 12,000 miles. The gain to the United Nations by this shorter supply route to Russia and the Far East is obvious. Much valuable time is gained, and great pressure on shipping relieved.

TUNISIA marks the end of the three years' war in Africa, or to be exact, 2 years 11 months and 2 days. Italy entered the war on June 10, 1940, a week after the evacuation of Dunkirk, and attacked British and French possessions in the Mediterranean and North Africa. The African war ended officially on 12th May 1943 after armed resistance of the Axis forces was stopped—there was no Dunkirk there, only Stalingrad.

DURING this three-year period Italy's dream of an African Empire materialised, and then melted into nothing. Mussolini boasted that the Mediterranean was an Italian lake, but his frantic preparations now to save Sicily, Sardinia, and Italy itself from the offensive of the United Nations show how hollow his boast was.

SIMILAR were the boasts of Hitler and his propaganda department with regard to the North African war in general and the Tunisian campaign in particular. If Mussolini called the Mediterranean an Italian lake, they seemed at one time to consider North Africa as part of the Reich—so confident and certain they were of success. When they won, it was success; when they lost, it was strategy—success or failure, everything, they claimed, went according to their plan. But in Tunisia, they couldn't pretend, in spite of their best efforts, that they lost the battle according to plan. Lord Haw Haw is, of course, trying to put on a good face over the whole affair. In a broadcast from Berlin on May 12/13, he said, "In North Africa, the fight still continues despite the fall of Tunis and Bizerta . . . In modern as in ancient war, the spirit with which the troops fight is the most important thing." So it has come to that at last!

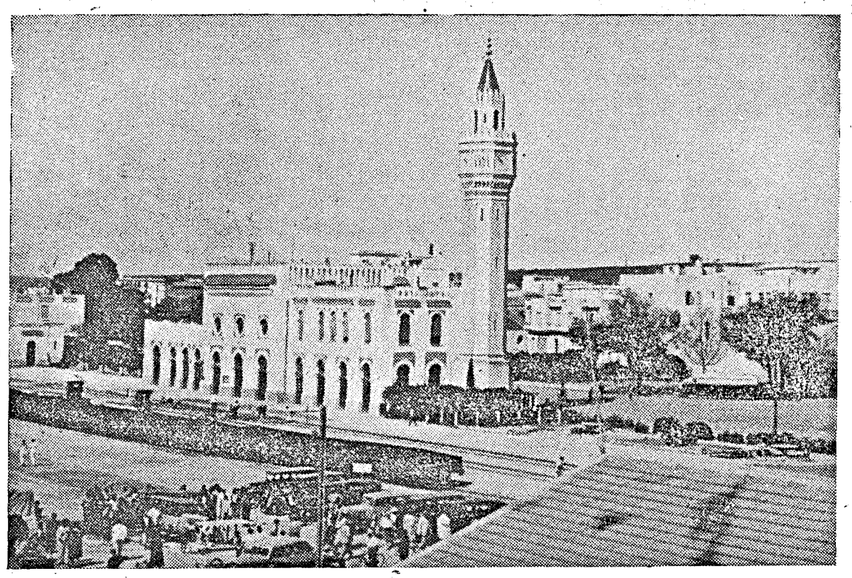
REFERRING to the Axis defeat itself, Lord Haw Haw says, "It may be a blow on the chin, or the forehead, or the neck. I should think the right analysis would be to say that the German boxer has received a sock of no great power, somewhere below the knee. At any rate, the blow is of no great importance." But in the same broadcast he claims that "the defences of southern Europe have been perfected against any attempt of a landing of an expeditionary force." If the blow was of no great importance, why should Hitler get worried and Mussolini perturbed at the prospects of an invasion?

BUT the significance of the Tunisian victory is even much deeper. The reopening of the Mediterranean might affect the Far Eastern strategy of the United Nations in this way. Sicily and Sardinia may be conquered by the Allied forces, the security of the Mediterranean convoys would be increased, greater opportunity would be afforded for destroying the Italian naval bases, and, with the Italian fleet out of the picture, there is greater scope for transferring the British Mediterranean fleet to the Far East. The strengthening of the Allied position in the Middle East will help in a more rapid and efficient distribution of the oil resources of Iraq and Iran and enable supplies for Russia to be delivered at the Persian Gulf ports with far less expenditure of tonnage than required at present.

WHEN we celebrate Tunisia Day to-day, our mind seeks to visualise the global strategy of the United Nations and the noose that is slowly tightening round the neck of the Axis, and we pay our homage to the forces of the United Nations under the great command of Generals Eisenhower and Alexander. The United States General, in paying a great tribute to General Alexander's master stroke of strategy, said that the final blow in North Africa was struck by a clever move by which the bulk of the Axis troops were held on the Eighth Army Front, while the First Army delivered a knock-out punch.

IT is of interest to note in this connection that 90 per cent of the First Army and 76 per cent of the Eighth Army are from Britain, and that the percentage of British casualties in the Eighth Army which has borne the brunt of the fighting, is 87. These figures expose the baselessness of the Axis propaganda that the bulk of the troops in the African front-line of battle, which were suffering the heaviest casualties, belonged to nationalities other than the British.

BUT the victory itself belongs to the United Nations—to the Great Britain, to United States, to Fighting France, to India, and to all the other nations that are determined to bring the Axis down to the boards. Tunisia is a knock-out punch for the Axis so far as Africa is concerned; but it is an indication of who will get the honours of the final round and the verdict for the whole fight.



A VIEW OF BIZERTA.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

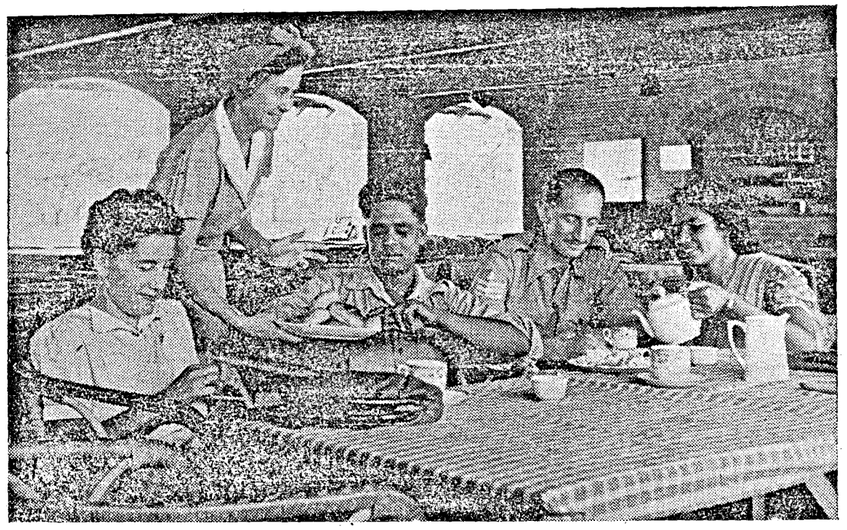
(*Continued from page* 3)

considerably improved the position of Leningrad and made it an even stronger bastion. The capture of Veliki Luki got them very near the main line trunk railway, which is the spinal column of the German communications stretching from the northern sector to the Ukraine in the south. It is likely that there would be some developments on the Leningrad sector in the near future, because there have been bombing raids on Rostock and Stettin by the Royal Air Force and air raids on East Russia by the Russian Air Force, as well some mine-laying sorties in the Baltic Sea.

* * * *

Eve of Summer Offensive : Red Army Ready.

We have referred to the fact that there has been recent activity only in the two extremities of the Russian front. This, according to some military commentators, is an indication that the bigger events to come are likely to fall somewhere round about half-way between these two opposite ends. Where is this likely to be ? It is possible that somewhere near Kursk, where the northern and southern part of the whole front pivots, a great offensive may start. At this point and further below on the northern Donetz, heavy armoured concentrations on either side are reported. But at whatever point the summer campaign of the Germans may flare up, one thing is certain : it will not take the Red Army by surprise. On the other hand, there seems to be a strong probability that the initiative may be taken by the Russians themselves, not on one sector, but, as they have done in the past, all along the entire front. " The time is near " said M. STALIN three weeks ago in his May Day speech, " when the Red Army, together with the army of our Allies, will break the spine of the Fascist beast." M. STALIN must have had the cumulative Allied aid to Russia and the joint operations against HITLER in mind when he said this. The opening of a great phase, perhaps the final phase, in the Russian war is about to take place, and everything points to the fact that the Germans are not going to have an easy time.



SOCIABLE SAIDAPET.

Problem of Food Supply

By V. C. SUNDARA RAJAN

THE problem of food supply in this province has come to be wrongly regarded in certain quarters as somewhat acute and as one which must be dealt with, with a certain amount of apprehension. But when we go into the facts and examine them carefully it will be found that we can feel optimistic and even confident about the future, provided each one of us co-operates with the Government in this matter.

This province used to export as well as import rice but was never seriously deficit because it produced nearly 93 per cent of its requirements of rice and considerable quantities of other food-grains. In view of the cessation of imports from Burma and other places on which this province used to rely and the restricted cultivation in the year 1942–43 owing to unfavourable monsoons, the export of rice from this province to Travancore, Cochin and Ceylon which was allowed till recently, has now been stopped. Practically the entire production is available for consumption in this province. Such deficit as there will be, will be partly made good by the new scheme of rough polishing of rice and to some extent by a limited import quota under the Government of India " Procurement Scheme." Under this scheme arrangements have been made to import considerable quantities of millets to meet the shortage of millets in the current year owing to unfavourable monsoons. On the whole there is no reason to think that this province will be seriously short of any of the essential food-grains in the current year.

INCREASED AND IMPROVED PRODUCTION

In order, however, to take no risks and to meet any possible increase in consumption the " Grow More Food " campaign has been started and it is now in full swing, and already considerable areas have been brought under cultivation of foodstuffs of all varieties of which there might be shortage. Sustained efforts are being made not only to extend the areas under cultivation but to carry on intensive cultivation by introducing better methods and better strains of grains to make crops rich and plentiful. In order to encourage and give a fillip to this scheme Government have announced several concessions. Vacant sites in villages and towns, Government and private compounds, lands adjoining roads and railways, and even flower gardens are being increasingly brought under cultivation for production of foodstuffs. But there is a good deal more that both town dwellers and villagers can do in this direction.

Irrigation facilities of a far reaching character have been granted to ryots to encourage the cultivation of these new areas. To mention a few of these schemes, water is being supplied from the Periyar lake for raising a summer ragi crop on about 7,500 acres in the Cumbum valley in the Madura district. Lands in both compact and non-compact areas in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts are being leased or assigned outright for growing food-crops and irrigation facilities are afforded to these areas from the Cauvery-Mettur project. In the Tanjore district alone there are

about 22,000 acres available for this purpose. A large diversion channel is being excavated on the right side of the existing Rameswaram channel which will irrigate some thousands of acres more in the East Godavari district.

In order to provide the best possible irrigation facilities in proprietary estates and villages, Government have undertaken to repair and improve the sources of irrigation. They have also set apart about 20 lakhs of rupees this year for giving takkavi loans to ryots in zamindari areas to assist them in their agricultural operations.

Besides all this, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research is carrying on several schemes for increasing the production of food crops generally, for the preservation of fruits and for improving and increasing the supply of milk and other dairy products. So much for increased and improved production.

DISTRIBUTION

On the side of distribution Government are determined to do all they can to see that the distribution of all foodstuffs is made on a fair and equitable basis. Private persons have been prohibited from moving rice and certain other foodstuffs from district to district. Government have, however, arranged to send excess stocks from surplus districts to the deficit districts and regular monthly quotas have been fixed. Purchases are made by the Grains Purchasing Officers and distribution is carried out under control of Collectors through licensed wholesale and approved retail dealers.

In spite of reasonably plentiful supplies, there may, of course, be temporary local shortages owing to difficulties and delays in transport. There might also be difficulties due to ryots holding on their stocks hoping for better prices.

HOARDING

Shortages might also arise by reason of businessmen hoarding foodstuffs. The Foodgrains Control Order gives certain powers which can be used against merchants who hoard or profiteer. Severe penalties have now been imposed by Government and we may confidently hope that the new penalty of confiscation in conjunction with the already existing penalties of imprisonment and fine will have a salutary effect upon these unsocial elements.

The consumer hoarders are a menace to the public, particularly to the poorer classes. It is due to their panic buying that working margins and working balances easily disappear and retail shops come to the verge of closing. Their fear and nervousness gives an opportunity to unscrupulous merchants to profiteer. In the process of building up their domestic hoards they deprive the poorer classes from buying their daily needs from out of the pittance they earn from day to day. It is those consumers who lay stocks for months ahead that are responsible for nearly all temporary shortages. It is not generally realized that hoarding by consumers is an important factor in creating shortage. No Government by itself can defeat the hoarders, the profiteers and the blackmarkets. We have a duty to co-operate and assist the Government in this matter and there is a great deal that each one of the citizens can do in combating these anti-social acts. If hoarding is stopped the question of shortage can be solved to a very great extent.

AUSTERE STANDARDS OF LIVING

There is yet another way in which every one of us can ease the situation to a very large extent. We must take to more and more austere standards of living. We can help by eating less of those commodities of which there is a shortage and consuming more and more of what is locally available. For example, if rice is in deficit, people can change their diet slightly by taking a little less of rice and eating a little more vegetables, fruits and greens which incidentally would do them a lot of good in other ways. So, while surplus districts will doubtless surrender their excess quotas to the deficit districts a great obligation rests upon the people in the deficit districts to make the most of their inadequate resources. It is thus by public co-operation can the food-supply problem be solved satisfactorily.

ROLE OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The Co-operative Societies are playing a remarkable part in the matter of financing, producing and distributing food supplies throughout this province. On the side of financing and producing, about 10,000 village credit societies in this province with a membership of over 6½ lakhs have advanced more than a crore and 60 lakhs of rupees to their members in the year 1941–42 alone. They are helping the growers to get proper prices for their produce and are eliminating the enormous profits which unscrupulous middlemen usually make. On the side of distribution they act as fair-price-shops in many important urban areas. At present there are about 800 societies throughout this province distributing foodstuffs and other controlled articles to members as well as non-members.

WHY HIGH PRICES?

There is only one other matter to be dealt with and that is the question of high prices. We find that many of the foodstuffs have gone up by two or more times their pre-war levels. One might very well ask why such high prices if there is no shortage? There are obviously a number of factors which contribute to this unfortunate position. Partly it is due to the increased cost of production, partly to the higher cost of transport and partly perhaps to temporary shortgage of supplies. All these can but account for a percentage of the rise.

But the main reason is this. Owing to large payments by Government for war supplies and other defence expenses the total amount of money in circulation in this country has enormously increased. This accounts for the boom in the general level of prices of all commodities. But here again, there is a good deal that the people themselves could do. If only we will all co-operate with the Government by saving as much money as possible from out of our incomes, by spending the barest possible minimum and that too, on essentials and invest the balance in Defence Loans the general price level of all commodities and with it the price of foodstuffs is bound to come down considerably. Personal economy on our part will not only place the individual in the post-war world on a sound basis but will help to finance the war to-day. And above all it can bring the price level of foodstuffs within the easier reach of the poorer classes. I therefore appeal to each one of you to save, not only for your own sake but for the sake of the poor, for the sake of our country and above all for the sake of winning this war.

—A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

Air Power in War

(*By* AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR CHARLES PORTAL)

[*Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, G.C.B., D.S.O. and Bar M.C., Chief of the Air Staff, was born in Berkshire, England, in 1893. He received his education at Winchester and Oxford. In 1914, Sir Charles joined the Royal Engineers as a Despatch Rider. In 1915, he became an Observer in the Royal Flying Corps and before the end of the war had received the M.C. and the D.S.O. with Bar. In 1935, he became an Instructor at the Imperial Defence College and in March of 1940, he became Commander-in-Chief, Bomber Command, soon after was appointed Chief of Air Staff.*]

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.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR CHARLES PORTAL

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 has 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 is 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 have done 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 purposes. 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 available; we have had to make do with an inadequate number of transports supplemented where necessary by operational aircraft diverted from their proper role. 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 would otherwise be available 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?

—*Flying News.*

✱

The Latest Model

"Ha! ha!" laughed the recruit. "You can't fool me. I know they've got potato-peeling machines in this army."

"Yes, smart chap," replied the sergeant, "and you're the latest model!"

General Alexander: A Sketch

By IAN HAY

"AT midnight on Sunday, June 2, Major-General Alexander and a senior naval officer (Captain W. E. Tennant, R.N.) made a final tour of the beaches and the harbour in a motor-boat, and, being satisfied that no British troops were left on shore, they themselves left for England."

The above is the closing sentence of the official dispatch describing the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940. That was probably the first time that most people heard of the man whose name is ringing round the world at this moment and about whom everybody is asking for further information.

A TROUBLE-SHOOTER

What manner of man is he, this paladin? What is his record? What is he like personally?

One fact about him leaps to the eye. He is a man who is dependable in a crisis—a man in fact who is always being sent for at the worst moment to put things right. He is what the Americans call a trouble-shooter. "'Alex' is here and everything is going to be all right now." That is the feeling which he has inspired time and again in this war.

SENT TO BURMA

Consider his record since 1940. He was chosen by Lord Gort, as we have already noted, to stay behind and supervise the final clearance of the Dunkirk beaches. His next trouble-shooting assignment was early in 1942, when he was sent out in hot haste to Burma, where British troops, ill-equipped and outnumbered, were being hard pressed by the Japanese intent upon the invasion of India. India was not invaded. Then came a similar summons to North Africa in the summer of 1942. The Army of the Nile under General Auchinleck had been pushed back by Rommel for a second time with heavy losses right within the Egyptian border, and both Alexandria and Cairo were threatened.

ROMMEL CHASED

General Alexander was created Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East and bidden to stabilize the situation. He did more than that; under his direction the Army of the Nile was reconstituted as the Eighth Army under a new commander, General Montgomery; and on October 23, he launched a counter-attack upon Rommel which never let up until the occupation of Tripoli and the extinction of the Italian empire.

So we see that "Alex" is not merely a trouble-shooter, he is an organizer of victory. He is also a diplomatist of the first water. When towards the end of 1942 an American Expeditionary Force and the British First Army landed in Algeria and Casablanca, a somewhat delicate problem arose. Were the forces of the United Nations to act independently or conjointly? If conjointly, who was to be in supreme command—General Eisenhower or General Alexander?

General Eisenhower was chosen. It may have been a disappointment to Alexander to miss the final distinction, but he is eminently a soldier who sets a cause over personal prize. So he effaced himself and set to work upon his allotted duty, with the triumphant result which to-day we celebrate.

Each day the official report of the United Nations has appeared under General Eisenhower's name, but though the voice is the voice of Eisenhower, the hand in the main has been the hand of Alexander, and Eisenhower, like the shrewd and generous soldier that he is, has been the first to acknowledge the fact.

A BORN LEADER

Of his personal character it may be stated that, besides inspiring complete confidence in those about him, he has complete confidence in himself. As a soldier he believes in his star, follows it without wavering. That means that he is a born leader, for soldiers will always follow a man who obviously knows where he is going. That is the true secret of his success.

He is essentially a fit man. When he commanded the Second Battalion of the Irish Guards he did everything that the Battalion did. On long route march he seldom used his horse. He not only marched at the head of his men, it was his habit occasionally to fall out to the side of the road and wait until the column had marched past him. Then he would double up from the rear, pass them all and take his place at their head again.

HATES FUSS

He is, among other things, an artist of distinction. Like the Prime Minister, he devotes much of his spare time to painting; his military field sketches are a model for their kind. He hates fuss and feathers.

WINK COMMANDER

"What is that pretty daughter of yours doing these days, Entwhistle?"

"By all accounts, Abbott, she's Wink Commander in the WAAFS!"

Muslims Help the Red Army

By ALEXANDER SHABANOV

SINCE the beginning of this patriotic war of the Soviet people against German Fascism, Muslims have been taking active part in the defence of the country against the treacherous enemy. Both in the ranks of the Red Army and on the home front they are devoting all their efforts, together with those of the entire Soviet people, to the cause of victory over the hordes of Hitler, the hated enemy of all Muslims.

After the appeal to all Muslims, made at the conference of the representatives of clergy and learned men in Ufa on May 15, 1942, it became clear to every Muslim that Hitlerism has nothing in common with his creed. On the contrary, it is the most rabid and implacable enemy of all Muslims. Murder of defenceless women, aged persons and children, rapine, devastation of villages and cities, unheard of outrages against the religious sentiment of the faithful—that is what Fascism has brought to regions of the Soviet Union temporarily under its sway.

MUFTI'S MESSAGE

At the end of February, 1943, Mufti Rasulev Habdrakhman, President of the Central Muslim Ecclesiastical Board, addressed a new message to all Muslims living in the U.S.S.R.: "Dear brother Muslims! Greetings on behalf of the Central Ecclesiastical Board. Our children and kinsfolk are valiantly fighting against the enemy at the front. It is the duty of all of us remaining in the rear to help them in every way." (The Mufti personally contributed 50,000 roubles for the construction of a tank column.) "It is your duty, you faithful Muslims, also to make contributions, as much as you can afford, to build arms for the Red Army."

This message was read in the mosques and at Muslim meetings. The faithful warmly responded. They were further inspired in their effort by a message of thanks sent by Joseph Stalin to Rasulev Habdrakhman for his contribution.

All this was told me by the ninth Mufti, Rasulev Habdrakhman, during my interview on April 16 in his study in the Central Ecclesiastical Board at Ufa.

HELP FROM ALL PARTS

Here reports come about the funds collected by Muslims in various towns and villages of the Soviet Union. In Ufa, Rasulev Habdrakhman formed a special committee to collect funds for the construction of a tank column. During a brief period collections among Muslims here yielded a sum sufficient for the construction of several tanks. In Kazan contributions by Muslims aggregated 100,000 roubles. Mulla Hamsutdinov Gafar, representative of the Central Ecclesiastical Board at Semipalatinsk, reported considerable contributions in cash and presents for the Red Army in Kazakhstan. Muslims of Salekh, a village in Bashkir, gave 21,600 roubles. Muslims of the village of Ermei sent 1,800 roubles.

"I think," said Rasulev Habdrakhman, "that the contributions of the faithful for the construction of tanks will total at least a million roubles."

Besides cash, Muslims contributed many articles and agricultural produce for the Red Army. Muslims of one of the collective farms, Zhalshi, in the Taran district of the Kustana region, contributed 100 pounds of wheat to the Red Army Fund.

"Collections of funds, articles and produce still continue. We will petition the Government to accept these contributions," said Rasulev Habdrakhman, "despite the fact that the Soviet Government, on April 7, requested the population and organizations to cease sending contributions to the Red Army Fund in view of the forthcoming war loan. Faithful Muslims have been and remain loyal to their country. The Koran teaches the faithful to 'fight on God's road against all who fight you, because God does not love the unjust. Kill your enemies wherever you find them; drive them from where they have driven you. God will give you relief. He is with the staunch in battle. He will not leave your feats unrewarded!'"

Fighting with arms at the front, working with will in factories and on farms, Muslims fervently pray to Allah for the Red Army's victory over the wicked and hated enemy—Hitlerism.

Turkey and Tunisia Campaign

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

THE Allied process of liquidation in North Africa is being followed with the greatest interest in Turkey. The recent visit of a Turkish military mission to the British Eighth Army underlines the importance attached to the Tunisian campaign. General Salih Urmutak, the head of the military delegation, knows the terrain well, having served his apprenticeship in soldiery on the sands of the North African deserts. He is also one

Breaking open Fortress of Europe

CAN the Allied air supremacy break open the boasted Nazi "Fortress of Europe" now that the enemy is driven on the defensive and the mounting air mastery is one clear-cut advantage possessed against them?

The indications are that, given sufficient immediate emphasis, the Allied air power can be decisive this year.

Its function is to open and maintain an offensive beneath which the enemy's carefully laid defensive schemes will be broken and disorganized. It will strike the weapons out of his hands—smash fortifications and finally take its place above beaches and battlefields.

Undoubtedly the enemy is counting on a swing in military affairs from the ascendancy of attack in the shape of armoured force to an ascendancy of defence in the shape of the gun. Germany hopes for a stalemate on land while she concentrates on submarine warfare.

When the war began and her victims were unarmed, Germany placed all her reliance on swift offensive measures with panzers, support bombers and air-borne infantry as major weapons. Germany today is switched to the other extreme. Guns and defensive fighters are the chief weapons in production. Bombers are relegated to a secondary place. Thus we approach in a different spirit the same problem as that which Germany failed to solve in 1940 and 1941. Whereas Germany sought to succeed with an army to which the air was tied as an ancillary arm, we obviously propose to use our air supremacy as a major weapon. Our design is to break the military strength of the enemy with air power so that our surface forces may sweep up the pieces and finish the job.

The first most important task is snapping the enemy's strength on this home front. The Bomber Command with American daylight attacks is growing in strength in its power to inflict crippling damage. The bombing of Germany is steadily reducing the German power to make war. Next comes the ability of air to isolate a battlefield on land and at sea. That applies with special emphasis to the next stage in land fighting after Tunisia is won. With it goes the ability to intervene on the battlefield itself—using from the air new methods of remarkable effect.

The enemy is inferior in the air both in numbers and in quality. His change-over to fighters in production will increase his numbers somewhat but little in comparison with the combined output of American and British aircraft.

Germany lost the war in 1940 by a failure to realize the possibilities of air weapon. Now that the tables are turned, if we use our air strength aright, it can be a decisive factor over Germany this year.

—*Sunday Times.*

Greatest Air Offensive in History

THE Germans in the Tunis-Bizerta area were made to take greater punishment from the sky than they inflicted on Poland in 1939 and France in 1940. At times the Allied air supremacy was so complete that the operation looked more like a display than a battle, for records of all sorts were established, writes the *Daily Express.*

The largest number of sorties ever flown in a day—more than 2,500—was recorded by our planes. More than 2,000 of these were flown by fighters and fighter bombers blasting their way for the tank and infantry advance.

Most of the damage was done by medium bombers which flew a record number of sorties in a day—more than 150. The blitz was concentrated on a small front, 4 miles long by 1,000 yards deep, held by the enemy infantry between Medjez El Bab and Tunis. In every minute for nine hours, four planes attacked the enemy positions. The bombers worked a shuttle service and the enemy troops were demoralised. This allowed the British armoured units to smash through to the plain leading to Tunis. No army has ever had such powerful backing as the Allied troops had in this battle. Never has the Luftwaffe handed out such punishment to the opposing armies as the Germans and Italians have taken in Tunisia.

THAT'S HOW IT IS!

The story printed below reached the BBC European section via a traveller from Spain. It is going the rounds on the Continent.

"A Spaniard at an Italian aerodrome noticed a troop carrier into which a parachutist climbed and after him twenty infantrymen. On enquiry the Spaniard was told it was a paratroop unit. 'But,' he exclaimed, 'only one parachutist and twenty men without parachutes!' 'Oh yes,' was the answer, 'the twenty infantrymen go to push the parachutist out.'"

Heroism of Three Royal Engineers

THE heroism of three Royal Engineers won for the Allied troops the use of two important bridges, east of Medjez, cables the *Daily Mirror* Tunisian correspondent.

As the enemy retreated over the bridges, which are close to one another, they blocked them with barricades and 200 lb. cases of high explosives, each of which was connected with a booby trap, so that if a case was lifted, it would cause a terrific explosion. The enemy put traps and explosive charges under the bridge too. Wires running from the Axis position were connected with charges so that they could be exploded by electricity.

The 21-year old Lieut. Donald Foster Anderson of London crawled 500 yards down the machine-gun swept road to one bridge under the cover of darkness, cut the wire and bypassed them so that the electric current flowed harmlessly but registered on the enemy instruments on the other side.

His batman, Sapper William Turp, 22-year old pre-war carpenter of Ilford, Essex, went with him, covering him with a tommy-gun. When the machine-gun and mortar fire got too hot for them, they crawled out.

Then a section of the sappers went in and began to remove the blocks of TNT. Unfortunately, when they had cleared all but a few cases, the booby trap caught them. The section leader was killed. The bridge was damaged—but the way was open.

If you have ever seen thousands of pounds of TNT blow up, you can assess Sergeant Bill Hayward's courage in going forward to clear the second bridge after he had seen what happened. There was a 2,000 lb. explosive on the centre of the bridge and scores of booby traps each of which was capable of blowing him and the bridge to smithereens.

But in he went and began removing the deadly obstruction. A machine-gun, firing tracers from his left flank, added to his worries. But for four hours, he carried on fumbling around for each case in the dark and for wires running to booby traps. He knew if he missed a wire it was "good-bye" for him.

Sergeant Jack Woodcock relieved him.

Dawn broke. He went on carrying cases after cases of TNT away. Enemy mortars opened up on him. In the intervals between the mortar strafing, Woodcock climbed back on the bridge and went on with the job.

Generals "A Band of Brothers"

CLOSER co-operation in the war than the Allies have ever before attained "makes the pattern for the ultimate defeat of the Axis." In that sentence—President Roosevelt's message to General Eisenhower—an historic tribute is paid to the spirit and the skill of the commanders who won the African campaign.

General Eisenhower was the leader in combining the forces of the three nations and their several chiefs worked with him and with each other—to use Nelson's phrase—as a "band of brothers."

General Alexander's direction of the armies made most of the striking power which General Montgomery and General Anderson had developed and of the fiery strength of the French. Not less close and not less important than the co-operation of the armies was the co-operation of the air and sea arms with them.

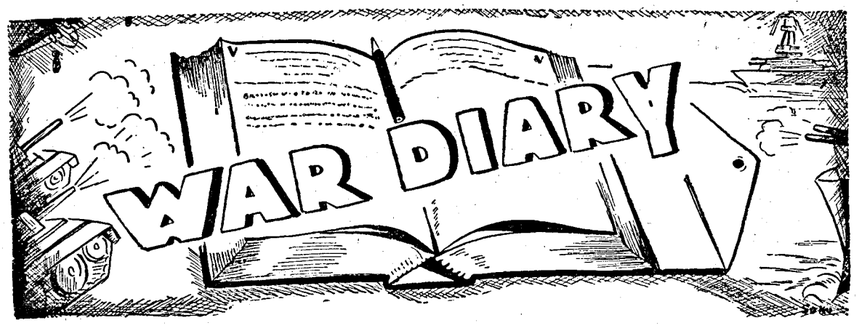
The Allied air forces under Sir Arthur Tedder wrote a new chapter of history of war by their strokes against the enemy's bases and communications and by their support to the troops in the field on a scale and of an effect never known before.

Without the work of the navy, the operations could never have begun. Admiral Cunningham's indefatigable squadrons severely limited the strength of the Axis armies.

—*Daily Telegraph.*

Cause and Effect

From one of MacArthur's boys comes the story of the mother kangaroo who, after scratching her tummy vigorously for several minutes, suddenly picked up her youngster and spanked him soundly for eating crackers in bed.



BRITAIN AND GERMANY

13th May.—An enemy supply ship was attacked off the Norwegian coast. It was hit and left sinking.

The Royal Air Force made the heaviest bombing attack of the war on Duisburg. A German communiqué admitted heavy damage to Western Germany.

Long and continuous cheering greeted the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, when he announced in the Commons the end of the North African Campaign.

14th May.—It was reported that on May 12 riots broke out in Berlin outside the Wehrmacht's Information Office, when thousands of women and elderly men gathered to obtain information about their relatives in the Afrika Korps. The S.S. troops were called out. Similar riots broke out in other parts of Germany.

The Royal Air Force bombed Berlin. Targets in Central Ruhr and in Czechoslovakia were also attacked.

Two German torpedo boats were sunk off Holland.

15th May.—Lord Keyes, the former Chief of combined operations, Admiral of the Fleet, said: "I have a feeling, I cannot explain just why, that the war in Europe will be over soon."

The greatest Allied air *blitz* of the war hit Germany and occupied countries from the French Coast deep down in Bohemia. The United States air force attacked harbour installations at Emden.

16th May.—General von Arnim, Commander-in-Chief of the Axis forces in Tunisia, who surrendered to the Fourth Indian Division, was brought to England.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, in a message to mark the opening of Belgian radio station at Leopoldville, said: "We, in common with our Allies, will make every effort to deliver you as soon as possible from your oppressors. The day of your deliverance shall not be long delayed."

The memorandum of the Post-war Policy Group of the members of the Houses of Commons and Lords urged effective occupation of Germany and setting up of an inter-Allied council of control.

The Royal Air Force again raided Berlin. Axis shipping off the French coast, and targets in France, Belgium and Holland were also attacked. American planes raided the U-boat and ship-building yards at Kiel.

The *German News Agency* announced that Hitler had extended his plenary powers.

Britain observed "in a spirit of quiet cheerfulness" its day of thanksgiving for the Allied victory in Tunisia.

17th May.—Bombs were dropped in parts of London. Little damage was caused.

The Royal Air Force attacked and breached the two greatest dams in Germany—the Mohne and Eder dams, one containing 134 million tons and the other 202 million tons of water—flooding the Ruhr and Eder. The floods destroyed power stations, railway and road bridges.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked targets in the Ruhr and Rhineland and Berlin. Mines were also laid in enemy waters.

Major-General Ralph Royce, Commanding General of the United States First Air Force, said that the Germans would soon be confined to their bomb shelters every hour of the day and night.

The Royal Air Force attacked an Axis convoy off the Dutch coast. Two merchant ships were torpedoed and three escort ships were set on fire.

Marshal Messe, Italian Commander-in-Chief in Africa, was brought to England.

18th May.—There was rioting in Duisburg after the bursting of the Ruhr dam. A state of siege was proclaimed in the whole of Westphalia.

• • • •

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

13th May.—It was reported that Churchill and Roosevelt may plan a joint sea, land and air offensive against the Japanese as well as a blow against Europe.

The War Production Board announced that United States war expenditure reached a new height record of 7,290 million dollars in April.

It was stated that Russia was asking for increased quantities of food, industrial material and equipment under a new Protocol.

14th May.—President Roosevelt announced that Mr. William Phillips was to return to India.

Mr. Churchill, speaking at Washington, said that the time was approaching when the bulk of the armies in Great Britain, including Americans, "will have advanced across the seas into a deadly battle on the Continent."

It was stated authoritatively in London that there had been improving results in the attacks against U-boats in the Atlantic in the past six weeks.

15th May.—A measure authorizing the construction of one million tons of small naval craft for amphibious warfare was passed rapidly by the House of Representatives.

According to Reuter's Special Correspondent, the consensus of opinion in Washington was that Sicily and Sardinia would be attacked as a preliminary to knocking out Italy. A major blow might be delivered against Japan in the autumn and in the meantime the United States would continue to jockey for position in the Pacific.

16th May.—Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information, issued a warning that the Germans would not be allowed to get away with a compromise peace.

• • • •

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

13th May.—His Excellency the Viceroy concluded a four-day visit to operational areas and Royal Air Force bases in the Eastern Army.

The Royal Air Force bombed Rathedung, Yegyanbyin and two other Japanese-occupied villages on Akyab island. United States fighters attacked several Japanese installations in Northern Burma. An enemy troop concentration at Karvnan, six miles north of Sumprabum, was strafed.

His Excellency the Viceroy in a broadcast on the Tunisian victory, paid a rich tribute to the famous Fourth Indian Division which was in at the kill.

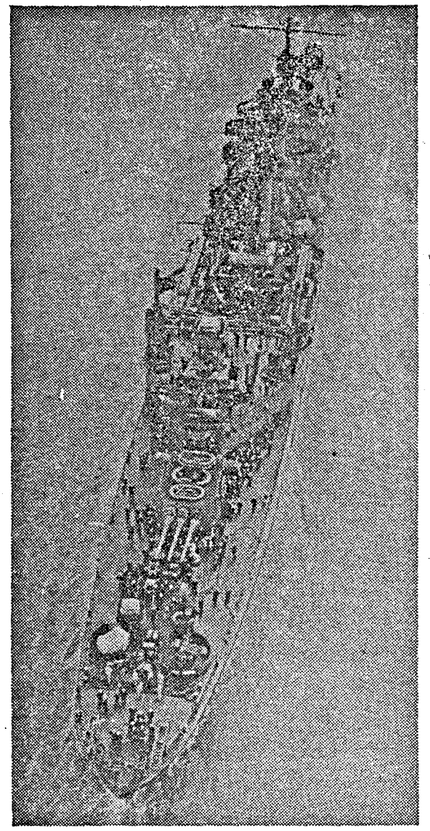
14th May.—Allied troops withdrew from Maungdau. The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese water transport. United States air force attacked railroad yards at Mandalay.

15th May.—United States bombers raided Martaban Point north of Moulmein. Railroad installations at Thazi Junction and in enemy aerodrome at Shwebo were also attacked. The Royal Air Force machine-gunned Japanese troops and water transport in Buthidaung area.

16th May.—American planes attacked the rail head at Lashio. Bombs were dropped on Sedan, Alon and Namkan. The Royal Air Force attacked the airfield at Kangaung in Central Burma. Enemy objectives at Myingyan were also attacked.

17th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked Narigan on Akyab island. Enemy objectives at Indainggyi and Prome were also attacked.

18th May.—Two small detachments of British troops carried out a successful raid at Maungdau. The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese radio installations near Akyab.



VICTORIOUS U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO *COMES HOME.—The U.S. Navy cruiser* San Francisco *enters the U.S. West Coast Harbour of San Francisco. She is returning to the U.S. for repairs after taking part in a night action off Guadalcanar Island in the Solomons in which she helped sink a battleship and blasted a cruiser and a destroyer out of the water. The* San Francisco *steamed between two columns of Japanese ships, pouring accurate shellfire on the heavier enemy ships. The final score of the three-day battle showed a total of 28 Japanese vessels sunk.*

—U.S. Office of War Information Photo.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

13th May.—According to Reuter's special correspondent, armed Axis resistance ended officially at 20-15 hours on Wednesday night (May 12th).

Von Arnim's last message to the Axis High Command was "The order to defend Tunisia to the last cartridge has been carried out." With him, 11 Axis Generals were captured. The Axis losses throughout the Libyan and Tunisian compaigns totalled 600,000. The German casualties totalled 250,000 against 354,000 Italians.

It was reported in British deplomatic circles that King Victor Emmanuel of Italy may abdicate in favour of Crown Prince Umberto.

Mr. H. L. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, said that Axis fortifications in Cape Bon disclosed a plan for progressive retreat and evacuation which the sudden Allied blow completely foiled . . . The Tunisian battle ranks with the Battle of Stalingrad as two great disasters to Germany in recent months.

14th May.—It was reported that Sgr. Mussolini had sent a demand to Hitler for anti-aircraft guns, artillery and planes to defend Italy. It was also reported that Marshal Badoglia had been recalled from retirement to defend the southern sector of Italy. It was also rumoured that a Military Council had been formed for the surrender of the nation.

Allied bombers raided Cagliari and Naples and shipping at Augusta harbour. It was revealed that 2,000 Axis planes were destroyed in the entire North African campaign, that Hitler lost three of his best Panzer formations and Mussolini every armoured division he ever had in the battle of Africa.

15th May.—According to a German press correspondent, Cyprus was crowded with American troops and that an attack on Crete from Cyprus was not out of question.

Flying Fortresses made a heavy attack on the important Italian port of Cirita-Veechia.

A French communiqué stated that the number of Axis prisoners disarmed and assembled by French troops in Central Tunisia reached 36,000.

It was revealed that since the outbreak of the war, the Allies (excluding Russia), had captured 19 German and 92 Italian Generals.

Reuter's special correspondent announced that the Mediterranean was open again to Allied shipping.

General Giraud deposed the Bey of Tunis for endangering the security of Tunisia.

16th May.—General Alexander reported to Mr. Churchill: **"Prime Minister, Sir, it is my duty to report that the Tunisian campaign is over. All enemy resistance has ceased. We are masters of the North African shore."**

The Tunisian battlefield was cleared. The Royal Air Force attacked Palermo and Trapani in Sicily.

General Eisenhower, in a message to His Excellency the Viceroy, said: "We are indeed proud to have had your gallant Indian troops fighting with us in Africa and we look forward to the next opportunity of beating our common enemy in whatever part of the world he may be found."

The Algiers radio announced that the investiture of the new Bey of Tunis, Sidi Alim Pasha took place in Tunis.

Lord Mottistone stated: "I have good reason for saying that the number of prisoners captured in the last great Tunisian battle will exceed 193,000, and 150,000 of these will be German."

17th May.—The Royal Air Force attacked the sea-plane base of Lido Di Roma. Two hangers were set on fire.

It was reported that refugees were streaming from southern Italy into Rome where over 300,000 had already arrived.

Two enemy ships were attacked off the coast of Greece and damaged.

Bordeaux was attacked by British and American planes.

Hitler was reported to have warned Mussolini that severest measures would be taken if Italian leaders attempted to "sell out" Italy to the Allies.

It was officially announced in London that the total wastage of Axis man-power in the Egypt, Libya and Tunisia fighting amounted to at least 600,000 men. The Italians lost three armies, six Army Corps, 25 divisions and six regiments. The German losses were two armies and 11 divisions.

18th May.—The Royal Air Force bombed the Sardinian airfield of Alghero. The Axis proclaimed the entire Riveria coast including Nice and Cannes to be a forbidden zone.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

13th May.—Briansk, Orel and German bases in the Ukraine were heavily pounded. Russians north-west of Novorossisk widened the spearhead of their thrusts.

14th May.—A big clash in Russia was believed to be imminent. Soviet planes raided Warsaw.

The Soviet airforce attacked the Briansk railway station. The Russians advance on Novorossisk continued. The Germans abandoned Kiev.

16th May.—Red Army forces smashed their way across the Donetz and captured important positions near Lisichansk. A German attack in Kuban was repulsed.

17th May.—German rail communications on the Leningrad front were attacked by Soviet aircraft. Twelve German destroyers trying to attack Russian convoys in the Black Sea were driven off.

The Pravda reported: "We have completely taken possession of the new bridgehead on the right bank of the Donetz."

One Russian unit made several attacks on enemy positions in the Kuban.

* * * *

SHIPPING

15th May.—Cruiser *Magdalan* sank in the Atlantic a German ship which was trying to run the blockade on April 16.

The British submarine *Splendid* was lost.

17th May.—Two more Axis vessels which tried to break through the blockade were scuttled. One was off Cape Finisterre, and the other between Greenland and Iceland.

* * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

15th May.—Archbishop Spellman arrived in Turkey.

16th May.—Dr. W. Stampfli, Director of Public Economy and a member of the Swiss Federal Council, said that Switzerland must be more than ever prepared for any eventuality since war was again nearing her frontiers.

17th May.—The *New York Times* foreshadowed two great possibilities—the early collapse of Italy and the entry of Turkey into the war on the Allied side. "With Turkey actively on the Allied side," the paper wrote, "The Axis Balkan front would be ripped open for immediate attack."

The Turkish Ambassador in London returned to Ankara for consultation.

* * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

13th May.—Addressing the United States Congress, Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, said: "After the final victory in this great war is achieved, the Czechoslovak nation will reconstruct rapidly and successfully by its untiring efforts its old home."

15th May.—Marshal Petain was reported to be ill.

It was announced that a Council of French resistance comprising delegates from every resistance organization and political party had been formed in France.

There was a pitched battle in the streets of Lyons.

Three more Dutchmen were executed in Holland bringing the total during the first day's of Martial Law to 48.

16th May.—German authorities issued a proclamation to the Belgians that since the beginning of the war, 310 "terrorist" and 522 "Communist officials" had been shot.

THE FAR EAST

13th May.—United States light surface ships shelled Vala and Munda in the Solomons.

The Japanese crossed the Yangtze near Sungtze and below Tchang.

It was revealed that by the occupation of Amchitka island, the Americans were approaching closer to Tokyo.

14th May.—Strong United States forces landed on Japan's Aleutian island base of Attu in the North Pacific.

Mr. Churchill informed Marshal Chiang Kai-shek: "The day will come when we shall rejoice at the feats of arms of the United Nations which will surely drive the Japanese invader from the soil of China."

15th May.—Allied fighters scored a big victory over Japanese bombers during an attack on the airfields at Gasmata. After a furious five-day battle, American forces successfully held the bridgehead on the Attu island.

16th May.—About 20,000 Japanese troops attacked Chinese positions around Tsin Shih.

American Fighters shot down 13 Japanese planes (out of a force of 40) which raided Kunming.

Japanese planes attacked Bobduti and Wau villages in New Guinea. Flying Fortresses attacked Japanese installations at Kahili Large fires were started. Japanese shipping in the Buin area was again attacked.

17th May.—In a message to Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, President Roosevelt expressed the hope that in the very near future, Allied armies, in co-operation with the Chinese, would launch an offensive in Asia.

United States submarines sank six Japanese ships in the Pacific and Far East.

Allied raids caused large fires in Kendari, Celebes and Lae. Rabaul aerodrome was also bombed.

18th May.—A Japanese attempt to land paratroops to disturb the Chinese rear was foiled.

Admiral King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States navy, stated that the Japanese expansion had been checked.

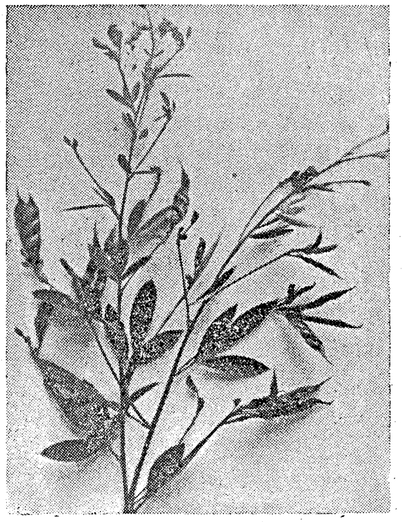
United States Senator Wheeler predicted that the defeat of Germany would find both England and Russia busy in Europe. "In my judgment, the United States is going to be left to fight the Japanese."

A Japanese submarine sank without warning the Australian hospital ship *Centaur* 40 miles east of Brisbane on May 14. Two hundred and ninety-nine persons were lost.

Grow More Food—in Your Gardens!

BEANS AND PEAS

Dhal or Pigeon-pea



Cajanus inodorus (*indicus*); Fam., *Leguminosae*; *thuvarai*, Tam.; *kandipappu*, Tel.; *thovara parippu*, Mal.

Description.—A shrubby plant with narrow trifoliate leaves; flowers, small and yellowish or reddish in colour. The pods are small and contain about 3–7 seeds in each. There are different varieties, and the split dhal are of different sizes and colours. This is one of the most important pulse crops of India.

Propagation.—Seeds are planted in rows 4–5 feet apart. Unsplit seeds can be bought from the market, and good big ones used for planting.

Cultivation.—This plant is able to withstand drought well. It should be grown in loose soil, since the roots go very deep. The pods first appear in about 6–7 months. When the pods are dry, they must be picked, dried in the sun and beaten out, so that the seeds fall out. The seeds are then dried in the sun, and split and husked in hand operated splitting mills. The thick cotyledons thus prepared form the "dhal" or "parippu" of the market. The plants bear pods for some months; when the yield diminishes, the plants must be cut back and well manured, and they will produce a second crop.

Uses.—The split seeds or "dhal" is rich in proteins, and hence eaten in plenty, specially by vegetarians. Different kinds of curries, soups and sweets are prepared from dhal. The plants are grown as rotation crops, and also used as green manure, after the pods have been collected. The plants shed a large amount of leaves which enrich the soil in valuable organic matter. The husk of the pods and the seed-coats are used as feeding stuff for cattle.

General analysis.—Dry dhal. Water, 11·7 per cent; mineral, 2 per cent; protein, 21·0 per cent; fat, 0·1 per cent; fibre, 0·7 per cent; carbohydrate, 64·5 per cent; calories per 100 gms., 1755; calcium, 0·09 per cent; magnesium, 0·107 per cent; phosphorus, 0·48 per cent; iron, 0·002 per cent; traces of Vitamins, A and B.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

National War Front Supplem

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1943 No. 36-A

N W F § N W F § N W F § N W F § N

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

11th May 1943.

It is exceedingly auspicious that the first anniversary of the National War Front should coincide with the great victory of the United Nations in Tunisia.

The Front has already proved its worth during its first year of existence and I have not the slightest doubt, that like the Allied Forces, it will go from strength to strength until final victory is won.

Arthur Hope.
Governor of Madras.

§ N W F § N

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

MADRAS

ONE YEAR'S WORK

EARLY last year a conviction that in India that important war weapon, propaganda had hardly yet been forged, let alone tempered for use, grew swiftly—and was reinforced by proofs that the morale of this country had not been sufficiently stirred and strengthened to meet the sudden extra strain imposed upon it by the lightning successes of our eastern enemy.

GENESIS

In the effort therefore to gird up civilian loins *pari passu* with the accelerated military and production efforts a new administrative framework for a nationwide movement, intended to appeal to old and young, men and women, of every race, creed and community in India was devised in Delhi and approved and inaugurated by His Excellency the Viceroy in April 1942. The country and the world became aware of the National War Front—though its chances of survival, let alone success, were scorned by some and doubted by many, owing to the increasing pressure of events from outside, and the somewhat chaotic state of political feeling within the country. To-day, practically a year later, with the Japanese threat if not removed altogether, at least much more remote, and after the collapse of an organized political revolution, the voice of the scoffer and the doubter subsides and the progress and future of the National War Front has become a subject of very wide interest in this country.

ADAPTATION

In the form in which the original working-plans of the Front were handed to His Excellency's Government, they did not very greatly appeal from practical point of view, for in this Province (generally, you will agree, in the forefront in the matter of practical contact between Government and the people) the subject of propaganda as a vital adjunct to the war-effort had probably received more attention than elsewhere, and at least some attempt had been made to influence and maintain morale. As to procedure the model adopted by the Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee, viz., of dividing business between three Sub-Committees,—Publicity, Recruitment and Finance—had already been duplicated in each of the districts and many a District War Committee had already done stout work. The idea, therefore, of creating a totally new machinery to tackle the question of public morale where there was already one in existence seemed both invidious and redundant.

AMATEUR *V.* PROFESSIONAL

On the other hand the vexed question as to whether the daily-increasing urgency and volume of business to be done *could* be adequately handled by spasmodic associations of part-time and honorary workers, the large majority of whom already had individual business to attend to, was finally settled by the Viceroy's decision that this weapon of war information, of the counteraction of enemy rumours and defeatist tendencies, and the whole problem of tonicing public morale, *could* only be effectively wielded by a paid, whole-time organization. Thus it was that the Madras Government decided to dovetail the existing honorary committee system into the larger and more adequately financed professional network envisaged by the devisers of the National War Front; and ever since then a considerable number of professional propagandists in each district, including some specifically appointed for special methods of appeal and to deal with special sections of the population, have been reinforcing, intensifying and greatly widening, the influence and scope of the District War Committees, without affecting their status or prejudicing the example they offered of energetic and selfless personal effort in the national cause.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT, MADRAS

There follows an abbreviated sketch of the constitution, activities and adjuncts of the National War Front in this Province.

At headquarters, His Excellency graciously assumed the office of Provincial Leader, and associated with him Sir C. R. Reddy, Sir P. T. Rajan, Sultan Abdurahiman Ali Raja of Cannanore, Sir Robert Denniston and Dewan Bahadur M. C. Rajah to assist him with their advice on the principal communities of the Province. The Director of War Publicity was appointed to the chief executive office of the organization, that of Provincial Organizer.

ORGANIZATION

Superior Officials.—The Government appointed as the principal organizing agent in each district a District Organizer, gazetting him as Personal Assistant to the Collector whose general approval of personalities and methods were to be a *sine qua non.* The

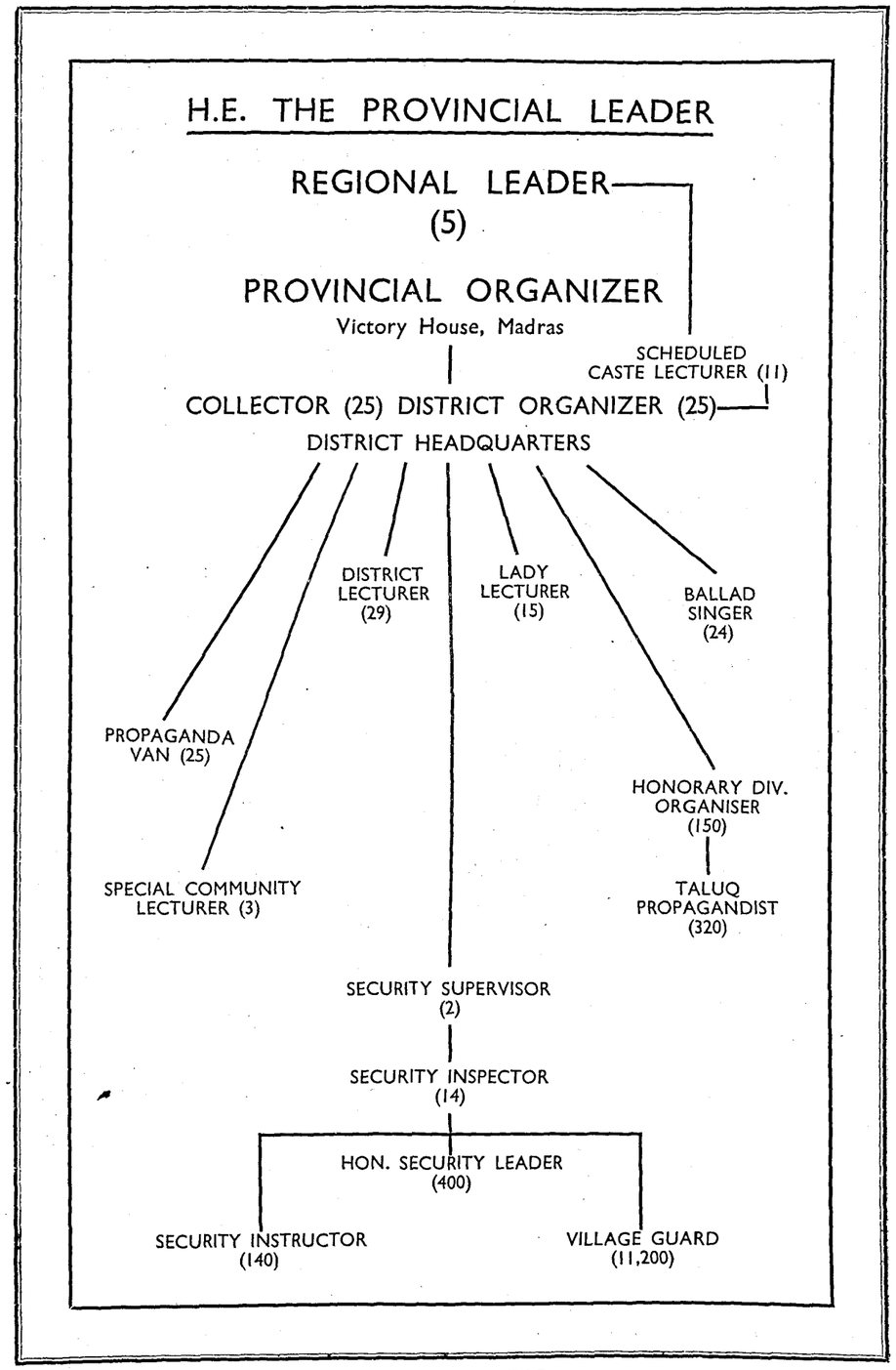


TABLE SHOWING
APPROXIMATE STRENGTH TO-DAY OF
N. W. F.

object, and certainly the result, of this appointment has been to relieve those already highly-exercised officers and one of their equally hard-worked departments, the Revenue Department, of a great deal of labour superfluous to the already increased duties imposed upon them by war conditions. For instance, the District Organizer and his National War Front staff have largely relieved the Revenue officials of responsibility for Reading Circles (of which 4/5,000 are now inspected each month), arrangements for public meetings, receipt and distribution of publicity matter, routing of propaganda vans, accounts and reports relating to expenses and T.A. bills, and so on. As a sort of adjutant to the District Organizer there is a paid District Lecturer, a trained public speaker who is also in charge of the propaganda van, to explain and expand the lessons displayed by the cinema, etc. A request for the expansion of this lecturer-cadre in favour of the Scheduled Classes who mainly inhabit the *cheris* and therefore are less amenable to the influence of caste propagandists, was met by Government's sanction of eleven Scheduled Class lecturers' posts the arrangement of their activities being by areas selected by the Scheduled Class Leader, rather than *district war*.

Subordinate employees.—Subordinate to these officials there are some 250 paid propagandists,—originally one for each taluk, which meant about 10 per district, though, having proved their value, this number has in many instances been raised. These propagandists were not intended to be formal platform orators though many of them are capable of addressing meetings; they are rather peripatetic pilgrims, mixers with and informants for every minor collection of news-thirsty people in villages and hamlets, in the factories and in the fields, at 'shandies' and in coffee-shops, in buses and on the house 'pials'. Each district also is provided with a paid ballad master about whom there is a later note in this report.

A village group listening to propagandists

Extra staff.—A number of selected districts have other professional propaganda agents. Ten districts, for instance, have one (or two if they choose) paid, whole-time lady lecturers to work among the womenfolk. Ten districts have an additional ten propagandists each, in connection with the Village Security Scheme, on which a note also appears later.

Honorary associates.—In addition to this professional staff, each district also has the assistance of Honorary Divisional Organizers, varying from five to nine with the number of Revenue divisions (and/or taluks) in each district, getlemen of *savoir faire*, social status and patriotic energy who make themselves responsible for inspection of the Reading Circles (originated by this Committee two years ago, and now totalling some 13,000), supervision and support of the Taluk Propagandists in their respective divisions, and for other war activities including public meetings, special appeals, etc., etc.

A reading circle

SUPPLY OF PUBLICITY

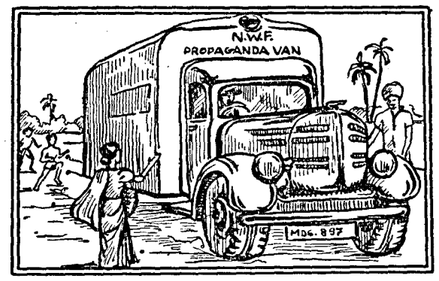
One obvious essential being the keeping of this large machinery up to date with news, with the possible effects of the news, with the general policy as regards handling it, and with other important issues of the day as they arise. The National War Front, Simla, the Department of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi, and Victory House, Madras, have had their work cut out to supply the districts with a balanced diet of information and co-ordinated directions as to the best means of instructing the public therein. (Nor is the correct dissemination of news a natural or common talent. Propagandists, for instance, have to be instructed, and at regular intervals they are summoned to courses of some ten days' duration for instruction on the general situation, and in improved methods of publicity.)

PROPAGANDA CLASSIFIED

(*a*) *Information Bureaux.*—The conventional classification of propaganda methods will be familiar to this meeting, viz., oral, written and visual. Actually the National War Front have some omnibus propaganda adjuncts combining all three publicity methods. Such, for instance, as our Victory Houses or War Information Bureaux. It is probable that no description of Victory House, Madras, is necessary, but there are now twenty-three

miniatures of it all over the Presidency, and some districts have Information Bureaux in their larger towns as well as a 'Victory House' at their headquarters. These establishments are kept as attractive as possible by means of posters, war photogravures, portraits, of famous people, modelts of tanks, aeroplanes, etc., and regular written publicity matter, besides serving as a local headquarters for the National War Front.

(*b*) *Propaganda vans.*—Another and most valuable form of portmanteau publicity is the propaganda van. A year and a half ago the Executive Committee sanctioned an experiment proposed by the Propaganda Sub-Committee, viz., the purchase of propaganda vans, and eight of these, fitted with full size 'talkie' cinema, public address system, radio, gramophone and magic lantern, in addition to one gift van from Messrs. Simpson & Co. proved so great a public draw that fifteen more have been purchased (partly by the Government of India, partly by this Government) with the object of providing each district with a propaganda van of its own. It is expected that within a week from now this desideratum will have been achieved,—in spite of the intense difficulty experienced in procuring the chassis, the bodies, and the various articles of equipment required, during the latter half of last year.



Propaganda van

(*c*) *Oral propaganda.*—But the National War Front recognizes the familiar separate classifications of propaganda and either has invented or adopted various methods and enterprises under each of those headings. Without debating which is the most valid, let us take the oral approach first. You have already read of the large speech-making machinery employed by the National War Front. There are some people who pretend to be sceptical of its value but when you hear that in this Province something like 3,000 meetings a month are arranged, and that the *average* attendance is probably about 1,500, you will probably admit that *some* information is 'put over,' and *some* result is inevitable.

Add to this the powerful war effort among students,—that so important section of the community—now being made by the Director of Public Instruction (who by the same token has already enrolled in the Front no fewer than 150,000 teachers and students) and few will be disposed to decry the actual volume of oral propaganda now available to the Presidency.

Written and graphic propaganda.—As for written propaganda, the National War Front is only partially responsible for the production of the considerable variety of literature which they distribute, since this includes considerable sendings from the National War Front, Simla, and all the publicity matter produced by the Director of War Publicity, but the Front see to the prompt distribution of a stream of written and graphic propaganda to the Collectorates and Taluk Headquarters, to the 13,000 Reading Circles of the Province, to hundreds of hotels, clubs, firms, labour groups and other associations asking for them—they supervise the siting, and report on the effect, of the Madras War Review (30,000), large posters (about 12,000), small posters (half a lakh), leaflets (about a lakh), hand-bills (ditto), maps, charts, cartoons and war photogravures,—all, except the maps and charts, in five vernaculars.

Visual propaganda.—In addition to the powerful charm of the cinema vans other 'visual' auxiliaries are magic lantern slides of which 158 series on 50 subjects are or have been circulated for exhibition on all the magic lanterns in the districts. These number as many as four or even five per district since, besides the projectors purchased by the National War Front, other Government departments owning them (such as the Co-operative, Educational, Agricultural, Veterinary, etc., departments) have kindly used the slides circulated for as wide exhibition as possible.

Music.—Music and drama seem to be specially powerful weapons of public appeal in South India and both are being exploited for war publicity. Each district has appointed a Ballad Master who uses familiar tunes, modern or ancient, to convey the war message by song, elocution or miming or a combination of all three, with most encouraging effect. Local poets with their finger on the pulse of their various communities, have lent their services; Music Committees for the various linguistic areas select compositions, and suitable artistics to produce them and some thousands of vernacular gramophone records will very soon be available both for our own propaganda vans and for privately-owned machines; school children, recruits under training, and the man in the street get to know the airs and to appreciate the lyrics, and it would surprise you to find how well-known now are some of the National War Front "Grow

More Food" songs or up-to-date renderings of martial epics such as "The Bobbili War," etc.

Jangam-katha

Drama.—Drama too has great popular appeal. At least four or five district dramatists have produced war plays; in two districts these have already proved a great draw; in one of these a company tours the playhouses (and is already in demand from other districts); in another the programme has been produced, with full stage effects, on a couple

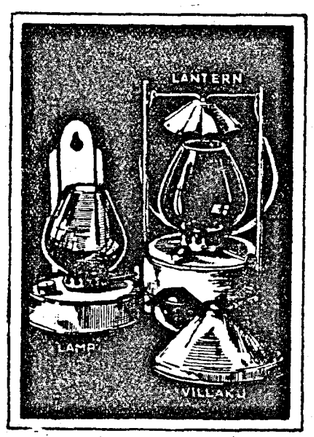
Show-boat

of canal boats touring the delta area and appealing to many a village unapproachable by the propaganda van.

Journalism.—Oral propaganda has already been treated under the subject of paid propagandists; some methods of visual propaganda have just been described; there remains to be added to what has been said about written propaganda, the subject of newspapers. That it is easy to build a circulation by attacking somebody, preferably Government, seems to be so generally endorsed in this country that the large majority of existing newspapers are of very little use to the war effort, while many of them, including some important ones, definitely damage it. The nett result is that the mass of the population is in danger of being reached only by querulous, antagonistic or even defeatist journalism. Correctly presented 'news' (which in these days of competition must also be red-hot news) has also to be accompanied by intelligent 'views' if it is to rival the deplorable influence of irresponsible newspapers, and it must be admitted that this is at present the weakest point in our propaganda department. In one case, an effort at improvement has been made and with Government's assistance a daily newspaper with a first-class news service, properly presented and supported by reasoned editorials, has just begun publication, but it looks as though we may now be too late to make up very much ground, because of the universal and increasing shortage of paper.

OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

This report might make it appear that the functions of the National War Front are limited to propaganda. This is by no means the case. War constantly presents new problems to the townsman and the agriculturist alike, and the National War Front adopts as part of its work the assisting both of Government and governed, in matters of those misunderstandings, inconveniences and forms of economic distress which are inevitably incidental to the war conditions. Government, for instance, have found this new machinery useful in advertising and explaining campaigns of national importance such as "Grow More Food," or "Contact" (i.e., social intercourse between civilian inhabitants and the numerous military formations foreign to the diet and customs of this Province); and in the education of certain communities (fishermen, for example), in the difficult theories of "Security" and "Denial." Quite frequently the National War Front have been able to emphasize and suggest remedies for various grievances in connection with shortage of essential commodities or the price of essential articles. There are now National War Front "fair-price shops" and cheap-food depots and fuel stores, all considerably appreciated by the poorer classes. When kerosene became as rare as gold the poor man's lantern ceased to be of use because it was adopted only to kerosene fuel. The National War Front



Rama Deepa lamp

adopted the services of an inventor of a dual-purpose lamp, small but extremely cheap, and capable of burning vegetable oils as well as kerosene, and having supplied him with tin in large quantities from Army waste dumps, is now fulfiling orders by the thousand for a poorman's house light, known as the National War Front Rama Deepa Lamp.

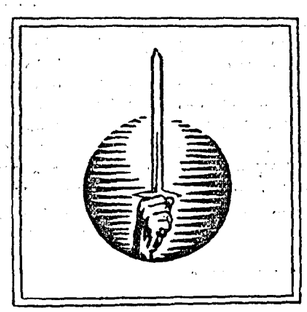
VILLAGE SECURITY

There is one more facet of the Front's organization, which since it is no longer a confidential subject, may be reported on here. The imminence of physical danger this time last year made the promotion of village morale a vital matter. A sense of its individual responsibility both for its own security, as well as for the paramount convenience of troops on the move, became essential. The National War Front propounded the "Stay Put" theory, and followed it up with an organization to assist in carrying it out. A Village Security Scheme has been experimented with in ten of the more vulnerable districts, and is about to be extended further. The essence of this scheme is that in each of a certain number of villages per district, notably those in the vicinity of points of potential strategic importance (e.g., airfields, bridges, railway yards, public utility installations, etc.) an honorary and non-official headman of the community should surround himself with a group of intelligent, athletic and village-proud young men, versed in their own traditional arts of gymnastics, sword-play, stick-play, and so on, and undergoing regular monthly courses of physical training and war instruction under visiting special propangandists. These groups of stalwarts are to make it their business not only to prevent panic and rumour-mongering but also to preserve order in their villages should troops be on the move; and further, and more particularly, to watch for, and report to their headman, tendencies and movements of individuals or groups whom they suspect to be inimical to the safety of the locality. Subjects for their attention, for instance, might be an unrecognized vessel standing off the coast; people suddenly in possession of unusual cash resources; strangers considered over-inquisitive about strategic positions or the approaches to them or using little-frequented roads at suspicious hours; or associations surreptitiously engaged in anti-national plans, of which the recent Civil Disobedience movement gave so many examples. The headman sifts the evidence and if necessary uses his stalwarts as urgent messengers to the nearest civil, police or military authority—and a job of Village Security had been performed. As the military authorities arrange their coastal watchers; as the Police and Revenue departments have arranged their railway patrols; so now the National War Front has its own cordons of keen-witted, physically fit *vigilantes* to preserve the security of their own and their immediate neighbours' hearths and families, and serve as an additional intelligence screen round strategic sites.

Village "Stalwart."

NATIONAL WAR FRONT ENROLMENTS AND THE BADGE

To sum up one should, perhaps, be able to announce the total membership strength of the National War Front, since registers are in existence in all districts, containing formal enrolments. But this arrangement was sadly delayed by enormous delay in obtaining membership badges from the centre and formal registration and distribution has only just begun. It is instructive to know, however, that almost two lakhs of badges have now been sent to the District Organizers for free distribution to people who have enough interest in the National War Front to take the trouble to visit enrolling booths and register their names. Some indication of the potential strength of the movement may be gained from the information received from the districts that at least five lakhs of badges are likely to be required this year.



A Year's National War Front Work in a District

By A DISTRICT ORGANIZER, NATIONAL WAR FRONT

The following is a brief account of the important features of the work done by the National War Front Organization in a district during the ten months following the inauguration.

IT is necessary to remember that when the National War Front Organization was started, the District War Committee and its Sub-Committees and Divisional War Committees only were in existence. The one outstanding feature of the work of these Committees was the collection of war fund and arranging shows, entertainments, raffles, etc., in aid thereof. The District War Committee and the Propaganda Sub-Committee have, by then, carried on some propaganda work by the issue of leaflets and pamphlets, a gramophone record and a sound film by the General Secretary of the District War Committee.

READING CIRCLES

On the inauguration of the National War Front, the District Organizer, when taking stock of the situation, found that war propaganda in the villages was absent and that the Reading Circles in the villages were practically dead, although the Reading Circles were formed as far back as the year 1941 and they were assumed to be functioning all along. It was recognized, at the outset, that the idea of the Reading Circles is an excellent one and that, if worked on the proper lines, the Reading Circles would form a powerful machinery in village to spread propaganda and correct news among the village folk. Hence was started the drive to revive and resuscitate the Reading Circles. This included (1) the holding of Taluk Conferences of the Inspecting Officers of the Reading Circles, including the Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildars, at which the District Organizer explained the purpose with which the Reading Circles were formed and how they were expected to be worked and the methods by which they could be brought to a vigorous and active state; (2) holding Taluk Conferences of the Elementary and Aided School teachers for the same purpose, and general war propaganda too, and ordering the inclusion of the village headmasters as members of the Reading Circles; (3) holding firka conferences of village officers who, it may be noted, are invariably the Secretaries of the Reading Circles; and (4) monthly inspection of Reading Circles carried on by the National War Front Staff, which served to set right any local defects in the working of the Reading Circles.

At these conferences, the District Organizer explained the *modus operandi* of the working of the Reading Circles and the need for their whole-hearted co-operation. By these means, practically every one of the existing Reading Circles of this district was brought into a working condition, and this, coupled with the regular postal supply of the *Yuddha Sanchika* to Reading Circles, ensured the regular working of the Reading Circles. Special National War Front registers, one to serve as meetings' book and the other visitors' book, were issued to all the Reading Circles to secure uniformity. Besides, circular instructions were issued to all the Reading Circles completely covering every detail of the work to be done by the Secretary and the members of the Reading Circles. As a result of this, uniformity in the maintenance of files and procedure is secured.

Practically in almost all villages, where a Reading Circle is set up, Tuesday has come to be known as the Reading Circle Meeting day in the villages, and the villagers have practically acquired the habit of attending the Reading Circle meetings as regularly as they attended the weekly *shandy*.

An additional inducement was created for the Secretary and members of the Reading Circle to work sincerely and well by stimulating a healthy competition between the Reading Circles of each taluk. This was effected by the offer of red entries and appreciation certificates to the best Reading Circles in each taluk and in the district. Side by side with the improvement of the existing Reading Circles, was taken up the work of forming new Reading Circles in villages where a real need was felt for their formation. In the period under review 38 Reading Circles were formed.

VICTORY HOUSE

Any one who visits Victory House in Madras cannot help coming to the conclusion that such a useful adjunct to propaganda should be introduced in the districts. Shortly after the National War Front started work, the the District Organizer planned the establishment of a Victory House at Ellore for the District Headquarters. With the kind co-operation of Kodak Company, Ltd., who supplied the photographs free and Kaiyath

Brothers who supplied a number of models free of charge, the District Organizer set up Victory House which was kindly opened by Captain G. T. B. Harvey, the Provincial Organizer, National War Front, and Director of War Publicity, on the 29th July 1942 in the presence of a huge gathering including war committee members of the district and divisions. It may be noted that this is the third of its kind, the first one being in Madras and the second at Madura. Several thousands of people visited Victory House and gathered useful information about war and the forces. Distinguished visitors like Mr. F. W. Stewart, C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S., First Member of the Board of Revenue, Sir T. G. Rutherford, the then Adviser to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Mr. J. B. Brown, C.I.E., I.C.S., Second Member of the Board of Revenue, and Mr. H. K. Mathews, I.C.S., Personal Assistant to the Provincial Organizer, visited Victory House, and expressed great approbation of the equipment and get up of Victory House. In view of the introduction of the Security Permit system in the premises of the Collectorate, it was found necessary to shift Victory House to a more central part of the town which was freely accessible to the public. Accordingly Victory House was shifted to the Alexander Hall and formally re-opened on 3rd April 1943. It is gratifying to note that, in its new place, Victory House is attracting large crowds of people.

WAR INFORMATION BUREAUX

Side by side with the revival and formation of Reading Circles was undertaken the scheme of providing War Information Bureaux, at important centres in the district. Places chosen were mostly firka headquarters. Just as the Reading Circle serves mainly to educate the illiterate, the War Information Bureaux are intended to assist the literate in acquiring knowledge of war efforts. In all 22 War Information Bureaux were opened in various important places in the district. These are miniature. Victory Houses exhibiting war posters and photogravures issued from time to time. Besides, other important pictorial war propaganda material is supplied to these War Information Bureaux. These are proving to be centres of attraction to the villagers who have some leisure time to spend, which they do by studying the pictures, photos and war material kept for the purpose in these Bureaux.

POSTER DISPLAY

Shortly after the National War Front was inaugurated, a special drive was carried on to ensure satisfactory poster display in the various centres of this district.

(*a*) The list of poster sites maintained in the Collector's office was revised and the Tahsildars were specially instructed to secure poster display invariably at these sites. Forty-eight hours' duration is observed as a reasonable lapse between the despatch of posters from the District Organizer's office and the exhibition at the poster sites. Special poster registers were ordered to be maintained by Tahsildars containing particulars of the receipt and despatch of posters in their offices. Periodical inspection of Taluk offices were carried on by the District Organizer to make sure of the prompt despatch of the posters, as well as the other propaganda material, and it is satisfactory to note that all delays in the Taluk offices are in consequence avoided.

(*b*) Special poster boards were got fixed on running buses in the district at the instance of the District Organizer, with the kind co-operation of the bus-owners and the Secretary, Road Traffic Board, to whom the periodical supply of posters is made for purposes of exhibition on the boards. This has, to a considerable extent, augmented the propaganda utility of the posters.

(*c*) A special scheme was set afoot by the District Organizer, which consists in the erection of permanent poster boards in prominent and populous centres in important villages where there are Panchayat Boards. Several Panchayat Boards have kindly agreed to erect these boards at their own cost and to exhibit posters. The number of poster boards to be erected in each village range between 1 to 12 depending on the size of the village. Similar scheme was also agreed to be undertaken by the E. Municipality at the headquarters.

(*d*) Another scheme was proposed by the District Organizer to have permanent poster boards set up in front of all District Board institutions containing the ten edicts—how the public can help the war effort. The matter is pending consideration of the District Board and it is hoped that it will materialize.

(*e*) *Popularizing Defence Loans.*—Stencil display of the slogan "Buy Defence Loans and Make India Strong" was undertaken by the P. Municipality and a scheme was also put forward by the District Organizer for similar painted slogans being exhibited on the trunks of big trees along the side of the roads.

GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN

This was undertaken in four different ways—

(*a*) Exhorting the public to exert more and grow more food in their lands.

(*b*) Inducing the people to utilize every inch of their available vacant sites or land for growing food-crops.

(*c*) Converting waste land to cultivation.

(*d*) Inducing people to give up commercial crops and take to food-crops.

When the National War Front came into existence, the District Organizer noticed that about 14,000 acres of dry land in K. and T. taluks were being cultivated yearly with

tobacco. A special campaign was carried on by the District Organizer assisted by the Honorary Divisional Organizer, K., to increase the quantity under food-crop cultivation and induce the public to give up the commercial crop of tobacco. As a result, several thousands of acres have been converted to food-crops purposes, the villagers willingly giving up growing tobacco in these lands. The grand success of the "Grow More Food Week" in this district is not a little due to the efforts of the National War Front.

In this connexion, it has to be pointed out that more effective and useful work would be turned out in furtherance of the "Grow More Food" Government Order, if the National War Front Department is entrusted with the power of allotting waste land for cultivation. It would be satisfactory on all hands to relieve the Revenue Department of this task.

PROPAGANDA: PUBLIC MEETINGS AND TALKS

In the period under review, nearly 7,000 meetings are held by the National War Front staff in this district, and every one of the villages in the district has been visited by one or other of the members of the National War Front staff. Some of these were mass meetings ranging from 2,000 to 10,000. It has been the uniform experience of the National War Front of this district that the meetings were largely attended and popular.

PROPAGANDA BY LANTERN SLIDES AND CINEMA REELS

Besides the slides supplied from Madras, a special set of slides were got prepared locally from the good photographs appearing in the *Neptune* Magazines. A special selection of the slides is supplied to each cinema in the district for exhibition during intervals. It has been found that all the cinemas are regularly projecting the slides supplied to them.

Cinema reels are being shown in accordance with the programme received from the Film Advisory Board and are being well received by the public.

The Rev. Coleman and Miss S. R. Simon of the Children's Aid Society have been regularly showing the slides supplied by the District Organizer with very satisfactory results.

VAN AND SHOW BOAT

During the first eight months, except in the very beginning, there was no propaganda van for this district. But it is gratifying to note that a van has at last been supplied exclusively for this district. The van itinerary is so drawn up that, in the space of two months, practically all important places are visited by the van. The van shows are generally attended by gatherings ranging between 1,000 and 10,000. On an approximate computation, it would be seen that the van shows were witnessed by about one lakh of people during these two months.

A new show boat scheme was put forward by the District Organizer which consisted of a staff boat, equipped with the same equipment as the propaganda van, but in addition carrying all the posters and some important war models. The show boat proposed is therefore a moving Victory House and cinema and it answers the needs of the villages on canal side, which are mostly inaccessible by road. It is hoped that the Director of War Publicity would push through the scheme on the re-opening of the canals after summer.

CONSTITUTIONAL IMPROVEMENTS

As the importance of propaganda was realised and the necessity for increasing its intensity became more acute, it was found that it would be more advantageous to have one Honorary Divisional Organizer for each taluk instead of for a division. Accordingly, Honorary Divisional Organizers for each taluk were appointed retaining the previous Honorary Divisional Organizers, but confining their jurisdiction to one taluk; so much so, there are now eight Honorary Divisional Organizers for the eight taluks.

By experience, it was realized, that as the Christian population was considerable in B. and N. taluks a special staff was necessary to carry on propaganda among them. Hence the District Organizer proposed the appointment of two separate propagandists for the taluks of B. and N. and a Christian Honorary Divisional Organizer to supervise their work and carry on propaganda for both these taluks. The Government were pleased to sanction the posts and two Christians were appointed as propagandists. The Rev. W. D. Coleman, U. L. C. Missionary for B. and N. taluks was induced by the District Organizer to accept the Christian Divisional Organizer's appointment.

The need for propaganda among women was realized as far back as July 1942, and the District Organizer submitted proposals for the appointment of lady propagandists. It is a matter for great satisfaction that the Provincial Organizer was pleased to give his full support to the scheme with the result that we have now two lady lecturers who have been carrying on vigorous propaganda among the women folk in the villages.

PROPAGANDA BY BALLADS AND WAR SONGS

The universal appeal of music has been taken advantage of by the National War Front in this district from the very beginning. Village teachers were exhorted in conferences and centre classes, as well as in the visits to villages, to train up a set of young boys and girls for each school who could sing war songs in chorus in a melodious way. One of the objects of enlisting the co-operation of the teachers in Reading Circles is to secure a group of children to sing war songs at Reading Circle meetings. In most places, Reading Circle meetings are commenced after prayer and after singing of war songs. War ballad singing has become part of the curriculum in the schools of this district.

Two National War Front Songs were composed by the District Organizer, both of which were approved by the Ballad Sub-Committee for purposes of recording. It is hoped that early steps will be taken by the Provincial Organizer to have the songs recorded at an early date. It is a matter for pride to have to state that, in almost all the villages, where there are Reading Circles one would invariably find the school children singing the National War Front Songs of this district. This kind of propaganda has had a good deal of beneficial effect.

COMBATING CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AND GOONDAISM

In August last when trouble was apprehended from the Congress elements, a special campaign was carried out in B. and E. taluks which are well-known for Congress predilections. It may be pointed out that the District Organizer, during the campaign, visited eight villages in a day holding eight meetings and delivering eight lectures. In spite of this campaign, if trouble did break out here and there, it was not on account of lack of propaganda, but for other reasons, such as lack of proper enforcement of law and order. Under these conditions, much of the likely trouble was prevented and discouraged by timely propaganda. B. taluk in particular, which had many persons notorious for their Congress sympathies and which was the centre of disturbances in August last is now a tame place, because of the slow and sure efforts of the National War Front, as was openly acknowledged by the Subdivisional Magistrate of B. in a public speech made by him on the occasion of the Variety Entertainment in aid of the Amenities for Troops Fund. This is so in the case of other taluks as well. The National War Front held meetings of Congress sympathisers and convinced them of the need for helping in the preservation of democracy in this world, when all their political aspirations were bound up with democracy.

The main outstanding achievement of the National War Front, as a result of the efforts during the period under review, is the strengthening of the morale of the people and the enlisting of their whole-hearted sympathy and support for the war effort. The people of the district have realized the importance of "Stay-put" and are working and saving for Victory which would crush, beyond redemption and recovery, the Axis 'Rakshasas.'

FOR THE VALIANT

Write the names in rolls of honour,
write them large in golden letters,
blazon them on waving banners,
names of battle proud and bitter.
Set beside the doughty Spartan
soldiers of the Dunkirk beaches;
set beside the bold Horatius
heroes of the Volga bridges.
In the desert and the sand-dune,
in the snow and northern winter
these would not their post abandon,
played with Death the peerless hunter.

Dauntless in defeat and taking
from the dead a dear remembrance,
whether at the walls of Peking
Mongol masses threaten entrance.
Or the Viking force prevailing
hunts to hiding Saxon Alfred,
from the fall they rise to fight on
but the warrior in the wolf-ring.
Names to lay and legend lending
Chiang-kai-shek in Szechwan leaguered
Devereux on Wake short-handed
join the Herewardian saga.

Sing the song of mighty Roland,
Sing too Bataan bombed and battered,
where among the fox-holes fallen
fever-rid survivors battled.
Tell the tale of Tours and Martel,
be of Moscow too your ballad;
Moor and Hun both met immortal
valour holding Death's own valley.
When the brave together gather
past the gates of life and laughter
ancient heroes in the aether
hail their kin who died no softer.

Indian Rama right maintaining
welcomes to a warrior's heaven
men that up the mountain winning
swept the razor-ridge of Keren.
Rooke who took the Rock so stoutly
Tobruk's garrison regarding
smiles applause, a spectre courtly;
In the grave praise be their guerdon.
Kutusov in ghostly grimness
by the Beresina brooding
catches breath to see the bridgeheads
On the Don and Dnieper broaden.

For the liberties their fathers
fought to win and leave their children.
for the freedom too of others
by defeat and death bewildered.
See the airmen mount from England
to give battle in the Welkin;
see in Maltese isle new-mingled
Martial ire and pride awaken.
When they chant Chitor's defenders
or intone the tale of Carthage
let the counterpoint too thunder
newer echoes of old courage.

R.G.

War and Politics

By Dr. Sir C. R. REDDY, *Kt., Regional Leader of National War Front for Andhra Desa*

It is the misfortune of India that its two leading political organizations, Congress and League, mixed up obligations towards the War Effort of the Allies with political demands. Not that there is anything morally wrong in trying to make political hay while the War sun shone. Politics is business and one too in which power plays the determining part. The misfortune lay in their putting forth demands without first securing conditions of convincing appeal or successful pressure. The Congress and League were fatally divided over the basic principles of our political reconstruction, and they continue to be divided. Latterly Mr. Rajagopalachariar somehow convinced himself and tried to convince the country that the differences between the League and the entire Nationalist India, including Congress, were though wide, yet bridgeable and that if trusted with a free hand, he could play the part of the architect of our political unity. I wonder if he still holds that view after Mr. Jinnah's speech at the recent meeting of the League. It is to me surprising that so prolific a broadcaster of statements has been silent so long over the League's most recent performance.

It is very natural for a subject people to be obsessed with the desire for political emancipation, with which undoubtedly are bound up both cultural and economic progress. But desire without capacity and more especially under such proved incapacity as has been made so painfully evident of late, is a pathological condition which can hardly evoke sympathy.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION

The discussions relating to the recent reconstruction of the Ministerial administration in Bengal—it cannot be called a Cabinet—is proof that while our ideas and talk relate to nationalism, our feelings and will are still in the region of tribe, creed and community. In Bengal, as in every other province, and as with reference to the Central Government, the heart's desire is for a balanced communal representation. They want to know how many Muslims would be there, how many caste Hindus, how many Scheduled Castes, and so forth. So also in the Punjab, in Sind and in Assam. This is also the case with the Central Government. Not a word about political divisions into Nationalists, Social Radicals, Socialists or other varieties. Nor about economic divisions like the Tenants' Parties, Parties of the Landlords, the varying aspects of Commercial and Industrial interests, or that latest word in social-economic reform, Communism. But ever and always about Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Scheduled Castes, Christians, Anglo-Indians; and aye, the subdivisions thereof, Brahmans and Non-Brahmans, Sunnis and Shias, and all the species of our ethnology. The present deplorable condition of our politics makes one doubt whether there is a political India in actual existence and whether, while our thoughts are on nationalism, our life is not tribal and continues to be tribal. I sometimes feel that the real political problems of India is how to evolve nationalism out of our tribalism.

It seems to me that even the Muslims have caught the contagion of divisions alike to Hindu tribalism by their long sojourn in our midst. That Sunnis differ widely from the Shias is a historical fact, the potency of which is not going to be reduced by political compromises. But in addition there are the Momins and the Ahrars, both powerful bodies which dispute the League's claim to be the sovereign of Muslim Indians. Even if all Muslims unite as against the Hindus, or rather non-Muslims generally, there is no knowing whether they would remain united when once the fight is over.

UNPLEASANT FACTS

My conclusion is that for the moment nationalistic politics in India appear to be not merely an impossibility but an absurdity. It is very sad that it should be so. But nothing is gained by closing our eyes to facts just because they are unpleasant.

I would, therefore, relegate politics to the background and accept the baleful shadow it casts as a fatality from which there is no present escape.

Moreover it seems to me that both now and after the War, problems of Indians abroad, and the economic condition of Indians here within the country, are of greater and more urgent importance than the division of the country into Sthans and the creation of a New Constitution. All the Castes and Communities in India are united in their views regarding the rights to be secured for Indians in South Africa, in Ceylon and other parts of the British Empire. The Muslim League, though it professes to represent a separate nation, resolved to plead, in generous self-contradiction, for all the Indians in South Africa instead of only for the Muslim emigrants. It has not extended its principle of separate nationality beyond the frontiers of India, at any rate, for the time being. It has also resolved on the question of the widely prevalent economic distress amongst the masses in the country on lines applicable for all Indians. From these two instances I infer

Rural Economy and Village Safety

(*By* SIR P. T. RAJAN, *Kt., Regional Leader, National War Front., Tamil Nadu*)

THE National War Front movement was inaugurated in this Presidency by His Excellency the Governor a year ago. When the different political parties failed to come together in spite of the threat to this country from Axis powers, this movement supplied a common platform to men of all castes, creeds and political persuations to strengthen the war efforts of India. Fortunately for this Presidency a load was given by His Excellency the Governor in this matter very much earlier. This work was taken up by the National War Front movement and due to the large staff employed by Government its activities have been growing more and more day by day. This movement paid more attention to the work of the home front. False rumours were checked; fifth column activities were countered; people were persuaded to join the different branches of the fighting forces in large numbers; they were asked to grow more food; and the morale of the people was kept high.

SIR P. T. RAJAN

FOOD PROBLEM

As a result of the entry of Japan into the war and her temporary success in the East, the import of foodstuffs from Burma and other eastern countries was stopped. India soon found herself deficient in the matter of foodstuffs. This along with the greed of merchants who boarded up necessities of life with a view to make unconscionable profits, increased the cost of living. The middle and poor classes suffered much. In order to overcome this difficulty the "Grow More Food" campaign was taken up as an universal cry throughout the length and breadth of this country. Combined efforts of the National War Front and every department of Government, who had already been in the field, helped to make up the deficiency to some extent as neither the people nor the Government could solve the problem without the help of the other. If cities and large towns fared badly, villages in the interior fared worse. Want of transport facilities added to the difficulties of the problem. There were lootings here and there. The vigilance of the local authorities and the firm action taken by the Government prevented this evil from growing further. Prices of essential commodities were fixed and supply of foodstuffs from the surplus to deficit districts helped to ease the situation though it has not completely solved the problem. Villagers were asked to produce sufficient foodstuffs and vegetables to meet their requirements in the first instance and help their neighbours when left with a surplus. In the case of such commodities as kerosene and sugar they were asked to help in making an equitable distribution and seeing that no one appropriated more at the expense of others. Thus every villager was asked to realize his individual and collective responsibility which meant in a way the restoration of the old panchayat system wherein the representatives of different communities met together and disposed of matters affecting the welfare of the village community. This is in violent contrast to the present day village panchayats to which members are elected by votes leaving partisan spirit and bitterness in their wake.

VILLAGE SECURITY

As regards the safety of the villages the villagers were told that they cannot depend upon the normal police patrols who must necessarily be limited in number, for their safety and well-being in times of war. They should organize themselves in such a way as to enable them to put down looting and prevent attacks from outsiders who might have an eye on the produce of the village. They were also advised to be prepared to meet any emergency such as landing of enemy troops in small numbers or of the activities of enemy agents in their midst.

I have referred very briefly to some of the activities which might be taken up by the villagers with great advantage to themselves and the country. India is a vast country and the villages are the units thereof. In an essentially agricultural country the villages can play a great part in the self-sufficiency of the country in so far as food-supplies are concerned. Greater attention has to be paid to village roads and communications without which foodstuffs cannot be conveyed easily from one part of the province to another. They can contribute to the war efforts by sending more men for enlistment in the different branches of the war machinery while supplying enough foodstuffs to those who are engaged in war work and others without having to depend upon other countries for necessities of life.

AFTER THE WAR IS OVER

When the fighting men return to their villages after the war is over they will introduce great changes, consciously or otherwise in the economic and social life of the countryside. Their standards of living will have undergone a change decidedly for the better and they will not care to revert to the dull existence of life, with low wages for their work, to which they have been accustomed before the war. Their narrow and parochial view of men and matters will have disappeared yielding place to a broad outlook on life based on experience gained in different parts of the world. They will have learnt many things in the different theatres of war which cannot be possibly learnt in elementary or higher schools at home. They will hereafter take a keen and intelligent interest not only in Indian affairs but also in matters and changes that will take place all over the world. There is every possibility of their thinking and acting for themselves instead of taking things for granted at the bidding of others. Common dangers to which these men will have been exposed every hour of their life in the battlefields and deeds of heroism in the face of great odds will have created a sense of fellow feeling and brotherhood amongst men of different castes and creeds. This will naturally have its repercussions on the time-honoured caste divisions and religious and social differences. It will further pave the way for unity in the country very much quicker than the present state of affairs will warrant. These are some of the changes that I anticipate in the rural life of this country as a result of the war. In fact they, who have won laurels and honours in all theatres of war will come back with a new faith and hope and with a vision of a better social and economic order of things in the future. If Axis powers were to win, all their great sacrifices would have been in vain. Their hopes will be shattered and their vision of a new era will disappear for a long time to come. If on the other hand the Allies were their own labour to the full.
have laid the foundation of a new India, whatever might be the differences between India and England at the present moment, with immediate prospects for a new order of things which will assure the people of this land full freedom to shape their life in a manner that will suit their genius and fulfil their hopes and aspirations. The younger of them might even live to enjoy the fruits of their ow n labour to the full.

Present War and Moplah Youth

By SULTAN ABDURAHIMAN ALI RAJAH, *Rajah of Cannanore, Regional Leader, N.W.F. Kerala*

A war of aggrandisement by the Axis Powers; a war between Have-Nots and Haves; a war between two ideologies; a war to establish a new order on earth; a war to establish peace for three hundred years; a war between the forces of evil and righteousness; a war to establish the four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear—thus has this war, this greatest Armageddon of the world been described by world statesman. However described, one thing is certain; this world is not going to be left in the state in which it was before the fateful September 1939. The lives of every one will be affected for better or worse and the changes that are likely to come, after the clash is over, can scarcely be pictured —and I wonder whether any one has really cared to picture it.

THE RAJA OF CANNANORE

Except for the loss of Burma and its consequent evacuee problem and the problem of rice supply, we in India have been scarcely

affected. "We have been living a life of comparative safety and security, and the carnage that is taking place on the battle-fields and in occupied-Poland and Russia, the atrocites that are being perpetrated by the Gestapo under the new order of Hitler, can scarcely be imagined. We have been mercifully spared the sight and sufferings that the flower of humankind elsewhere has been enduring. Our problems are narrowed down to the proper distribution of food and control of prices." Of late, we in Malabar have been particularly affected by the rise in price of food grains and also by shortage of supply. Beyond these we know not the sufferings of war, though, historically, the Moplah community has never been so affected in its fortunes since the Mysore wars.

Thousands of Moplah families who lived in Penang, Singapore, Burma, Malaya and other places in the East Indies have been deprived of their means of livelihood, and I am witnessing the unpleasant sight of thousands of Moplahs relying on the dole provided by a merciful and benevolent Government. The sight of these evacuees is most pitiable, but what is more depressing is that among the thousands of these evacuees there is not the right spirit of adventure that ought to animate them in a crisis of this kind. It seems to me that the Moplah youth, including young men among evacuees, are throwing away a golden opportunity of service to the country, to the community, and to their families.

If this war has brought its full portion of tears, blood and toil elsewhere, to Indians it has been a golden opportunity to step up progress, militarily, financially and industrially, by at least fifty years, and he who does not seize this opportunity to better the status of India, is perverse indeed. Our young men can join, in their thousands, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force and build up a strong India which must be the pride of Nations. Malabar is one of the most forward districts in the matter of recruitment, and I am glad to note that my Hindu brethren have taken full advantage of the opportunities to enrol in the Army, learn arts and crafts and also learn Military Science. One of the standing charges by politicians against Britain was that she did not trust Indians sufficiently and therefore she did not train enough number of Indians as Officers. Since the war started, thousands of Indian Officers have been recruited and there is no branch of the Fighting Forces which is barred to the Indian. This being the state of affairs, we should grasp this opportunity and equip ourselves in all possible ways by enrolling in three services and in all technical branches.

In Malabar, Moplahs are said to be almost as numerous as the Hindus, but if the Recruiting figures are examined, it will be seen that the Moplahs are far below the Hindus. This apathy on the part of the Moplah youth is regrettable, and in years to come, the community as a whole will suffer by comparison with their Hindu brethren. It cannot be that the Moplah youth is not of the same bold stuff as the Hindus. The Moplahs are adventurous by nature, and I fail to understand the lack of enthusiasm on the part of our young men. A charge has been levelled against the Moplahs that they are not amenable to a life of discipline and sometimes the history of the Moplah Regiment of old is pointed out. If there is any truth in the allegation of want of discipline it is high time that we demonstrate our capacity for a life of discipline, for without discipline no community can thrive hereafter politically or industrially. Training in the use of arms, and training as technicians will be an asset ardently prized by any community and let not the youth of the Moplah community throw away opportunities given to them by this war. Let my co-religionists, all who are young and able to bear arms and learn a craft or trade come forward and let the evacuee young men also make an effort to get out of the dole mentality and flock to the Recruiting Officers in their thousands and earn an honest livelihood and serve their community and religion. This then is my advice to the thousands of Moplah youths in Malabar. Join the colours in their thousands. Let not your Hindu brethren cast a slur on your lack of adventure. Swell the ranks of the three fighting services in a spirit of healthy rivalry with your Hindu brethren. Join in your thousands and bring victory to the glorious United Nations.

National War Front and Scheduled Classes

By DIWAN BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH, M.L.A., *Regional Leader, Scheduled Classes.*

I am a fierce protaganist of the National War Front. I am one of those who staunchly believe that the National War Front, which began as a tiny and inconsiderable institution just a year ago, and which grew from strength to strength, undeterred and unhindered, is not the result and product of some fanciful and capricious visionaries, but that it is a potent and powerful movement, which is devised and designed to bring freedom for India. For, National War Front is, in truth, the combination and confederation

DIWAN BAHADUR M. C. RAJAH

of all freedom-loving citizens of India, who love their country. It is, as everyone is undoubtedly aware, not a conclave or preserve of any particular party, class or community. It has an appeal to and attraction for every man, woman and child, who inhabit India. National War Front seeks to uplift and ameliorate the condition of the people of India, politically, socially and economically. Its aim and object is to make the people of India live better and happier. The National War Front, which so subserves the interests of people of the country, is rightly known in some quarters as "National Welfare Front."

As correctly pointed out by His Excellency the Governor of Bengal, one of the objects of the National War Front is "to inform each individual according to his place in the community, of the part he can play towards the achievement of victory." The Scheduled Classes play no mean or unworthy part in achieving the goal in view. Let me hasten to say that the close association of these classes with the movement is, in a large measure, due to the unremittent endeavours of Capt. G. T. B. Harvey, Director of War Publicity, Madras.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL LECTURERS

The National War Front, Madras, employed *inter alia* a large "speech-making machinery," gradually extending its scope and continually widening its approach to the people of the Depressed Classes as well. These Scheduled Classes "are less amenable to the influence of caste propagandists". These communities therefore needed special attention. In fulfilment of this object, the Government, at the instance of the Director of War Publicity, sanctioned eleven Scheduled Class lecturers for carrying on propaganda among them.

Illiteracy reigns supreme among these classes. By distributing graphic posters and illuminating pictures, I understand from these additional lecturers of the National War Front, who work under my direct control and in close collaboration with the District Officials, that these classes have been awakened to a sense of responsibility at this perilous time for India, and contributed man power to serve in all ranks of the Army. In pursuance of the scheme of Government to recruit war technicians, sepoys, sappers, miners, etc., people may lecture from public platforms and leaders may give instructive and inspired talks. But when people are called on to fight in the fronts, some may sometimes betray a spirit of fright and force themselves off the forum. But the members of our community set a remarkable example. Emboldened as they usually are, they taught others courage. They enrolled themselves in large numbers as recruits and marched off to battlefields in glee and with pleasure, to the surprise of brothers of other communities, and to the satisfaction of the powers-that-be. Statistics prove that 40 per cent of the recruits hail from the Scheduled Classes. This fact lays bare that these classes are devoted subjects, whose love for their King is unbounded and whose spirit of sacrifice in the cause of the country is unparalleled. These marvellous results can, to a large extent, be ascribed to the systematic and well-regulated measures taken by the National War Front through its propaganda agency.

GIVING THEM THE TOOLS

Men of the Scheduled Classes have been, in another direction, rendering invaluable service to the country, here again, as a result of the efforts of the propaganda staff of the National War Front. The modern warfare needs material more than the men. "Give us the tools and we shall finish the job"—says the Prime Minister. The factories in India engaged in the production of equipment are busy day in and day out. The workers in these centres, who are largely drawn from the Scheduled Classes, are turning out the "tools" with the sweat of their brows.

Propaganda work is carried on by the teachers belonging to Scheduled Classes employed in schools at the direction of the National War Front. They are not only doing propaganda in the school zones but are extending their activities to the adjacent villages by visiting them in batches in nights giving periodical talks to the village folk. The results are said to be exhilarating, as their efforts are sincere.

INFLUENCE OF MUSIC

Music has proved to be a powerful weapon of appeal in rural areas. Young boys and girls

drawn from the Scheduled Classes are particularly adaptable to chorus 'tunes' and 'songs.' In Y.M.C.A. centres and such similar institutions in rural areas, a good deal of propaganda is done by these children through 'songs' and 'music.' Even the little adolescents of the community have been harnessed for service under the National War Front.

When the Village Security Scheme was inaugurated in some districts of the Madras Presidency, there was said to be slow response from the public to take up the posts of Village Guards, as some of the caste villagers viewed the organization with suspicion. The members of the Scheduled Classes rose to the occasion and readily enlisted themselves as Village Guards, with their characteristic courage of their convictions. They gave the lead and others followed them.

The enrolment of this community as vigilants to preserve the security and the integrity of the village improved also incidentally the social side of these men. Under the scheme, there are common dinners at the expense of the state in which all Village Guards partake at the conclusion of physical exercises. These common dinners have been fostering a spirit of tolerance in inter-communal gatherings, particularly, in villages where orthodoxy took deep roots. I do not hesitate to assert that the Village Security Scheme, which is working under the auspices of the National War Front, has been, in a limited way, shaping the social regeneration of the country, advocating by example, elimination of caste rigidity which has thwarted the efforts to make India socially an integral whole.

PROPAGANDA DRIVES

Thanks to the untiring efforts of the War Publicity Department, great drive and momentum have been given to the "Grow More Food" Campaign, the "Contact" movement, "Security Scheme," the opening of National War Front Fuel Depots," the production of "National War Front Rama Deepa lamps" and other activities, which are too innumerable to catalogue. The members of the Scheduled Classes have received their share of the benefits of such schemes.

During the course of my tours I am convinced that constant and incessant propaganda is made among all classes and communities. National War Front is recognised as a living force in villages and towns. If Government were to strengthen the staff of propagandists in all taluks, the object, I think, will be achieved quicker.

TRIBUTE TO LEADER OF NATIONAL WAR FRONT

The National War Front in this Province has had one year's record of successful work. It is gratifying that it is, by common consent, far ahead of the other provinces. Ardently do I hope that it will, in time to come, continue to do useful service to the country, with unabated vigour and undiminished zeal, under the able leadership of His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope.

Food-Production, Transport and Distribution

By RAJAH SIR SWETACHELAPATHI RAMAKRISHNA RANGA RAO BAHADUR VARU, *The Rajah of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., Member, National Defence Council*

IN these days of total war the Home Front is as important as the fighting line. For maintaining the flow of military supplies to our fighting forces and for sustaining the morale of the Nation, it is the primary duty of the State to provide commodities essential for maintaining the life of the community, at reasonable prices.

Unfortunately in the absence of reliable statistics it is impossible to accurately estimate the average pre-war production and consumption of staple food grains in India. We have figures for imports and exports of rice and wheat which do not help us very much in estimating the present deficit. In the provinces no planning has been undertaken in the past for increasing the production of food to keep pace with the rapidly rising population. As far as Madras is concerned, the present population in round figures is 50,000,000 (50 millions) which represents an increase of nearly 15 per cent during the last decade. During this period no major irrigation work has been undertaken in this presidency. Taking into consideration the fact that we have to send supplies to Ceylon, and the States of Travancore and Cochin the deficit in rice may be approximately taken to be 20 per cent or 1,000,000 tons. I say this subject to correction.

THE RAJAH OF BOBBILI

GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN

The results achieved as measured in increased acreage 743,000 under food crops is certainly gratifying. The estimated yield is 507,000 tons of which only a small proportion is rice. I must confess to a feeling that this vital problem is being tackled more as a war-time measure without any long-range policy. Burma will no doubt be reconquered but the relations between the two countries cannot be expected to be again the same, bad as they were before. No doubt, Burma owes a great deal for her development and prosperity to her historical and administrative association with this country. But in these days of national self-sufficiency although we shall continue to put up a fight for special privileges for Indians in Burma, we must be prepared for the day when we can no longer count on drawing supplies of paddy at low prices to meet our deficits. When we legitimately claim the right of self-determination for India we cannot deny the same privilege to sister nations.

Quite apart from the above reasons in the national interests I would strongly urge upon the Government and the public the necessity of making our province entirely self-supporting in the matter of foodstuffs. The population has greatly outstripped the capacity of the cultivable land to support it. Economic questions will assume serious dimensions unless the great problem is tackled at once and agricultural land provided for the land cess. This can only be done by immediately taking up great irrigation projects in the deficit areas. The local Government have with commendable promptitude granted many concessions to induce the ryots to grow more, but in the nature of things these steps already taken can only touch the fringe of the problem. Rice is our staple food crop and it can be grown only by providing irrigation and it is a well-known fact that there is hardly any scope for expansion under the existing irrigation systems.

PROBLEM OF TRANSPORT

It is not enough to grow more food. It must be made available in the deficit areas. Here we come up against the problem of transport. Railways are already strained almost to the breaking point. Motor transport facilities are rapidly diminishing owing to non-availability of petrol, tyres and spares. Bullock carts cannot be employed for long-distance traffic. Enough power alcohol can be manufactured by the sugar factories in India from waste products, to keep all the private lorries going. But Government are either unwilling or unable to arrange for the machinery being imported from America or manufactured in this country.

As the present transport position is likely to deteriorate in future it is of the utmost importance that the authorities should concentrate their attention on growing more foodstuffs in the deficit area. If this is successfully done it would to a material extent relieve the strain on our railways.

Our main deficit areas in the order of importance are: (in tons) Malabar (247,048), Madras City (109,220), Salem (92,757), Coimbatore (88,317) and Vizagapatam (65,965). Then there are other areas with small deficits, such as the Ceded Districts, Ramnad, Madura, Tinnevelly and the Nilgiris. Until the Government of India Act of 1935 came into force no productive irrigation scheme could be sanctioned unless it is guaranteed to pay 6 per cent at the end of the tenth year calculated from the beginning. In other countries the increased prosperity of the people, additions to income-tax, railway revenue and other indirect benefits are taken into consideration. But in this country the direct return by way of land revenue is the only consideration. If this was the test the Great Shannon Irrigation and Hydro-Electric Scheme would not have become an established fact in Eire. Several Hydro-Electric schemes have been held up for the same reason in the Northern Circars. How can the demand pre-exist before the power is available? Owing to the absence of scientific planning the development of our water resources has been ill-balanced. Take for example the case of the Tanjore district. A compact area must be able to produce both dry and wet crops and some grazing land has to be reserved. Instead of this practically the whole of the cultivable land in Tanjore district has been converted into wet as a result of the Mettur Project. As a consequence during the economic

depression from 1930 to 1937 the agriculturists suffered more in this district. Now again when the normal transport facilities are not available the paddy prices in this area are lower than in any other district in the province. The grievances of the Tanjoreans have been aired in the press and outside.

The Government in my opinion should not lose any time in starting major irrigation projects in the deficit areas. There are so many schemes for these parts already investigated that there is no need for any further exploratory work. If the Government feel that their energies cannot and should not be diverted from more important work connected with the war, and if they are not prepared to raise the necessary finance for fear it may affect the offtake of Defence Loans, then I suggest that these works may be entrusted to non-official agencies. On the basis of, say, a thirty years' lease funds can be raised by joint-stock companies to finance these schemes. This would also check the present inflatory tendency in the country. I anticipate opposition to these proposals from certain quarters that no major irrigation project can be undertaken without diverting our limited supplies of steel and cement from more important war requirements. The great Godavari and Kistna irrigation schemes were constructed when the use of cement and steel was practically unknown in this country, while as a matter of fact it remains to be seen whether reinforced concrete construction is really suitable for a tropical country like India.

EXTENSION OF IRRIGATION WORKS

Beginning from the north, I suggest the construction of a reservoir on the upper reaches of the Nagavali river as well as the Dusi project for utilizing the surplus waters of the same river now running to waste into the sea. These two schemes which were about to be sanctioned some years back would, to a great extent, wipe out the deficit in the production of rice in Vizagapatam district. Madras City can as at present be supplied from the surplus areas of East and West Godavari, Kistna and Nellore. The deficit in Salem can be met from Tanjore and by supplying Mettur water to some of the taluks on the left bank of the Cauvery river. The immediate construction of the Bhavani project would convert the Coimbatore district into a surplus area flowing with milk and honey. Sufficient supplies of rice will be available to meet the needs of Malabar which is at present the largest deficit (247,048 tons) area and the Nilgiris.

In the south the districts of Madura and Ramnad can be made self-supporting by extending the existing irrigation under the Periyar lake. If a fixed proportion of the increased yield is earmarked for Travancore, the negotiations with this state would be greatly facilitated. The Papanasam Hydro-Electric Scheme can irrigate many thousands of acres of land in Tinnevelly district.

Lastly—but not least in importance—I will deal with the Ceded Districts. It does not reflect much credit on the previous administration that after eighty or more years of management, these districts are still subject to the ravages of acute famine. Prevention is better than cure. If the money spent on famine works during these years has been diverted to protective works the lot of the people of Rayalaseema would have been a happy one. It is more than a generation since the people of Andhra Desa have been looking with eager hopes for the fruition of the great Tungabhadra Project. I trust and pray that this would not after all prove to be an empty dream. In the beginning of this century this project was said to have been designed to provide irrigation for Nellore, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Chittoor districts. At every fresh investigation the area to be benefited has been contracted. Now reports are current that Bellary and one taluk of Anantapur alone would be benefited. If this is true then this project as finally shaped would be more in the interests of Hyderabad than Madras. I hope my information is not correct. Before our Government affix their signature to the agreement with the Hyderabad State it would be desirable in the public interest to publish the main conditions for public information so as to avoid future disappointment.

MINOR PROJECTS

Hundreds of minor projects had been investigated in the Ceded Districts but have been put on the shelf on the expectation that the Tungabhadra Project would cover these areas. These works may be taken up at once. The remodelling and improvement of the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal would easily double the production of rice in these two districts. In these areas Government should not expect to make a profit on the outlay. In fact if these works are completed there would be hardly any need for famine works in future. About the year 1936 I drew up a scheme for an electric grid for these famine-stricken areas to supply power for well-irrigation and minor industries. There was also provision for afforestation and a cotton mill in this large cotton producing area. But I regret to say that succeeding governments have only tinkered with this problem so far. Of course it is not possible to do anything in this direction for the duration of the war.

There are many other ways by which the productive capacity of the province can be materially increased. At my instance the Madras Impartible Estates Act was suitably amended to enable portions of impartible estates with equal income and advantages to be exchanged for similar areas. At present the villages belonging to the majority of the permanently settled estates are intermingled. This has resulted in not only ruinous litigation as regards water rights and boundaries, but has prevented the construction of important

irrigation works. By consolidating the estates the efficiency of the administration can be improved and the cost lowered, litigation avoided and best and more economical use of our natural water resources made. I respectfully suggest to Government to straightaway appoint a small committee to tackle this subject. A beginning can be made with the estates now under the management of the Court of Wards.

Secondly, many new important productive irrigation schemes can be taken up in predominantly ryotwari taluks if Government are prepared to acquire private upper riparian rights along with the lands. The extra cost of the administration will be practically very little and the productive capacity of the areas in question can be materially increased to the lasting benefit of the country.

PRICES (CONTROL)

When I agreed to write this article for the "Madras War Review" I intended to confine myself to the main subject, but now that I consider the question of prices of foodstuffs has assumed such great importance that I feel I will be failing in my duty if I do not touch upon this aspect. Both the Central and the Local Governments are to be congratulated on the material results of the measures adopted by them for the proper distribution of foodstuffs. It is hoped that as more and more experience is gained the Governments will with the co-operation of the public be able to remove some of the existing defects and close the gaps. I am not for a moment suggesting that normal conditions are about to be restored. Two things have to be borne in mind. The existing food-supplies are not sufficient to meet 100 per cent of the needs of the people. There is acute shortage of railway wagons and this situation is likely to deteriorate as time goes on unless the Government of India succeed in importing railway rolling stock from abroad. We have to take note of the existing supplies and make the best and most equitable use of them. Some amount of inconvenience and hardship to the public cannot, I regret to say, be avoided for the duration of the war.

In the year 1940 when local officers attempted to prevent the rise of prices I was one of those who strongly opposed this move. It should not be forgotten that the agriculturists did not secure remunerative prices for their produce ever since the depression began in 1930. But now the prices have gone up over 200 per cent and the time has come when the Government should seriously consider the question of fixing primary prices. Even assuming the distribution and supply of foodstuffs to the deficient areas and urban centres would be improved and perfected, the question of prices can no longer be ignored. I am told Government are ready with a scheme for rationing of food stuffs. But may I ask what use are all these measures to the poor, the landless agricultural labourers and the middle classes with fixed incomes if they cannot afford to buy their necessaries of life. Government servants and industrial labour have been granted dearness allowance but this benefit has been wiped out by ever increasing prices. Although India still continues to be a predominantly agricultural country nearly 50 per cent of the people have to buy their food in the open market. It is not correct to say that even in the rural areas every family is in a position to grow sufficient food to meet the annual requirements.

The Government view appears to be that unless the prices of all the other requirements are also controlled it would be unfair to the agriculturists to fix the price of their produce. Now let us examine what those other necessaries of life are. They are salt, sugar, kerosene, firewood and cloth. The first four are already under control and what is the difficulty in fixing the price of cloth, why should the Government of India still permit export of cloth on private account? A population on semi-stravation diet is a danger to the State and the successful prosecution of the war and I earnestly appeal to the Government to give their immediate attention to this problem. All their super-human efforts to move foodstuffs to the deficit areas and to control the sales would be in vain if foodstuffs are not made available at prices within the reach of the general public. In England I am told the prices of foodstuffs and other necessaries of life have been kept at about 30 per cent above the pre-war level while in America they are still lower. Why cannot we adopt measures at least to prevent further rises?

This brings me to the vexed question of inflation. Economic experts whose opinions carry great weight have suggested various remedial measures. I as a layman do not propose to touch upon these highly technical matters.

But there are other remedies which strike me as worthy of a fair trial.

FAIR-PRICE DEPOTS

All industrial establishments which employed 50 or more hands should open fair-price depots selling cloth, rice, salt, sugar and kerosene. Government and private agencies might do likewise for their employees. This would obviate the necessity of giving dearness allowance and would automatically help to keep down prices. Wherever possible foodstuffs should be grown on home-farms for supplying these fair price depots. Governments in the provinces should start large manure works for supplying the agriculturists at economic prices. As we are not in a position to import rice from foreign countries, the use of Australian wheat to supplement the rice diet should be encouraged at least in the urban areas.

The present serious situation in the country as a result of uncontrolled inflation is no doubt engaging the serious attention of the Government of India, but the public are not taken into their confidence, at least as regards the broad principles.

The new rupee can no longer be called a silver rupee. The result has been that the general public have lost confidence, may be mistakenly, in our currency. That is the reason for the prices of gold, silver and precious stones soaring sky high. No doubt the present money market conditions help the Government of India in their defence loan operations, but at what cost? Government are paying two to three times the normal price for their purchases of war supplies. This is a heavy but avoidable drain on our war finance. When the prices of precious stones and metals are so much above the London and New York market quotations, Government should have immediately allowed imports on private account or themselves undertaken these operations. I understand the price of gold now is three times the London price. I think the time has come when Government should move to check this dangerous tendency.

If joint-stock companies are permitted to undertake construction of major irrigation works, it would provide an outlet for the surplus money in the country. Then again by a well thought-out scheme of land purchase in Bengal, Madras, Behar and United Provinces, many estates can be acquired on a voluntary basis and converted into ryotwari. By issuing tax-free agricultural 3 per cent bonds nearly 100 crores of our surplus monies can be easily absorbed. If these bonds are made non-negotiable they will not compete with war loans. This will be a self-supporting scheme.

In conclusion I wish to emphasize only one point, and that is, let the Government take the public into their confidence and prove to them that the best possible steps are being taken to meet the situation, and then I feel no doubt that the Indian people will patiently put up with many inconveniences and hardships for the duration.

THE DUTY OF EVERYONE

There is an immense amount of work everybody can do. We cannot all join the forces, but we can help by advising people to join the forces. We can help to get over the timidity of some of the elders who do not wish their children to join the forces by explaining to them that all young men who are healthy and who can possibly go should join the forces in greater and greater numbers because the War is by no means over. It may take a long time to be over and many more thousands of people will be wanted from this Province alone, let alone the rest of India.

Another thing we can do is to make people War-Conscious, to make them realise that these are not times of peace, and that there have got to be changes in the life of every individual. We must economise, live more simply, save as much as we can and put into the War Savings Certificates and the various War Loans. We have to forget the nice times of peace and remember only the horrible times of War. We must forget the past in every sense, forget it politically and socially, forget all the things we used to do, and concentrate on the present, keeping our eyes on the future. That is the duty of everyone.

—H. E. Sir Arthur Hope, Provincial Leader of the National War Front, in his speech on May 22, 1942, inaugurating the National War Front in Madras.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, " VICTORY HOUSE ", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1943 No. 37

As in battle so.....

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Running Commentary	3	Pattern for German Defeats	12
The Mediterranean Maginot Wall	5	Beginning of the End	13
Significance of Tunisian Victory	8	End of a Dream	13
The Entry into Tunis	10	In the Wake of the Eighth Army	14
The Key to Africa	10	British Transport at War	15
Tunisia: Hitler's Gamble	11	The Other Battle of the Atlantic	16
Tunisia on the Telephone	12	War Diary	19

Indian Troops! **Hope Club calling!!**

If you are on leave, or passing through Madras, you can stay

AT

His Excellency SIR ARTHUR HOPE CLUB

FOR

INDIAN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN

RUNDALL'S ROAD, VEPERY

MADRAS

No Rent Charged! **It's Your Club!!**

◆ ◆ ◆

Hullo, Forces! ***Madras calling!!***

DID YOU TUNE IN ON

Wednesday night (May 26th)?

HOPE YOU LIKED

"You stepped out of a Dream," "I'll see you again," "Skylark," and other songs

TUNE IN AGAIN

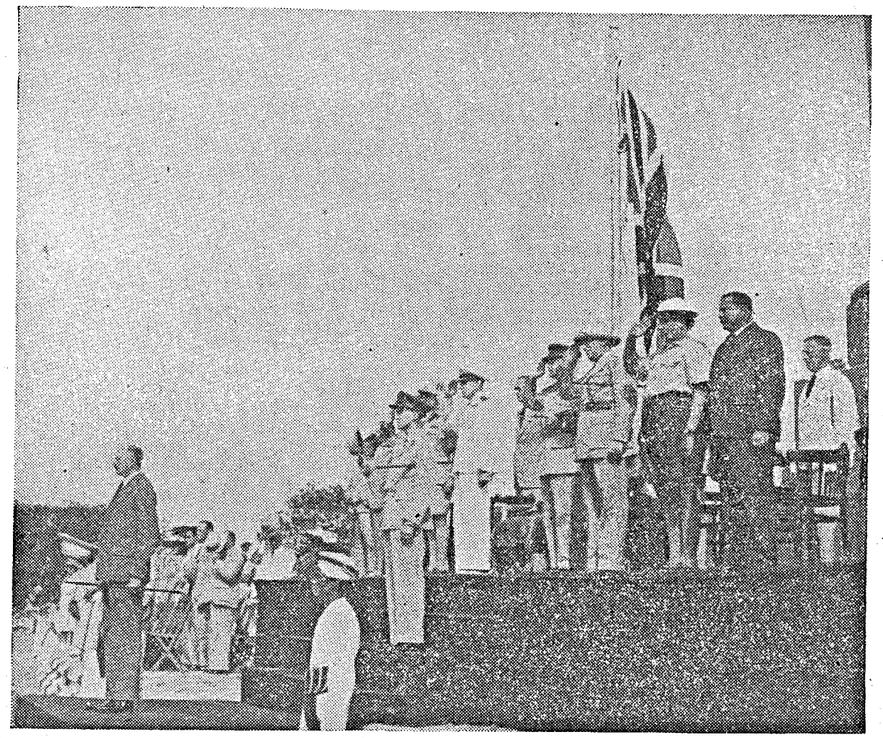
Next Wednesday at 10 p.m. and hear your own Special Programme

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1943 No. 37



TUNISIA DAY.—His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Leader of the National War Front, and others at the saluting base of the Tunisia Day march past.

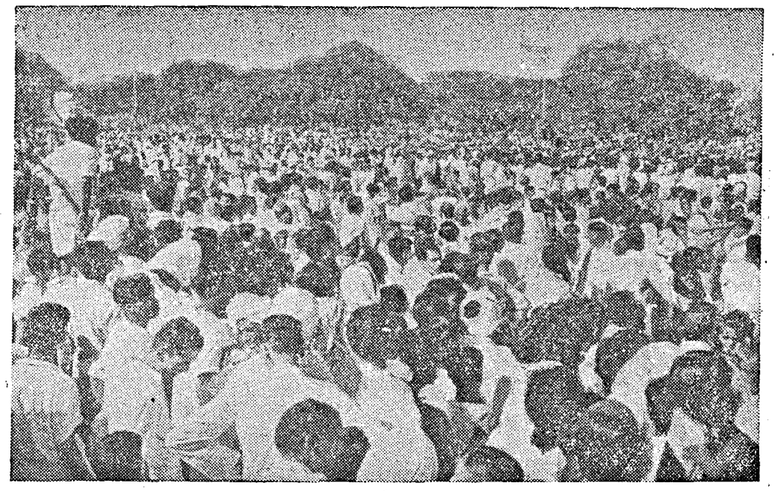
RUNNING COMMENTARY

Tunisia Day: Celebrations in Madras. Madras celebrated the magnificent Tunisian Victory and the first anniversary of the National War Front on a very grand scale on Friday last (May 21). It was a perfect day of festivity and rejoicing. In the morning "Victory Songs" were sung over the radio. At 10 a.m. there was an impressive parade of the Fighting Services, and Civil Defence, Police and workers' units at the Island Grounds before a huge concourse of people. His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, took the salute at the march past. In the evening, a huge holiday crowd witnessed an exhibition of feats of strength and weight-lifting, boxing matches, fencing, music and dancing, near the Senate House. Later a public meeting of the citizens of Madras was held in the Senate Hall. His Excellency addressing the gathering reviewed the war situation and explained the significance of the great victory in Africa, but warned the people against an attitude of complacency. His Excellency also gave a broadcast talk at 7-45 p.m. from the Madras station of the A.I.R., in which he said, "We can indeed now say that this is the end of the beginning. We have not only driven the last of the enemy from the African Continent, but have thereby greatly increased the safety of our transports in the Mediterranean." His Excellency paid a special tribute to the Fourth Indian Division which played an important part in the North African battle in general, and the Tunisian Campaign in particular, both in his public speech and in his broadcast talk. The great film *Desert Victory* was a fitting *finale* to a perfect day. It gave an idea, and a vivid idea, of the labour and sweat, blood and toil, that brought about a victory which would live in history till the end of time.

* * * * *

Tunisian Campaign: Berlin's Boast. In his usual weekly Sunday broadcast on May 16, Lord HAW HAW refers to the special communique issued on Thursday (May 13) from HITLER'S Headquarters announcing "the end of the Tunisian compaign," and says,

> "It is probably not realized by very many people what an important contribution the valiant and tenacious delaying action of the Axis troops has made . . . Time was needed in order that European defences might be rendered insuperable,



A view of the huge crowd near the Senate House on Tunisia Day.

not only in the north and west, but also in the south. That time was gained by the protection of the North African Campaign."

This is only a sample of the vociferous German propaganda that all that they attempted to do by throwing a large army in North Tunisia last November was only to gain time! They claim that they have gained six invaluable months during which they have been able to construct a "Mediterranean Wall." The German radio and the press have also been laying emphasis on the fact that a "grave emergency" would have been created if an Anglo-American invasion of Southern Europe was staged when the German winter offensive in Russia was in full swing.

This would undoubtedly have been the case, had it been possible to stage such an invasion. If ROMMEL had, for instance, evacuated the remnants of his Afrika Korps from, say, Benghazi, the Allies would still have needed a long period of preparation before they could invade Europe from North Africa. Time was also required for things to settle down in French North Africa, which was considerably affected by the two years of the Vichy regime. Another point that should be noted is that a considerable portion of the Allied troops which landed there last November required further training before they could be put to modern mechanised warfare. Therefore, it is absurd on the part of the Germans to claim that they fought the Tunisian campaign just to gain time.

The object of Hitler in prolonging the Tunisian campaign was to fortify German morale, and more particularly Italian morale, during a very critical period. But he paid a very great price. He made what was really the final phase of the overthrow of the Axis power in Africa into what became in fact the first round of the battle for West Europe. The complete defeat in this round resulted in the loss of some of the best infantry and armoured divisions of Germany and Italy. After the Tunisian campaign, the Luftwaffe was much worse off than it was ever before.

* * * * *

Shorter Mediterranean Route: Greater Mobility and Striking Power.

The great Allied victory in Tunisia has the effect of releasing Allied shipping amounting to about two million tons. It is now possible to provide continuous fighter protection for our ships all the way from Gibraltar to Port Said. The shorter Mediterranean route as compared with the long Cape route has also its strategic value, and this is bound to have its own influence on the great decisions that are being made in Washington to implement the Casablanca plans. It may also be pointed out that availability of more shipping and a far shorter route will increase the mobility and striking power of the Allies in every theatre of war. Reinforcements and supplies can now be sent to India and the Far East in greater volume and in a shorter time. Referring to this, the *Times* says:

> "It means that armies in Egypt, Syria and Persia could 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."

The fact to be noted is that the enemy does not know which are the targets that will be chosen for the Allied attack, and so he has to simultaneously defend all the vulnerable points.

* * * * *

Japan's Home Front: Criticisms of Government's War Policy.

There is in Japan an association called the "Society for the Study of Total Warfare," under whose auspices the question of home propaganda about the war was discussed recently. Representatives of certain organizations took part in the discussions, a report of which has been published in a recent issue of the Japanese Magazine called *Bungei Shung*. The opinions expressed at the meeting constitute a severe criticism of the Japanese Government's ability to conduct the war efficiently. TERADA, a member of the Society, refers to certain feelings of depression among the people. "When one remembers the universal popular enthusiasm over the Russo-Japanese War," he says, "one realises how vast a difference there is between those days and popular feeling during the last year." SHIMURA, of the Buddhist Sphere League, criticises the crudity of Japanese home propaganda, and says, "It is no use first thing every morning broadcasting gramophone records of songs like 'It does'nt matter how, but we've got to win,' or making patriotic poems, or giving generalised explanations of the war or attempting to define its nature. By doing such things one merely makes oneself ridiculous." SUZUKI, Director of the Society for Repaying Imperial Protection, points out that cold water is immediately poured on anything savouring of incitement to popular enthusiasm, and observes, "It is very disheartening . . . A great many different opinions about the war are expressed. Some tell the people that it is a war of ideas, some that it is solely a question of military strength, others that it is chiefly economic. Some say that it will last a hundred years. No doubt all of them think that by what they say they are raising the morale of the people. In reality, they are doing

(*Continued on page 7*)

The Mediterranean Maginot Wall

IN the course of a speech at his birthday celebrations at Johannesburg on Monday (May 24), Field Marshal Smuts declared that the end of the war would come with great suddenness and with irresistible impulse. "It may be sometime ahead," he said, "but it is coming. I have no doubt whatever of the issue, whether it be long or short." Dr. Benes, the Czechoslovakian President, in his address to the Chicago University on the same day, referred to the "final phase of the war" and the early happening of important events. He expected great battles on the Eastern Front and the withdrawal of the whole of the German army to the so-called "East Wall" or the Riga-Dvina-Pripet-Marshes-Dneister line. Expectations of an early termination of the war are irresistible, after the great victory gained in Tunisia against the Axis, but it all depends on how soon the Axis "Walls" are pierced and shattered—the "East Wall," "the Atlantic Wall," and the recent creation of Berlin propagandists—the "Mediterranean Wall." The momentous talks taking place in Washington between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, at which great Allied generals are present, are hammering out the general Allied strategy which is going to shatter these walls in Europe as well as the wall of islands behind which Japan thinks she is safe.

Building A Wall

IT is expected that a great new Russian offensive will develop in the near future, if the 218 Axis divisions on the Eastern Front are diminished by the "clawing tactics," from the West and the South, by the British and American forces. It is claimed by Gœbbels and his department that the time they have taken to sustain a defeat in Tunisia has been utilized for strengthening the "Mediterranean Wall. In an article published in the *New York Herald-Tribune* last month, Major George Fielding Eliot, the foremost American military commentator, has examined the question whether such a wall can be of any considerable help in warding off defeat or achieving victory. He says, "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 its weakness. It puts its faith in stones and mortar rather than in the stout hearts and strong arms of its fighting men." Major Eliot points out that the building of walls is a false military system, and quotes historical examples of how such walls were the inevitable heralds of disaster. The Great Wall of China, for instance, was built at enormous cost of men and material, but it could not stand the onslaughts of the fierce raiders of the north. Then there were the frontier walls built by the Romans in different parts of Europe, but they did not protect the Empire when the Empire became weak and rotten at the source. In recent times we have had the Maginot Line, and we know how the construction of such a line at the expense of maintaining a great army in the field brought about the military annihilation of France. The point to be noted is that a wall can be only as strong as the troops assigned to defend it, for it involves dispositions of the troops on a linear system which has the obvious defect of being pierced anywhere by a strong enemy concentration.

Inconvenient for Manœuvre

MAJOR Eliot also draws attention to the fact that the existence of a wall fixes the location of the front, while the enemy outside is left free to manœuvre and make the choice of time and place. Further, once he breaks through the wall, he cannot be engaged by the available troops which are stationed for the defence of other parts of the wall. Therefore, the counter-attack can be made only after the arrival of reserves in time. After pointing out that a defence wall is inconvenient to fight a war of manœuvre, he says: "The existence of the wall, up to the moment of bitter disillusionment, tends to lull the minds of the people into a sense of false security, and thus reduces the efforts which each puts into his or her share of the task of defending the country."

HITLER claims to have built such a wall along the Mediterranean coast facing Africa, but Major Eliot rightly points out that the defence of Europe rests upon the fighting power of the German armies in the field, the reserves which must move up to meet the Allies as they break through the outer shell of fortifications. "We can choose the time, place and direction of attack," he says, "the Germans can do no more than wait, and then conform to our move. For them success or failure is dependent, not on frontier walls, but on the strength and fighting qualities of their reserves and the adequacy of their communications. When they talk to us of the strength of their walls, they are trying to frighten us with a bogey which all history shows to be false; they are trying to reassure their own people and their allies with a new Maginot phantom which the realities of the war will sweep aside at a blow."

"Wall" Mentality and Victory

MAJOR ELIOT has referred to this question at length simply to show that the wall as a system of defence cannot work of itself. That is why he has not referred to the problems of attack, provision of shipping for transport and supply, maintenance of air superiority at proper points, nourishment of armies in devastated areas, and so on. He has not minimised the importance of these questions, but has only sought to show the unreality of a defensive wall against powerful frontal assaults.

VICTORY in war would come not by building a wall and sitting behind it in confident strength and self-complacency, but on the final result of trials of strength and strategy. This has been proved in North Africa, and it will be proved again in the case of Hitler's "Mediterranean Wall" and his other walls. This may take a long time, or as it happened in Tunisia, there may be a sudden collapse. But, as pointed out by Field Marshal Smuts, there can be no doubt of the ultimate victory of the United Nations, walls or no walls.

INDIAN BATTALION THANKS J.W.C.C.

The following letter received by the Secretary, Joint War Charities Committee, Madras, will be read with interest by our readers :—

IN THE FIELD,
29th April 1943.

Dear Mrs. Armstrong,

I must really apologise for not having written back to you in answer to your letter of 20th February.

At the time the letter was written the unit had just left Calcutta for the Operational Areas.

Two of our companies were in one train and the other two and Battalion Headquarter in the second. We had of course little idea where we were going.

The first of these two trains disgorged its occupants at a certain port where, establishing a camp, they were soon very busily employed in various jobs—carrying shells about, cutting a firebreak through the jungle, working on the docks, building a railway and so orth. They are still there, but have had the misfortune to have malaria amongst them to such an extent that as many as half of them at a time have been *hors de combat*. They are, however, quite fairly happy and have a good reputation. We will leave them there amongst their little hills and follow the two Companys and Battalion Headquarter in the other train.

These were taken a bit further by rail and then—as seems usual in the Army, put out in the pitch darkness and told to camp in an utterly strange place.

There, and thereabouts they stayed for three or four days, during which it transpired that they had been sent to the wrong destination, and should have instead, made a sea journey.

However, there they were 700 or so of them, bivouacking under the bamboos.

Orders then came that the unit was to march.

The men were not used to much marching but it had to be done. The whole of the 120 miles was covered on foot in eleven days or rather nights of marching. The sick, the old men and the boys were taken ahead in our lorries, together with the cooks and the men's bedrolls.

Last meal about six, and fall in about seven, just before dark. Men were then allowed to sleep where they were until waked again at midnight when the march started. Each march was somewhere about fifteen miles as a rule, and the new camping site was reached about dawn. There, the cooks had made hot tea for all and after finding their bedrolls the men got down to sleep again until noon when they had a full rice meal. More sleep or football or just gossip in the afternoon. At six, another meal and the rest as for the previous day.

There were very few casualties, and the long trek was finished with the men in excellent spirits and good condition.

We were a long way into the Arakan peninsula at the end, destined for road work.

The party camped in a village that had been burnt by the Japs, but the men made themselves quite comfortable, and as rations, etc., were good, there were no complaints.

We had our hundreds of men out making roads each day, and for a time, in spite of a little bombing and shelling somewhere a long way off, life was pretty peaceful. One of the companies was moved right up to where the field guns were, and worked nearer to the enemy than that.

After three weeks, during which we had been able to dig out from the baggage our orderly Room gear and my little typewriter, and make a start on the huge arrears of returns and correspondence that had accumulated during the march, I had to go sick and was away for three weeks.

A few days after I had gone, the fun started. The men were taken off road work and put on to act as porters to carry tins of Petrol, cases of food and ammunition boxes over the hills to the detached forces on the other side, the local coolies refusing to go any more on account of Japanese raiding parties in the hills.

The track, over which our men tramped day after day for several days, was so bad that mules could not use it. It ran over some of the most precipitous and dense jungle country imaginable, and it took our men six hours to get their loads the four miles to the destination. It took them 2 hours to come back empty handed.

They were fired on by the Japs at times, and a couple of men were wounded, but that did not put them off, and they went through each time with their loads. Some very fine work was done by one of our Jemadars, by a Coy Havildar Major and by a Pioneer called Babulal all of whom I have recommended for some recognition.

After this, the area was overrun by the enemy, but our men had previously got all the baggage away except for the contents of one lorry which turned turtle too late for its good to be brought away.

The men were withdrawn some little way behind the then front line, and were used to carry up ammunition to the fighting troops as well as on other work. They were often under fire, as well as bombing.

Seeing that the men are entirely unarmed, they were wonderfully steady, though tired out with constant work.

They have now been taken right out of the front line area having only occasional bombing to contend with now.

All this happened while I personally was in hospital, but I was proud and happy to find on rejoining the unit that they had earned high praise from e eryone.

Now, after a few days rest, they are their usual cheery selves, and we are just starting in to work again.

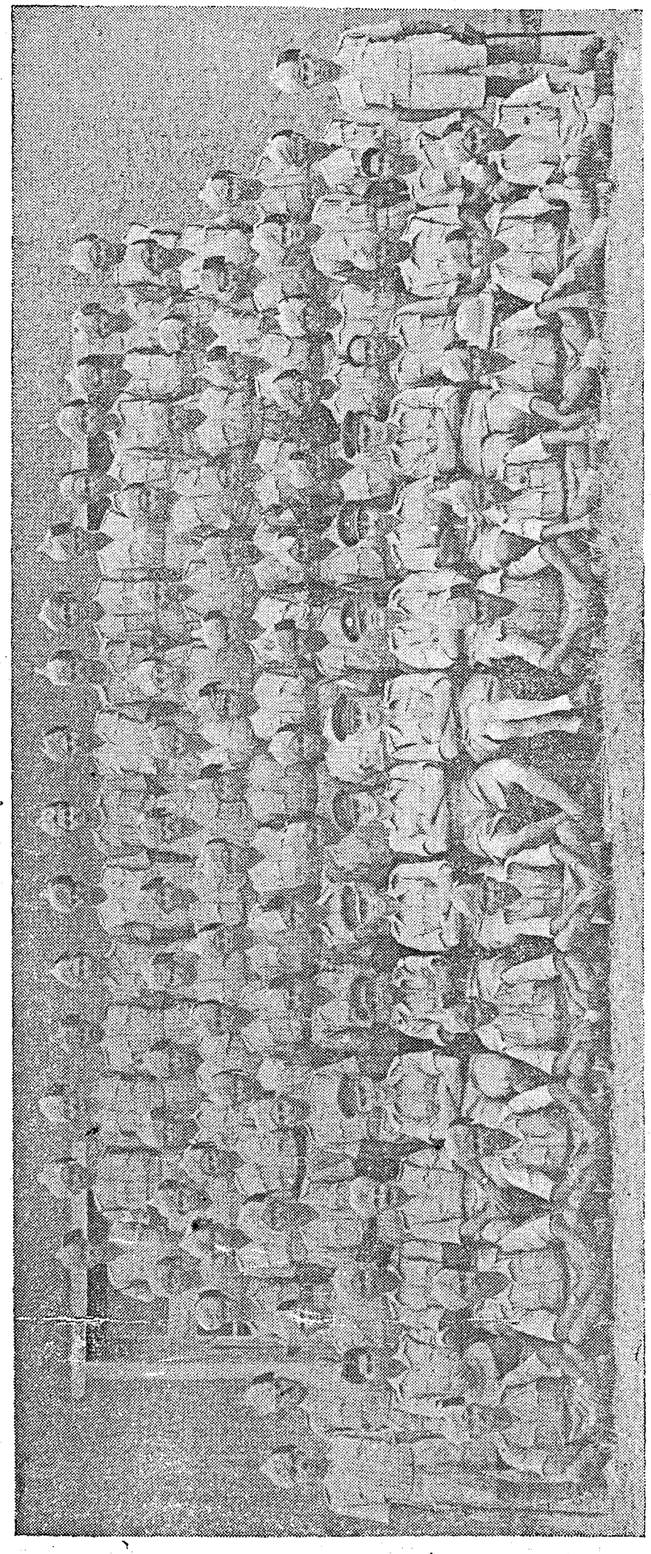
When I left for hospital, I asked my 2 in C to write to you, and left him your letter on the desk as a reminder I think he must have overlooked to do so in the rush of events, and I am not surprised.

Thank you, we have no need of further woolies at the moment. It is too hot for woolies here. If I might make a suggestion or two, it would be (1) Bottled Parry's sweets (2) Coloured (not white) handkerchiefs—the brighter the better for use round heads off duty.

I don't yet know if you have had our Battalion photo but will find out, and if it has not gone, will send it.

With kind regards.

P.R.N.—.



A photograph of the Indian Battalion referred to in the letter published on the previous page.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

(*Continued from page 4*)

just the opposite. To take the line that we must fight for a hundred years is merely another way of saying we shall be beaten."

* * * *

Production Plans: Higher Wages mean Slackness!

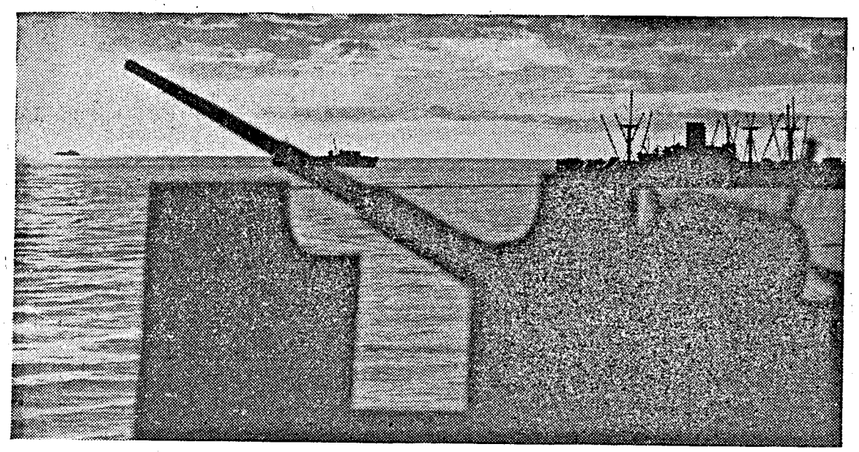
Mr. KOSONOGI, headman of the village of Sannam, north-west of Tokyo, discusses the food problem. He condemns the "mediaeval system of blockade" at present prevalent in Japan. Referring to plans for increased production, Mr. KOSONOGI says, "I regard with very great suspicion all recent plans for increasing production. Any attempt to stimulate work by material means has, on the contrary, the effect of lowering production." He thinks that it is a mistake to suppose that, by increasing wages, production can be increased, as the worker is likely to use his increased wages for pleasure-seeking. He feels that workers consider themselves a privileged class, and this, far from stimulating production, causes only slackness.

Mr. HOZUMI of the economic section of the Throne Aid Association says, "To-day a large proportion of our enemies is to be found in our own country," and these people are infected by British and American ideas to regard production as "a material question, an affair of goods and statistics," and not a "living, elastic force," depending for its full growth on psychological factors. He demands a 'renovation' in the internal life of Japan.

The most sensational contribution to the discussion was made by Mr. SHIMURA. He revealed what a friend of his who had returned from the Southern Regions had told him. That friend said,

"Everyone imagines that the reconstruction of oilfields and refineries is in the hands of experts sent from Japan. Not at all. It is entirely entrusted to the military, who have got the most rudimentary

(*Continued on page 12*)



Thanks to the Eighth Army winning back Libyan air bases, Royal Air Force fighter protection and the work of the Royal Navy; a series of convoys had been able to carry sufficient supplies to Malta to last for several months. Some of the convoys got through entirely unmolested. Photo shows striking view of Malta-bound convoy and escort at sunset.

Significance of Tunisian Victory

THE Mediterranean Sea has long been the central and vital artery of the physical system of the British Empire. While the gates of this great sea-lane, viz., the Straits of Gibraltar and Suez Canal, were in British hands or under British influence, and provided that at least one littoral was friendly, the empire's communications—from its western possessions and the Dominions of Canada, via Britain herself, to her great eastern subsidiaries, India, Burma, the China Colonies and the Australasia—could be kept open, convenient and expeditious. In peace time this factor was not merely a selfish advantage to Britain. The trade of the whole world benefited. In war-time, the strategic advantages enjoyed by any power in control of the Mediterranean has been obvious in many wars before this one. They were cfentainly not overlooked during he past ten years or so by the several European and Asiatic powers who might conceivably become open' enemies of Britain, and other lovers of freedom!

FOREBODINGS.

When in 1935(?) the Italian Government, without a "by your leave" to any one (except Germany?) moved 200,000 soldiers into Libya, there were many who blamed the British Government for too tamely accepting the explanation which followed a request to the League of Nations for enlightenment from Italy as to her motive. These critics said that only the strategic value of so uninviting a locality as Libya could be the attraction, and that with Fascism then eveywhere in the ascendant, purely strategic opportunism was justifiably suspect. There were others who bluntly asked what was wrong with a Government who could regard with apparent equanimity the formatition, by a militaristic power, of a military sphere (with great strategic roads, fortified ports, mountain strongholds and huge barbed wire barriers) on a piece of territory which geographically severed the whole system of Imperial communications.

We have suggested that the friendliness or at least neutrality of one littoral of the Mediterranean Sea was an essential to its utility as a main artery of the Empire. Now, during the ten years (1928–38) the south coast of Europe, embracing reactionary Spain, Fascist Italy, the turbulent Baikans and our quondum enemy Turkey, could hardly be counted on as either friendly, or even neutral. On the northern shores of the African continent, however, there appeared until Mussolini started his African empire in Libya—not much to fear from French Algeria, Spanish Morocco, French Tunisia, Italian Tripoli and Cyrenaica, or neutral Egypt. But those critics were undoubtedly right who considered that the Italian militarization of Libya completely spoiled the whole picture.

There was also another aspect of this North African sea-board. Should Southern Europe ever become unified under a single strategic command, and should North Africa also come under the same dispensation, the latter must form a valuable outer crust which would have to be broken through before the "soft underside" of Europe could become vulnerable.

"I TOLD YOU SO!"

In 1939 war came. Enemy submarines immediately swarmed into the Middle Sea (the Italian) islands or Sardinia, Sicily and Pantellaria and the Italian ports in Cyrenaica probably being at their disposal, though Italy was for the time being "neutral"), and started their attacks on merchant vessels. The first direct impact of the war, on India, was the realization that "the Mediterranean was closed." The whole balance of Allied naval strategy, and the system of communications radically changed for the worse, and the worst forebodings of pre-war parliamentary and diplomatic critics had proved only too well-grounded.

THE EVENT.

War had taken Britain and her ally France by surprise. The latter succumbed quickly. The former withstood the fearful impact of the German occupation of the European, Atlantic and North Sea sea-boards, and the Luftwaffe's blitz that was to pave the way for an invasion of Britain. She stood firm to rally the democratic powers against the hateful but increasingly tempting Axis ideology. But for some time she stood alone—while Germany overran country after country, whose food products and war munitions further swelled the advantages her peacetime preparations had given her, over any, or all, of her most powerful opponents.

Then fortunately Hitler made two cardinal blunders. He turned east to Paris instead of west to London; and he opened his treacherous onslaught on Russia. Nevertheless, he gained one of his most valuable obiectives, for when his initial successes encouraged his mentor-jackal Mussolini to declare war on the Allies, the Axis confederacy bound itself with strong airfields, ports and roads on the African littoral from Tripoli to Bardia; with island strongholds in the Mediterranian itself in Sardinia, Sicily and Pantellaria) and a fast and numerous fleet for actual naval surface warfare. Nor was it long before German "tourists" and "specialists" were hard at their subversive work in "neutral" French Algeria, at Casablanca and Oran and Algiers in the effort to complete their hold on the whole of Mediterranean coastline from Gibraltar to Suez; while the German armies cleared up the Italian failures in northern Greece, thrust downwards to the capture of Crete, and multiplied their airfields and submarine bases in both these islands and the Dodecanese at the eastern end. *Mare nostrum*, the Italians then called the Mediterranean, and though that braggadacio was both wrong and ephemeral, the Axis could congratulate themselves on the completion of a stranglehold on the communications of the Democracies, whether or not America or any other sympathiser joined the war against them.

THE MATERIAL FACTOR

A few rather obvious points must now be made. When nations are at war sea communications are vital, for only ships can convey troops, arms and stores in adequate quantities. Troop-carrving planes or air transports are only occasional adjuncts; they cannot take

the place of marine transport. Transport ships therefore are the immediate objective of their enemies and they can be attacked either by naval surface craft, or by submarines, or by bombing and torpedoing from the air. The point and counter-point or the affair is something thus: *A* wants to send a ship from Gibraltar to Alexandria. *B* will try to sink her before she gets there and a ship or ships of war cruise about to intercept her. *A* counters by grouping a large number of ships into a convoy and sends a protective naval force with it. *B* tries to scatter and destroy the protecting force, not only by surface attack but also by means of bombers—*if she has air fields within bombing range*. *A*'s reply is to send up fast fighter machines to ward off the bombing attack—*again, if she has airfields within fighting range.*

Note the last two phases of the process because they pertain to the advantage which the Axis gained in the Mediterranean when France collapsed and the Italo-German armies drove eastwards to Libya towards Egypt and the Canal. Henceforward, for the allies to send reinforcements to Egypt, their transports must go either via Gibraltar and the Mediterranean, a journey of some 1,700 miles, or they must send them right round by the Cape of Good Hope and up the Red Sea, a distance of 12,000 miles. The Power in control of the Mediterranean thus had an advantage of over 10,000 miles—in time, a matter perhaps of two months!

Using the short route, the Allies had only one path, viz., the Southern Mediterranean, for Italy and Sicily constituted a long, out-thrust, Axis arm from the other littoral. By the southern course, convoys would have to traverse two "narrows":—

(*a*) Between Pantellaria and Tunis, a distance of 60 miles, or (*b*) between Crete and Bardia, a distance of 250 miles.

The range of enemy bombing aircraft can be taken at at least a 1,200 miles per round trip and of fighters at least 500.

In other words, whether protected by naval vessels, with aircraft carriers accompanying them or not, our convoy must be within easy range of enemy bombers flying from any of the enemy bases just mentioned; whereas, the Allies' fighter aircraft from carriers, or from the Island of Malta, would provide the only opposition to continuous and sustained attack from enemy island bases and the enemy-held African sea-board.

Roughly speaking therefore, except for such desperate ventures as the vital reinforcement of Malta, for instance, allied transports could *not* use the Mediterranean. The Middle Sea "was closed" to us for nearly three years.

THE CHANGED PICTURE.

To restore the Empire's lifeline, to save Egypt, to protect India, to reinforce the British army in Palestine and Syria which they protect one of the main supply routes for the Russians, and to invalidate the "outer crust" of Hitlerised Europe, the re-taking of North Africa from Morocco to Alexandria positively *had* to be one of the principal objectives of the Allied High Command. And so the Desert Battle swayed backwards and forwards for nearly three years. America came into the war, but some time had to elapse before her armies could be seen in Africa. Early in 1941 (March) Rommel drove eastwards towards Egypt and the Canal, but was temporarily halted at Tobruk. The British fought him back along the coast and recaptured Bardia, but Rommel's next thrust (26th May 1942) regained both Bardia and Tobruk (fall of Tobruk, June 22nd, 1942) and took him within 60 miles of Britain's vital base at Alexandria. There Auchinleck hung him up at El Alamein (1st July 1942), so the Germans made a desert, instead of a coastwise thrust at Egypt, but failed. Then General Alexander (appointed Commander-in-Chief in place of General Auchinleck, August 19, 1942) resumed the offensive, won the great battle at El Alamein (November 5, 1942) and Halfaya, and drove mightily west and retook Sollum, Bardia, Tobruk, El Agheila (December 1942) and Tripoli (January 23, 1943). American and British troops sprang a world surprise in November 1942 by landing in Algiers and constituted a growing threat to the German rear. Rommel and Von Arnim could still receive reinforcements from Europe over their short supply lines, but with fresh Allied armies west of them, and the indefatigable and relentless Eighth Army now pressing on from El Agheila round the Bay of Sirte towards Tripoli, their position began to look grim. Fighting tenaciously they retreated on all fronts eastwards and northwards towards their last great strongholds of Bizerta and Tunis. And last Friday, the whole of India celebrated the final and complete extermination of the Axis African armies, in the Cape Bon peninsula, and the freeing of the whole continent of Africa from Axis influence.

THE NEW VISTA

The whole southern littoral of the Middle Sea is now in Allied hands. Risks there are and losses there will be, but the Mediterranean is once again open. The Empire's lifeline is restored and the "protective crust" of Hitler's Europe has disappeared. True, the bulk of the Italian fleet is still afloat; true, the Germans still hold a strongly fortified Sicily, Crete and the Dodecanese islands; but, African airfields and ports from Casablanca to Alexandria are in allied hands. Malta is safe for all time, and when allied convoys want to use the Mediterranean, there will be allied bombers and fighters from Tunisia, and bombers from Tripoli and Benghazi, to make the seas unwholesome for Mussolini's sailors, and to force the Axis troops and planes in Sicily, Sardinia and South Italy keep their heads well down. At the eastern end of the sea, Tobruk and Bardia and Alexandria can play the same role. Axis territories everywhere in southern Europe wait trembling for invasion, and Egypt and India are safe from the Hun. When General Smuts proclaimed that the main issue of the World War would be settled in Africa he was not far wrong.

—*A talk broadcast by Capt. G. T. B. Harvey from A.I.R., Madras, on May* 21.

APPRECIATION

Being unaware of their addresses, the Provincial Organizer, National War Front, acknowledges with thanks the courtesy of the signatories of the letters below:

I

MADRAS,
24th May 1943.

DEAR SIR,

I saw the grand march past at the Munroe statue on Friday last, and also the *tamasha* at the Marina. To a loyal citizen like me, both the spectacles were grand indeed. The crowds were in high spirits. Many more would have come to the maidan if the police had not stopped them at the Walaja bridge and Bodyguard grounds.

I have great pleasure in congratulating you and your officers on the success of the events. I pray that Victory may come to us soon.

(Sd.) SYED AMANULLA.

II

MADRAS,
24th May 1943.

SIR,

Most sincerely I offer my humble felicitations on the success of the celebration of Tunisia Day in the city. From the accounts in the papers of the celebration all over India, we, the citizens of Madras, can well feel proud that ours has been grandest show. May you have many more occasions to hold such celebrations! May the Allied cause prosper!

(Sd.) MAQBOOL.

The Entry into Tunis

THE Times Tunis correspondent gives the following vivid account of the Allies' entry:—

"Tunis?" the General replied, "it is just over the next ridge. I am putting tanks into it in half an hour. You had better go with them."

So we did.

After all these months of effort, the final fall of Tunis was as easy as that.

We had been chasing tanks all day, first along the Mejez-Tunis road along which transport was pouring into Tunis bumper to bumper and sometimes three deep.

In the fields on either side of the road, infantry were deploying to round up such of the enemy as our swift advance had overlooked or bypassed. At St. Cyprien, we heard that the tanks were away to the left on the hills overlooking Tunis, and it was there that, after endless wanderings over lonely farm tracks, we caught up with them.

THE FINAL CREST

We walked up to the final crest and there was the longed-for city, a bare four miles away below us. Black clouds of smoke hung over Tunis and partly veiled it, for the Germans had already fired some oil dumps and other stores, and new fires were started as we watched.

In the fields just short of the city our armoured cars could be seen working cautiously forward. A few enemy guns still fired, and one 88-mm. kept dropping shells farther along our ridge searching for the tanks assembled behind it. Its smoke was located in the farm away on the left flank, and after a few ranging shots, our mediums obliterated the farm in a smoke of salvo.

A sergeant came up and reported importantly: "Armoured cars are in and the Germans are surrendering by the hundred." A few minutes later, we were in motion and tank after tank was grinding over the crest and down into the valley. After them came a long train of guns and lorried infantry, and our desperately excited driver nosed his way into a stream and carried us down with it. One had vague expectations of a storm of shell fire descending on this huge cavalcade advancing in plain view of the defenders of Tunis but nothing happened.

A CLEAR WAY.

Guns and lorries turned out at intervals from the column and took up their places ready to support the advance of tanks. The tanks themselves left the track and advanced parallel to it in the fields. Our car found the way clear and was able to press on faster.

Soon the track began to take on a semblance of a road, and the tanks returned to it in front, before and behind us. Cactus hedges appeared and then Arab houses. The Arabs lined on the road side, saluting gravely. Most of them were young and many mere boys, a few older men looked on without greeting or expression. Then we turned to the corner, and suddenly we were on the metalled road between houses and groups of wildly excited French people who were shouting and clapping and making 'V' signs to us. We were in Tunis.

WITH THEIR HANDS UP

After another half a mile, the procession of tanks came to a halt and we got out of the car to see what was happening. As we watched, we suddenly saw a crowd approaching along the side of the road. As it came nearer, we saw that it was a group of 50 Germans with their hands up. It was led by a middle-aged French civilian in shirt sleeves brandishing a formidable revolver and its flanks were guarded by youths and boys variously armed with German tommy-guns and French sporting-guns. They were students who had managed to steal or conceal arms and had now rounded up this party of Germans whom they knew to be hiding in a certain house. Eagerly they told the tank crews where other groups of Germans were concealed.

As they chattered, another much larger party of prisoners, perhaps 300, appeared under a British escort. They had been rounded up by one tank and two armoured cars and had surrendered after hardly any resistance.

The Key to Africa

By HENRY D. DAVRAY

THE British and American troops in Tunisia find the country greatly different from that which the French zouaves and spahis—foot and horse—first entered in 1880. They had crossed the Algerian border to put an end to the forays of the Kroumir tribes then overrunning their neighbours. The Bey of Tunis was utterly unable to impose his authority on the highland chieftains; he had borrowed money from France, Britain and Italy, and was no more in a position to pay the interest than to refund the loans, his whole country being in a state of anarchy.

The chief of the French Government was then the famous statesman, Jules Ferry. He deemed the time ripe to put the Bey's house in order, the incessant raids of the Kroumirs providing a pretext. After a short campaign, the Berber tribes submitted and a treaty was signed with the Bey, who accepted the French Protectorate, but remained the "Sovereign and Owner" of the "Regency of Tunis."

The first Resident-General was M. Paul Cambon, who was to become later Ambassador of the French Republic to the Court of St. James's and remain in London for twenty-two years, playing an important part in effecting the Entente Cordiale. M. Cambon entirely reorganized the Bey's administration, over which he superimposed French officials. The working of the reorganized Treasury was so efficient, and the prosperity of the country developed so rapidly, that within a few years the Resident-General could refund the foreign loans, beginning with the Italians in order to allay their blatant requests. Henceforward, the budget was balanced and remained so even during the four years of the First Great War.

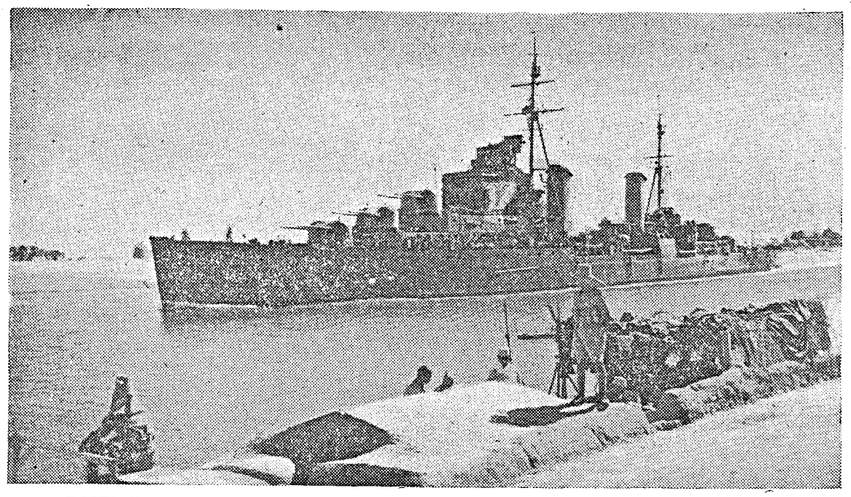
The Regency being a Protectorate, with the Bey as its own "Sovereign and Owner," the electorate has never sent representatives to the Paris Parliament—unlike Algeria, which is administratively incorporated into France and depends on the Ministry of the Interior. In Tunis, the Resident-General and his French staff are appointed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Although agriculture is highly developed in French North Africa, there is practically no heavy industry in spite of the fact that the subsoil is rich in many deposits. Iron, for instance, is to be found all along the mountainous chain that runs from the Atlantic to Bizerta, and specially in Algiers. But those Algerian deposits are not exploited, although enough iron ore could be extracted for melting steel and casting guns and shells for a one hundred years' war or for the more desirable implements of peace. All this mineral wealth remains unused. Why? Because the concessions were granted to companies formed by the same people who own the rich mines of Lorraine and, anxious to avoid competition, they were clever enough to exclude from their agreement a clause compelling them to work their mines.

In Tunisia, however, M. Cambon was not caught napping, and when deposits were discovered in the Regency he imposed on the concessionaires the same "articles and conditions" as have to be accepted in Australia. So the phosphate and iron mines in Tunis have been properly worked. Needless to say, there was no fear that the zinc and manganese deposits would remain unexploited. As it is, the immense phoshate deposits of Metlaoui and of Redeyef yield annually about twenty million tons which are carried by two railway lines to the ports of Sfax and Sousse, where there is modern equipment for loading, surpassed only by Casablanca for the Kourighat phosphates of Morocco.

In the valleys of north Tunisia, between the well-wooded slopes of the hills and mountains, there are very fertile wheat land and vineyards; the plains of the south, which were bare desert sixty years ago, are now covered by immense plantations of olive trees that expand fan-like specially around Sousse and Sfax. They number more than 18 millions. One gets an idea of the increase of value of the desert when one knows that an acre of bare land can be secured for five francs, and, fifteen years after, when the trees bear an average crop, the land changes hands for 400 francs.

The population of Tunisia is prosperous. There are two million Moslems, Arbs and Berbers, mostly attached to the soil that provides them with ample resources. The Jews number 52,000, in the towns mostly, and the majority has acquired French nationality. Europeans, chiefly French and Italians, including a good many



A BRITISH CRUISER PASSES THROUGH SUEZ.—The British light cruiser "Euryalus" *passing on Egyptian Army mine-spotting post on the Suez Canal en route to join up with the Eastern Mediterranean Fleet at Port Said.*

Maltese, number 200,000; and, whatever Fascist propaganda may say, the majority of these are French. The Italian colony is composed largely of a rabble of street-porters, dockhands, and unskilled labourers who live in conditions inferior even to the poorest natives. It is certainly not to them that the economic development and the increase of land values in Tunisia are due.

When the French troops invaded Tunis in 1880 there were neither roads nor railways, only tracks and trails. The only metalled road they found was four miles long and connected the Bey's Bardo Palace with the capital; it had been finished only the year before. The Bey Mohammed-es-Sadock had visited the Paris Exhibition in 1878, where he bought a gorgeous horse-carriage. When he took delivery of it, there was nowhere to drive it; so, he had a road made for the purpose. Now a network of over 2,000 miles of metalled roads connects the various towns and regions of the Regency and over sixteen hundred miles of broad gauge railway have been built, linking up with the Algerian system and farther on with the Moroccan railways so that it is now possible to travel by rail all the way from Gabes to Marrakesh.

At first, commercial exchange had to be carried by sea, and there were no ports. The French dug a deep canal through the Tunis lagoon giving access to ships of big tonnage to the quays of La Goulette. The eastern coast is formed of bottom reefs to a distance of several miles out to sea, making navigation in territorial waters often impossible and always difficult and dangerous: however, two clear passages allow access to the ports of Sousse and Sfax, which are among the best-equipped in the world. As for Bizerta, it is the finest harbour of North Africa, and one of the best sheltered. It is a very strong naval base, and is also well equipped as a commercial port.

After Rome destroyed Carthage the province of Africa thrived under the "Pax Romana," and it has since known many invasions: the Vandals devastated it, several successive hordes of Arabs swarmed over it with fire and sword, the French king Saint Louis died besieging Tunis in 1270, and then the Turks conquered it. Now for more than half a century the Regency has thrived under the "Pax Gallica." It is grateful that the Nazis, those modern Vandals, are being expelled before they could bring devastation to this fair land.

Condensed from the *War Illustrated*.

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 regime 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.

Tunisia on the Telephone

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

BRITAIN'S Royal Signals are beating the Luftwaffe with millions of *miles of wire. The Air Formation* Signals never falter. As the world thrills to news from *Tunisia, Britain's Royal Signals*, working as men have never worked before, keep intact vital lines of communications.

Only now are secrets being revealed of the great part played by 'Signals' in the defeat of the Luftwaffe during the historic advance from El Alamein to Tunis. An advanced landing ground, for example, would be prepared perhaps in the heart of the desert miles from anywhere for Britain's mobile air striking force. Within an hour the commander would lift his telephone and receive orders from Headquarters and transmit them to the squadrons, thanks to the Royal Signals.

ALL THE WAY FROM EGYPT

To accomplish that co-ordination, the Royal Signals had snaked miles of wire over the barren desert providing essential links between squadrons' commanders and Headquarters. When the war was static, their work was simple and quiet, rarely noticed by the Allied air forces, but now when a move takes place, jolting over hundreds of miles of territory, travelling with the air forces are lorries and trucks bearing the insignia of an aircraft silhouetted in black on white and blue ground: Air Formation Signals Units, Royal Signals.

Air Formation Signals do for the air arm what the Royal Signals did—and do—for infantry and armoured divisions of the Eighth Army all the way from Egypt to Tunisia. They are among the first to reach and the last to leave in leap frogging airfields. Their mobility is as great and their co-ordination as close as that of the advanced air striking force and they are as important to the war effort as petrol stores and ammunition.

MILLIONS OF MILES OF WIRE.

At El Alamein, as the army and the air forces gathered strength to launch the attack that was to bring victory, the A.F.S. were also prepared; now they have travelled more than 2,000 miles with the army and the air forces of which every inch has been 'red.' They have laid millions of miles of wire to keep communications open in spite of enemy attack from air and from batteries of guns.

During the last three months forward fighters maintaining, their ceaseless pressure on the enemy's ground forces, have operated within range of the enemy's artillery. With them have the Air Formation Signals. They have been as much a part of the army and the air striking forces of Montgomery and Coningham as tanks, guns and aircraft. These men are specialists in air force needs and provide all communications, other than radio, from units in the field to the Headquarters. They establish signal offices, build lines, install staff, maintain teleprinters and telephone and switch-boards and provide despatch rider letter services and special despatch rider services.

To meet the expansion of air forces, they themselves have expanded and now number many thousands. They are essential to the efficient control of air operations.

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.

RUNNING COMMENTARY—(*Continued from page* 7)

technical knowledge. Not the ghost of a technician has ever arrived. The same holds good of our efforts to raise sunken ships. Only the military are on the job. It may occasionally happen by accident that a technician or two comes along; in which case he invariably finds that the ropes that are being used are not long enough, the cranes are not strong enough, and so on. Consequently the sunken ships remain at the bottom of the sea. From things like this, it is fairly clear where the real problem of increased production lies."

* * * *

Defeatist Talks: Straws in the Wind.

The most outspoken and direct of all was Mr. HOZUMI who said, "Both in our ideas and in our conversation, there are in Japan to-day still remnants of defeatism; that is quite clear. These defeatists, seeing that in the war we still have considerable difficulties, military and economic, to contend with, are continually considering on what conditions, and at what moment, we could come to terms with the enemy. This defeatist talk of coming to terms must certainly be suppressed; and if it originates with the leaders of the Government, then for us who take our spiritual stand on the Imperial Declaration, there is nothing for it but mercilessly to contend with these leaders." Though these views are definite, we must guard ourselves against any categorical inference about serious fissures in Japan's internal policy merely from the fact of such opinions. But these published in the Japanese magazine article do throw some considerable light on Japan's home front. It is possible that the "Society for the Study of Total Warfare," under whose auspices these discussions have taken place, is only a discreet camouflage under which remnants of the old political parties still live. And these revelations can be taken as straws in the wind.

Beginning of the End

THE Allied victory in Tunisia has profoundly impressed the world. In Germany there has been a return to sombreness of the so-called Stalingrad mood.

The original Afrika Korps was as martial and expert a body of soldiers as the German army ever had; it was given the task which held the key to world conquest; in Rommel it had a legendary leader. The task has ended in catastrope. The Korps is to-day in dissolution. The leader is in eclipse. It was only in December that the Germans were being comfortingly told: "The world importance of Tunisia to-day is greater than ever—and Tunisia is in our hands." They may have forgotten the boast—there have been many to forget—but the impression of the value which the High Command put on Tunisia will not have been easily erased.

It will be surprising if Tunisia does not weaken the German people's confidence in the Army's capacity to avert defeat.

FED ON FANCY AND FRAUD BY FASCISTS.

In Italy the effect is likely to hasten still more the process of disillusionment which had already gone far. Since June 1942, Italy has been fed on fancy and fraud by her Fascists. The news from Tunisia where so many of her best troops have been sacrificed has its plain meaning: the dream of *Mare Nostrum* has ended.

Hardly less decisive is the impression that it will make on such countries as remain outside the war. In the Mediterranean area victory will be nowhere more heartily acclaimed nor its implications more closely assessed than in Turkey whose statesmen and people have shown steady faith and friendship in the darkest days. In the oppressed lands where hope often has been disappointed but faith has never faltered, Tunisia will be accepted as a sure herald of greater victory and deliverance.

France in an especial sense rejoices. It was on the day of Joan of Arc that French Tunis and French Bizerta were restored and the soldiers of France played a gallant part in breaking enemy resistance.

DAYS OF BRIGHT PROMISE

For this country and the Commonwealth, these days of achievement are also days of bright promise. It was three years ago that the enemy launched his triumphant assault on the Low Countries—an assault which ended in the capitulation of the French and in Dunkirk for us. The debt of Dunkirk is being repaid. In no spirit of arrogance but with "an humble and a contrite heart" do the King and the people recall Dunkirk.

The decision then taken was an act of faith and Tunisia is its abundant justification. From being militarily alone and sustained only by hopes of the free everywhere, Britain and the Commonwealth now march with their allies, whose own strength combined with that of Britain and the Commonwealth is a guarantee that the final victory is certain.

The confident ring of messages which Marshal Stalin, speaking for a people who have borne much and achieved greatly, has sent to President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill is unmistakable. General Smuts, recalling Mr. Churchill's description of El Alamein as the "end of the beginning" speaks of Tunis and Bizerta as marking "the beginning of the end." The resources of the United States, Russia and the British Commonwealth have now been mobilized and marshalled into a force which must prevail over the enemy.

—*The Times.*

End of a Dream

THREE years ago, Hitler fell on the Low Countries en route to his rapid conquest of Western Europe. In his order of the day heralding that catastrophic event, he said: "The fight which begins to-day will decide the destiny of the German people for a thousand years."

The Allied victory of Tunisia marks the end of his bombastic dream. General Alexander's blitzkrieg, though on a smaller scale, has as deep a significance as the German blitzkrieg of 1940. In a purely military sense, it is an achievement which Axis spokesmen seek in vain to explain away to a sceptical world.

Not only has the enemy generalship been outwitted, not only has inter-Allied co-operation among all arms been of a high order of technical efficiency, but the assembling in the battle zone of a vast concentration of armed forces across many hundreds of miles—frequently thousands of miles—of dangerous sea is an impressive demonstration of Allied might.

That the actual loss of some 200,000 picked men with all their armament will be a serious enough loss to Germany's military prestige is obvious. Of much greater moment are the strategic consequences. The effect on the general shipping position will be seen and felt almost at once.

—*The News Chronicle.*

A Round Total, or Global Raspberry.

I said 1921–24

Our fathers fought in trench and shattered wood
That all the world might evermore have peace
And temples stand where fort and bastion stood
And tyrants in decay their bragging cease.
I thought that all was well and all was new.
They said 'Sez you.'

Thou saidst 1925–28

(Great prophet of an unborn nobler age,
That sawest from the mud arise the tree)
Too long has man been plaything of the rage
Of foolish devils, greedier than the sea;
Now we shall bid the bad old ways Adieu.
They said 'Sez you.'

He said 1929–32

Our nation has a mission to expand;
We tread the lesser breeds beneath our heel.
Hail me divine and raise an answering hand
To grasp the bomb and rain down showers of steel.
We will throughout the world erase the Jew.
They said 'Sez you.'

We said 1933–36

The troubles of tempestuous years enough
Have made umbrella dear and dear fireside.
Dictators rave but we will call the bluff
And they will surely run away and hide:
They talk space but little can they do.
They said 'Sez you.'

You said 1937–40

Beware! The hastening time brooks no delay;
Your ploughshares beat to swords, your wings gird on.
Now is the fœ upon you, bent to slay.
(And as you spurred us, so the day was won.)
But owing all, so many to so few.
We said 'Sez you.'

They said 1940–?

We are the Master-Folk; we will disrobe
The shrinking earth with iron-sheathed paws;
We will despoil and ravish all the globe,
Brutality and lust our only laws.
For God has made us great and sweet and true.
We said 'Sez you.'

—*R.G.*

In the Wake of the Eighth Army

By J. B. PRIESTLEY

THE Battle of Egypt was a beautiful job. There was nothing haphazard and lucky about it. The campaign was exquisitely planned, timed, and executed. When those two formidable men, Generals Alexander and Montgomery, arrived in Egypt, Rommel was doomed. On October the third Rommel was in Berlin, which was busy creating a kind of Teutonic myth of invincibility around him; and the Field-Marshal, who appears to have taken to this dangerous adulation as a cat takes to cream, loudly boasted to the Berliners and to the world in these terms: "We hold the gateway of Egypt with the full intention to act. We did not go there with any intention of being flung back sooner or later. You may rely on our holding fast to what we have got."

Exactly a month later he and his army were in full retreat, and he lost seventy-five thousand men, over five hundred tanks, and a thousand guns. He was completely out-generalled and out-fought. I have no need to go into details in describing this Battle of Egypt because you have probably read them before.

But there are one or two points I would like to make about it. The two armies faced each other along a forty-mile front from El Alamein, a front that could not be widened because it had the sea at one end of it and the great Quattara Depression at the other. So there could not be any outflanking movements, which up to that time had been the favourite manœuvre in this desert warfare. If the Eighth Army attacked, it had to attack head-on.

THE TRAP IN THE CENTRE

Rommel knew it was preparing to attack him. But he thought it would attack him in the central section, which he'd baited like a trap, keeping his powerful armoured forces at each side of the trap ready to pinch off our armour if it got through. But the Eighth Army refused this trap. It attacked in the north, against the very strongest part of the line. And not only that: it made the attack in quite an unexpected fashion, breaking all the new rules. Instead of following the German fashion of attacking with the armour first and the infantry afterwards, Alexander and Montgomery neatly reversed the process. They returned, in fact, with some necessary variations, to the methods of the last war, and I must say that as an old and very undistinguished soldier of that war my heart warmed when I heard and read what they were up to.

On that northern sector, along a front of six miles, the Eighth Army had a gun every twenty-three yards, and on the night of October 23 all those guns suddenly opened up and blasted Rommel's defences. Then the infantry—bless their hearts—went forward, clean through Rommel's advanced minefields; went on widening and deepening this first salient, while the Axis air force was driven out of the skies, bombed and destroyed on the ground, and all the lines of communication were plastered.

And now the Eighth Army sappers, who deserve a special medal, followed the infantry, clearing the minefields—a very delicate and dangerous job. This had to be done to make a safe gap for the armour to go through. Our Tenth Corps, a heavily armoured corps, had been encamped for training well behind the battle front. Apparently it was still there while the battle was raging. But what Rommel's observers actually saw was a dummy camp, and the Tenth Corps had been stealthily moved up the line. The gap was cleared, and then the Tenth Corps went through like a thunderbolt. The Axis army was split in two. All those south of the break-through were doomed, for all their lines of supply had been cut. Those in the north could only retreat at full speed along the coast road and railway, and so began one of the longest chases in military history.

And now the tough, grim Eighth Army, having performed miracles of supply organization, has rolled through all Libya, Cyrenaica and Tripolitania, mopping up the last vestiges of Mussolini's empire.

Whatever this Eighth Army does, it seems to do solidly and well. Take, for example, its occupation of Tripolitania, which was to Italy what Algeria was to France—its most favoured overseas possession. Now, almost as soon as the Eighth Army entered Tripolitania a British military government was set up to administer the territory until the end of the war or such time as decisions are taken about the future of the Italian Empire. We had learned something from our experience in Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. So certain were our military leaders that Tripolitania would soon be captured that more than eighty officers of the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration were already trained to take over Tripolitania, and these officers went with Brigadier Lush, the Deputy Chief Political Officer, into Tripoli. Actually, Brigadier Lush, who administers the province under the orders of the Army Commander, was at General Montgomery's side when he received the formal surrender of Tripoli from the Italian officials. All our officers of the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration had been specially trained in the geography and history of Tripolitania, its system of government, its agricultural and mineral resources, and so forth: they knew exactly what they were taking over. The result was that the change-over to British military administration took place smoothly and rapidly, without a hitch. The same cool organizing skill had gone into this job that had gone before into the job of chasing Rommel across Africa.

THEY'RE HARD MEN.

There's no nonsense about this Eighth Army, as the German General Staff would be the first to admit. "I was told," said the captured commander of the Afrika Korps, General von Thoma, to General Montgomery, "that you are a hard man." And he was told right. There are some hard men in the Eighth Army, from the shrewd calculating general officers down to the desert-toughened veteran infantrymen and sappers. We are an easy-going people, we British, and most of us only want to mess about at home and not interfere with anybody; and even after years of having charges of degeneracy and decadence and other insults screamed at us by neurotic Germans and strutting Italians, all kinds of cheap gangsters in peacock uniforms, we didn't mind very much and still took it easy. But anybody who finally drags us away from home, compels us to organize and toughen ourselves, will regret it sooner or later. The very Germans and Italians who before this war were loudest in their sneers at our degenerate democracy are now even going the length of holding up the British people as an example to their own people.

But let us return to the Eighth Army and Tripolitania. We are told that the basic note of our administration there will be to carry on the civil life of the country in so far as it does not clash with military needs. Towards the estimated 40,000 Italians remaining out of the pre-war population of about 90,000, the British administration will adopt a firm but just attitude. Lists of 'war crimes,' such as sabotage, the destruction of communications, and so forth, have been posted up, and these offences will be tried by British military courts. And there are military guards on all the public utilities in the various centres. Fascist leaders and prominent members of the Fascist party have been interned. Fascist clubs, cultural centres, and similar institutions have been closed. The display of Fascist emblems and flags is forbidden, as well as the wearing of Fascist uniforms. Fascist funds in banks will be permanently frozen and those in private hands taken into safe custody. Otherwise, life in Tripolitania will be allowed to go on much as in normal times.

FASCISM BEING DESTROYED

These administrative moves seem to me just as efficient and sensible as the Eighth Army's campaign against Rommel. They have, indeed, something of the same decisive and clear-sighted quality. What we are destroying in Tripolitania is not the Italian national life there, for we have nothing against the Italian national life and character, and, indeed, rather like them. No, what is being destroyed, root and branch, in Tripolitania is Fascism. And quite right, too. The Eighth Army, like all our armed forces, exists to fight Fascism—to hit it hard, to break it into little pieces, and then to blow it out of this world.

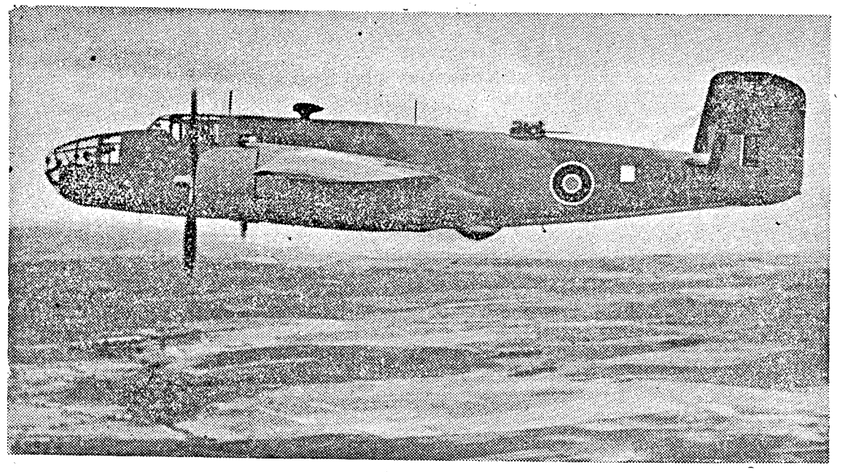
We don't want to persecute the Italians because they are Italians. There's nothing wrong with them just because they are Italians. But we won't have their Fascism. Sooner or later—and I for one don't give them very long—the Duce and all his black-shirted and black-hearted gang will have to go. We patiently endured their swaggering nonsense and intrigues and treachery for years, but now they and all their system are headed for the ashcan. And I am certain that the ordinary decent fellow of our democracies, who may be rolling on with the Eighth Army or helping to make the tanks and planes and guns it uses, takes this clear and sensible line. He isn't fighting against nations as nations; isn't fighting for one coloured flag against another. He's fighting Fascism and is ready to fight it anywhere and everywhere, whether it wears black shirts or brown shirts or no shirt at all.

For wherever it exists, Fascism talks the same stuff, makes the same gestures, and is up to the same old tricks, if only because the people who create it belong to the same psychological types. They are all unscrupulous power-seekers ready to hoodwink and then bully the people, contemptuous of the common decent man. That is why I believe that wherever Fascism shows its wicked long nose we should hit that nose and hit it hard. So far as Fascists are concerned, no matter under what disguise they may appear or how smoothly they may talk, I believe we ought to be very tough and hard. They're rats, and always will be rats. We want to have done with them once and for all, in every part of the world. As soon as people begin talking this poisonous Fascist stuff we ought to tell them to shut up or take the consequences, and show their audiences a few films of the Nazis dying like flies in the snow outside Stalingrad or the masses of betrayed and abandoned Italian soldiers streaming in from the desert to surrender to the Eighth Army.

OUR TASK

It's about time we announced at the tops of our voices that having long lost our patience we propose in the immediate future to blow all that remains of Fascism, in every form, clean off the face of the earth. I don't mean we should start swaggering. We can leave the swaggering to the Fascists, who have spent years at it, though we haven't noticed much of it coming from them lately. But we should make it absolutely clear to the whole world, beyond any possible shadow of doubt, that we have said good-bye to our easy-going life, have poured into recruiting offices and camps and war factories, have armed and toughened ourselves, have sweated and toiled and, here at least, stood up to the worst Goering could devise; not for the fun of it, but to fight Fascism, to rip the silly shirt off its back, to throw its uniforms and emblems of treachery and murder into the nearest furnace, to silence its bullying and lying speeches for ever, to release all decent ordinary folk from its octopus clutch. That's our task, and we should tackle it in the same spirit and with the same grim purpose as the Eighth Army.

—*From a B.B.C. talk.*



NORTH AMERICAN MITCHELL *RECONNAISSANCE BOMBERS HAVE GIVEN EXCELLENT SERVICES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.—This famous machine which bombed Tokyo is called the B-25 by the United States Army. It carries a crew of five, is well armed, has a maximum speed of around* 280 m.p.h. *and carries a bomb load of some* 2,000 *lb. Photo showsa side view of the* Mitchell.

British Transport at War

By THE RT. HON. LORD LEATHERS, *C.H., Minister of War Transport*

THE other day I was telling an American friend about the heavy demands that war had made on our transport system, how those demands had been met, and how we were planning to meet the extra demands that were still coming in. He said it looked as if we had learnt to put a quart into a pint pot.

Unfortunately we have not discovered that secret any more than we have found the secret of perpetual motion. The capacity of our transport system, like that of a pot, has its limits, and if the flow of arms and men fills the transport pot to the brim all we can do is either to increase the size of pot or to cut down passenger services, to pack buses and trains more tightly and to carry only those things which *must* be carried. And, broadly speaking, we are doing both these things.

Perhaps some of you knew this country before the war. If so, you may recall the many tempting invitations to travel—sightseeing tours, luxury cruises, cheap trips to the seaside, and the Continental boat train with its long row of Pullman cars. You may even concede that Britain in those days had the most frequent passenger services in the world.

I don't think that would be true to-day, for passenger train services have been cut by thirty per cent, and the special streamlined engines, which used to haul express passenger trains at average speeds of seventy miles an hour from start to finish, are now often to be found pulling trainloads of tanks and guns, coal and minerals.

Nor would you find any inducement to travel. Quite the contrary. Instead of the holiday poster advertising the attractions of this historic city or the bracing air of that seaside town, you would be confronted everywhere with the challenging question printed in bold letters: "Is your journey really necessary?"

TWO-THIRDS OF THE PASSENGERS ARE TROOPS

In these circumstances you can imagine what travel conditions are like. If you came over here you would find that two-thirds of the passengers on long-distance trains were troops in uniform. You would be unable to book a seat. You would be wise to turn up at the station half-an-hour before the train was due to go. This is because our long-distance trains to-day are carrying twice as many passengers as before the war. Moreover, you would have to take your own sandwiches with you because of the seven hundred restaurant and buffet cars that were running pre-war all but seventy have been taken off. So, too, have many of the sleeping-cars. All this has been done so that each train can carry the maximum number of passengers.

At night all the windows of the trains are blacked-out, the coach and station lights are dim. Even by day the trains are not immune from enemy attack; particularly near the South or East coast a sneak raider may come out of the clouds and machine-gun the locomotive and passenger coaches.

Here let me say a word about our locomotive crews. Since the air raids on this country began, scores of passenger and freight trains have been machine-gunned while travelling at speed. In many instances, the driver or fireman has been hit—sometimes fatally. It is, therefore,

a remarkable fact—and one which I am proud to put on record—that in no instance has an attack of this sort resulted in an accident to the train. No matter how persistent the enemy has been, the loco crews have never allowed their attention to waver from their primary duty of getting their trains through safely, and even when badly wounded they have always retained their presence of mind and sufficient strength to apply the regulator and bring the train to a stop.

One of our passenger trains has been machine-gunned with such regularity on Saturday afternoons that we suspect the enemy lies in wait for it. But it is still running and still carrying a full complement of passengers.

NOT ONE EXTRA TRAIN FOR HOLIDAYMAKERS

Christmas has come and gone. It is a time when, as at Easter, Whitsun and on August Bank Holiday, we normally try to join our families and that usually means travelling. In peace, very many extra passenger trains are run at these holiday times; in war, not one extra train is put on and people stay where they are. Everyone understands it and accepts it. Extra passenger trains would interfere with the movement of essential freight.

On the roads you would find similar conditions except that, in order to save rubber and petrol, we have diverted much road passenger traffic to the railways—in fact, a thousand extra workers' trains are now running every day. We have taken off the roads most of our long-distance coaches and transferred them to local services taking people to and from their places of work or to provide 'feeders' for the railways. In every town in the morning and evening people queue up for buses.

At the beginning of this winter I had to warn the travelling public to prepare for yet sterner meaures. The winter is our testing time. Apart from weather conditions there is a general slowing down of traffic owing to the blackout. That is particularly true in the railway marshalling yards where men, sorting wagons in the dark, can only work at about two-thirds of their ordinary speed.

I told the public just how we stood. I had to provide at least two hundred additional freight trains a day to meet our expanding production programme. I had to find locomotives and rollingstock for the American troops then beginning to arrive in large numbers in this country—and incidentally I am glad to tell you that the first American main line locomotives are now beginning to arrive, and very welcome they are I had to save petrol and rubber. That is why fewer buses are available during the winter.

NO BUSES AFTER NINE AT NIGHT

In imposing these new restrictions I knew—and the public knew—that they were bound to bear hardly on old-established habits. In normal times we move about a good deal in this country. We depend on frequent visits to neighbouring towns for our shopping, for our amusements, and for visits to friends and relations. Our habits were largely based on cheap travelling facilities, which I have had to withdraw, and on a plentiful supply of buses which are now withdrawn altogether at nine o'clock at night in most towns. To-day we are becoming more localized, but we are settling down, working harder and travelling less.

In another way, too, the need to save transport for the war effort has affected our daily live. Shop delivery services have been drastically cut down, and by carrying her shopping home the British housewife has helped us to save ten million gallons of petrol a year as well as a good deal of man-power. Moreover, if she lives in London she can no longer expect to buy biscuits made in Scotland or cocoa made in the North Country. To save transport, markets are supplied from the nearest factory or the nearest port, and this, you can imagine, has changed many household habits.

And, finally, I come to the place where all our transport problems start—the sea. Because we are a small island, with more than 40,000,000 mouths to feed, we have grown to depend for our life and our ways of life on what the sea brings and on what it takes away. In peace, our merchant ships bring us sixty per cent of the food we consume. In war, by growing more and importing less, the position has been rougly reversed. We have had to reserve shipping space for all the instruments of war. We carry dried fruit instead of fresh fruit to save the weight of water; we carry orange juice instead of the oranges so as to pack as much vitamin C as possible into each ship; we cut everything to the bone, except beef, where it is the bone that gets left behind.

I must say a word about our transport workers. It is not generally realised that a high proportion of the two million or so people working in transport are over fighting age. The railways, for instance, have sent over 100,000 men to the Forces and have replaced them with women and with men recalled from retirement.

SIXTEEN THOUSAND MERCHANT SEAMEN DEAD

Of one thing I am certain. Our merchant seamen have the whole-hearted support of all workers. At sea, the dangers and rigours of the sailor's life call for great courage and endurance and our losses have been heavy, amounting to over 16,000 lives; on land, long hours and difficult conditions have called for everything that the men and women of transport have to give, for they know how intimate a part they are playing in securing victory on the battlefronts.

The picture which I have tried to paint for you is a picture of transport in the fourth year of war as the passenger sees it. There is another side of which he sees very little—the vast movement of traffic to and from the factories; the 20,000 goods trains which are run every week; the sturdy coastal ships which every year make 25,000 voyages round our shores; the long-distance lorries driving through the night with loads of food and war equipment; and the 6,000 boats and barges carrying essential traffic on our canals and waterways.

The passenger knows all this, though he cannot see it. And he accepts the discomforts of travel because he recognizes that in war the first problem is to get the men and their weapons as quickly as possible to the point where they are needed. When you do that, you have won half the battle.

—Broadcast in the B.B.C. Pacific and North American Services.

The Other Battle of the Atlantic

By DOUGLAS WILLIS

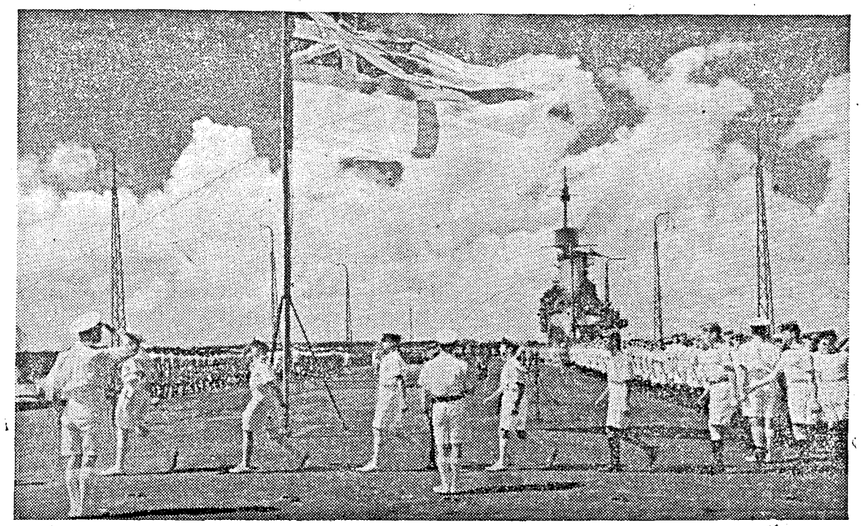
A Battle of the Atlantic has been going on for centuries and it will go on for centuries more says Mr. Douglas Willis., in the following article from "London Calling" *[Mr. Douglas joined the Merchant Navy shortly after the outbreak of war. He describes what happened to his ship—an oil tanker in convoy—when she ran into a very heavy Atlantic storm.]*

WE left this country with a large convoy of merchant ships a few weeks ago. For seven days the weather was as near perfect as doesn't matter. But on the seventh day the wind had 'freshened. The swell had increased and the ship was nosing up and down a bit. A spatter of spray was coming over the well-deck now and again. What was left of the old moon was cruising drunkenly across the sky. Long, ragged wisps of cloud, torn and frayed, were banking together in a solid mass ahead. The air was cold and crisp, and the wind slashed through the two sweaters and oilskin I was wearing and came out the other side.

By the end of watch the sea was working up to a full fury. The wind had increased to gale force and the ship was lurching uncomfortably. From the galley came the brisk tinkle of pots and pans chasing each other across the shelves.

EVERY SHIP FOR HERSELF

When I came on deck in the morning—much against my better instincts—the weather had really taken a turn for the worse. The deck was heeling over at forty-five degrees, first in one direction, then the other. The sea was tearing past deck high, like an express train. The waves were black as night and flecked and scarred and seared with foam, the tops lashed and shredded by an eighty-mile-an-hour wind. The engines were at half speed, just enough to keep the nose of the ship into the sea. The ships around us had shrunk to four or five, half-hidden in the mist and disappearing from sight with each lurch of the ship as we or they dived behind the barrier of rolling sea. The convoy and the war were forgotten. It was now a case of every ship for herself. The wind and the sea were out for our blood, and were doing their best to get it.



SUNDAY DIVISIONS ON BOARD A BRITISH AIRCRAFT CARRIER.—At Sunday Divisions in the British Navy the Captain inspects the ship's company. Sometimes the inspection takes the form of a "Muster by open list," which means that the ship's company fall in and file past the Captain according to their number on the ship's books.

A Division led by their Divisional Officer, marching past Captain R.L.B. Cunliffe, R.N. Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier, during Sunday Divisions.

The barometer was still falling. Everything that might break adrift was lashed down. The lifeboats, which had been swung out in readiness for an emergency exit, were hauled inboard. Every steel door leading on to the decks was locked, barred, and bolted. Stormguards over the port-holes were clamped down, and the ship stood prepared for the siege.

And the sea was still rising. The propeller, rising clean out of the water with every pitch of the ship, was grinding and tearing into nothing more solid than fresh air. It sent a shudder through the whole ship, straining and shaking the already over-worked engines. We were making no progress at all. The log line, which should have been stretched taut from the stern of the ship, curved in a loose bight to lee'ard and eventually broke away altogether.

Time was beginning to lose any importance it might have had. Watch followed watch and still the weather did not improve. It got worse and worse. All the elements in the world were being gathered together, heaped up, and slung at us. The ship was doing everything but break in two.

WILDERNESS OF GREY SKY AND WATER

The convoy had long since broken up. We were all alone in a wilderness of grey sky and water. But there were still a few shafts of light in the gloom. They came from the fly-bridge, the seventy-yard-long gangway running from amidships to aft at a height of about ten feet from the deck. Our ship is an oil tanker and these fly-bridges are standard on tankers owing to the deck itself being so near the waterline. When the ship is loaded, this deck is awash most of the time. Along the fly-bridge must come the engineers to the engine-room and the stewards to the galley for the officers' meals. They've also to get back again, and in rough weather it is a journey not lightly undertaken.

From a sheltered corner of the poop deck we would wait and watch for the fun. There was always a crowd for the Chief Steward, most hated man on any ship. A satisfied chuckle would go up as we saw him pop a doubtful head out of his doorway, then step out and brace himself against an eighty-mile-an-hour wind.

Bowing his head against the spray, he pulls himself to the gangway. He is still in the dry, protected by the bulk of the bridge behind him. He pauses a moment, eyeing the mountain of sea and spray that is breaking over the well-deck and fly-bridge right in front of him. He waits for the ship to roll away from the weather-side, then he's off! He starts at a gallop and gets a dozen yards; then the ship starts to roll back again. The sea is bunched up alongside fifty feet high, all ready to pounce. What is he going to do? He does it. He scuttles back again, only to find that the wave didn break after all. But wait! He's off again—this tir determined to do or die!

He covers the first twenty yards at full speed. Th there's a lurch—he's flung to the other side and gra hold with both hands. He recovers, realises his dange and staggers on. Now the wind has got him, is spinni him round, forcing him against the rail. He pulls hi self along, holding on with his teeth. The ship rolls agai he lets go with one hand and the wind catces him in t pants and bowls him along like a ninepin. Then—who —down goes the nose of the ship, up goes the stern a he finds he's plodding up-hill. But he's nearly there. bit damp may be, but nearly there. But watch! T ship is rolling over again on the beam, right over, rig over in the path of that raging sea . . . and it's g him! Yes, it's got him! The whole deck disappea beneath a roaring mass of water. It zooms up a crashes over the fly-bridge—and the steward. We c see him for a second then he disappears from view. He hanging on now with everything he's got. In a secor he's back in sight again, a bedraggled scarecrow, soak through and lashed by an icy wind. He can't get a wetter so he stands and tells the sea what he thinks it. His curses and threats are picked up by the wi and flung back at him. We can't hear him. We c just see him waving his fist and can guess the rest.

BALING ALL DAY LONG

But the steward was only one of many. We all h our turn at one time or another. The weather was bad now that food could no longer travel the fly-brid and cold meat and cheese was the order of the day ami ships. The engineers were sleeping in the gunners' mes room aft. The gunners were baling out the messroo all day long as the waves were now breaking over t poop deck and had smashed the steel door of the mes room off its hinges. Everybody was eating standing u out of a mess tin, as the plates wouldn't stay on t tables.

Down below in the sleeping accommodation, thin weren't much rosier. Two doorways opened out on the deck and these couldn't be shut as they were t only means of ventilation and exit. The seas were brea ing over the stern, pouring hundreds of gallons of wat through these two doorways and cascading down t companionways into the alleyways and rooms belo We had half the Atlantic Ocean in, and then we thre it out again.

The ship was taking a terrible pounding. Snow w now falling and the ship was sheathed in inches of ic Then, one night, the man at the wheel found the hel wasn't answering. As the ship drifted broadside on the sea and took the full force of the hurricane win

on her beam, the third mate fought his way along the fly bridge to the steel-walled room aft where the steering machinery was housed. Or, at least, it *had* been steering machinery. Now it was scrap. The strain of battling with cross-currents, pounding seas, and the savage pull of the swinging ship had been too much. Steel shafts, a foot thick, had broken clean across, had torn themselves from their moorings. Gear which had chugged into motion, turning the giant rudder as the helmsman moved the wheel, was now still and silent—a battered wreck. The ship was no longer under control.

We now wallowed helplessly, rolling drunkenly until the edges of the decks disappeared beneath the waves. Then down again into the trough as the seas came smashing over with hammer blows. Water was pouring in down the open companionways, flooding the accommodation with a frothing torrent a foot deep. The steel doors to the deck were slammed to and clapped down.

The skipper decided to let the ship drift until morning. Emergency steering gear would have to be rigged on the deck above—but not on a pitch-dark night with the decks under water and lashed by an eighty-mile-an-hour wind.

TWO RED LIGHTS

High up on the foremast two red lights suddenly shone—warning to navigation and to any ships of the convoy within radius that we had broken down. Also, a sure fire target for any lurking submarine. The chance had to be taken that, if there were any U-boats about, they were in as much trouble as we were.

That night was a dirty night and a lousy time was had by all. The skipper, who had hardly left the bridge since the beginning of the trip, stayed there all night. To see him ashore, in a battered trilby and a raincoat, you would think he was a local grocer or a fried-fish salesman, but on the bridge that night he was a hero.

The next morning, with daylight, the emergency steering gear was rigged. Two steel wire cables, one for port and one for starboard, were wound round the winch. These ran through pulleys down below and connected direct with the rudder quadrant. Our chance of paying off rested on these cables holding.

The steering now had to be done from the winch—a steam-driven piece of machinery normally used for heaving on the ropes which bring the ship alongside a wharf. As the man working at the winch was facing the stern of the ship and, anyway, had the whole bulk of the poop deck and the bridge accommodation between himself and the direction in which we were supposed to be going, new methods had to be created. The officer of the watch stood on the bridge behind the useless wheel and telephoned his instructions to the platform of the anti-aircraft gun aft. There a half-frozen gunner or seaman relayed the directions with the aid of a megaphone to the man at the winch.

Some idea of the roar of the wind and the general hullabaloo created by the weather can be gauged from the fact that the distance between the man on the gun platform and the man at the winch was hardly twelve feet, yet there were times when the man bawling through the megaphone could not make himself heard. It was a freezing job, sitting on a soap box with the telephone clamped to your ear, and the snow and sleet trickling down the back of your neck with oilskins frozen solid like a board so that you could hardly move.

There were many anxious moments during the next couple of days. It was touch and go whether the very slender cables would hold, but they did, and ever so gradually the weather began to improve. The mighty blast of the wind dropped to a keen icy breeze, the roar and swell of the sea faded to nothing much more than a murmur and once more the engines picked up a long, regular beat that sent us swishing through the water at a steady twelve knots.

With this Heath Robinson steering gear we travelled over 1,300 miles. Then, after nineteen days at sea, and twelve days of battering, we sighted the welcome lights of Halifax, Nova Scotia. No bands played as we limped into the harbour and dropped anchor outside the boom.

There is nothing unusual in all this. It has been going on for centuries. It will go on for centuries more. It is happening now . . .

—A talk broadcast in the B.B.C.'s Eastern Service.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

19TH MAY.—A few Axis aircraft crossed the south-east coast of England. One enemy plane was destroyed.

As a result of the bombing of the Mohne and Eder dams, 54 towns in Germany were inundated and 50,000 families were rendered homeless. The Berlin press demanded reprisals against the Jews "proportionate with the very great damage caused by the attack".

It was reported earlier that information concerning the dams was given to British authorities by an eminent Jewish refugee in Britain.

The Royal Air Force made a widespread offensive against occupied France. Fifteen enemy planes were shot down.

United States bombers attacked Meaulte and Saint Omar in France, Kiel, Emden and other objectives in north-west Germany, Velsen in Holland and Antwerp in Belgium. One-hundred and twenty-one Axis aircraft were shot down.

20TH MAY.—Aircraft of the Fighter Command attacked enemy airfields in northern France and railways and canal communications in France and Belgium. Targets in Berlin also were attacked.

United States aircraft attacked shipbuilding and submarine yards at Kiel and Flensburg in Germany.

21ST MAY.—United States heavy bombers attacked the submarine pens at Wilhelmshaven and Emden.

Fighter Command aircraft damaged locomotives near Essen and Bremen.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, Minister for Air, said: "We must not relax following the victory in North Africa. We shall pursue the enemy from North Africa into Europe and the Royal Air Force will continue to hammer him. When the time comes, we will advance on our enemies and take them by the throat in their own land."

22ND MAY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked railway targets at Orleans, laid mines in enemy waters and bombed Berlin. An enemy convoy off the French coast was also attacked.

American planes attacked submarine construction yards at Wilhelmshaven and Emden.

23RD MAY.—General Catroux arrived in London from Algiers and conferred with General de Gaulle.

24TH MAY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Dortmund. The strong defences of the Ruhr were beaten down and over 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped. The number of planes engaged in the raid exceeded 500.

[Dortmund which has a population of 550,000 is one of the chief centres of heavy industry in Germany.]

Three of the eight E-boats which the Fleet Air Arm attacked off the Isle of Wight were sunk.

25TH MAY.—Three German planes were shot down during an attack on a town on the English coast.

The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy convoy off the Dutch coast. One merchant vessel was sunk.

The House of Commons granted the Government a new vote of credit for 1,000 million sterling for war purposes. Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that the war expenditure had risen to about 14 million daily.

26TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force raided Dusseldorf. Over five 4,000 pound bombs were dropped. The Royal Air Force also attacked an enemy airfield at Abbeville.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

19TH MAY.—Addressing a joint session of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives at Washington, Mr. Churchill reviewed the progress of the global war. He said: "Immediate and effective help to China is one of the most urgent and important aims of our common task." . . . "While the defeat of Japan will not mean the defeat of Germany, the defeat of Germany will mean infallibly the ruin of Japan." . . . "We must do what lies in our power to take more of the weight off Russia in 1943. How and when cannot be foreseen, still less foretold."

20TH MAY.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, and Mr. Wei Tao Ming, Chinese Ambassador, signed documents ratifying the treaty relinquishing United States extra territorial rights in China.

21ST MAY.—Mr. E. R. Stettinius, Lease-Lend Administrator, disclosed that through the month of February, the amount of Lease-Lend Cargo that had been lost through sinking was under 5 per cent.

22ND MAY.—Mr. Churchill told the staff of the British Embassy at Washington that there was no reason not to expect a long war.

According to Raymond Clapper from Stockholm, well-informed persons in Sweden were of the opinion that Germany's staying power would last exactly for one more year, not beyond.

A decisive stage was reached in the Anglo-American strategy talks. Increasing aid to China (which implied a campaign in Burma after the rains) was evidently in the forefront of the Allies Pacific programme. It was also suggested a second front may be opened in Norway.

24TH MAY.—A forecast of the announcement of the Churchill-Roosevelt talks stated that Germany would be target number one, but how and when the Allies would hit the Continent by land would not be disclosed in advance.

Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, addressing the Chicago University, said that Italy would come out of the war when the Mediterranean offensive developed sufficiently. "I expect a military and political disaster will come in Japan very soon."

26TH MAY.—More than 150 newspapermen attended the Press Conference held by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt. Mr. Churchill announced that the tide of war had turned and that war in the Pacific would be prosecuted with the greatest vigour.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19TH MAY.—In the Buthidaung area, an attack was made on 50 enemy motor vehicles. Objectives were bombed at Toungoo.

21ST MAY.—The Royal Air Force attacked enemy objectives at Letpan and Kymegn. A Japanese fortified stockade near Yazagyo was bombed. Heavy attacks on Japanese supply lines in Central Burma were carried out.

22ND MAY.—The Royal Air Force made a low-level attack on Indaw airfield and machine-gunned Japanese positions on the Upper Chindwin. A bridge on the Akyab island was bombed and Japanese troops in the Buthidaung area was attacked.

A force of Japanese fighters was engaged near Cox's Bazaar by the Royal Air Force. One enemy plane was destroyed and others damaged.

United States Air Force bombers attacked Japanese workshops at Chank.

23RD MAY.—The Royal Air Force destroyed or damaged 20 Japanese bombers, escorted by 11 fighters, which attacked Chittagong airfield. Locomotives, Japanese troops and other objectives were machine-gunned in Katha district. An enemy launch was damaged on the Chindwin river. Six Japanese power launches were destroyed off Ramree island.

According to Squadron-Leader Ravindar Singh, I.A.F. (now in Durban), the Japanese threat to India no longer existed as a factor worth worrying about. "We won't let them get any further in Burma."

24TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force attacked railway objectives at Ye-u. Targets in Akyab island were also attacked. Bombs were dropped on enemy-occupied villages in Central Burma. Enemy vessels were attacked in the Gulf of Martaban. Railway installations and warehouses were also attacked in Kanbalu.

25TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force made three attacks on Japanese troops at Udaung. An enemy-occupied village near Buthidaung was also attacked. United States aircraft raided Monywa, Thazi and enemy barracks in Upper Burma.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19TH MAY.—Captain Balfour, Under Secretary for Air, stated in the House of Commons that there was no assurance or agreement of any kind whatever that Rome should not be bombed.

The Royal Air Force dropped leaflets over Rome.

It was reported that German officials were being withdrawn from Italy, leaving Mussolini to face the threat of Allied invasion alone.

Food situation was reported to be growing worse in Italy. Black market coffee was being used as money.

General Eisenhower announced that the total count of prisoners taken in Tunisia exceeded 200,000.

In the House of Lords, Lord Cranborne said that the victory in Africa was a victory which could hardly be paralleled in modern history.

20TH MAY.—The island of La Galite, the most important in the small group of islands off the north coast of Tunisia was occupied by French naval forces on May 18. American heavy bombers raided Pantellaria. Enemy shipping in Trapani harbour was also attacked.

Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, stated that about 70,000 casualties were suffered by the forces of the United Kingdom, Canada and India in the North African campaign.

21ST MAY.—The New York radio reported that the Germans were withdrawing their land and naval units from Italy and the Mediterranean.

Bombs were dropped on Malta for the first time since December. Two raiders were shot down and several others damaged.

The Royal Air Force attacked enemy airfields in Sardinia. Flying Fortresses bombed the airfield at Grossetto in Italy. An enemy convoy was attacked between Pantelleria and Marettimo.

22ND MAY.—Allied bombers and fighters smashed Axis air bases and communications in Sicily and Sardinia. Eighty-six Axis planes were destroyed. An Italian communiqué admitted that considerable damage was done at Messina and Reggio de Calabria (in the toe of Italy).

Twenty-eight thousand British, French and American troops who saved Tunis from the Germans marched through the city in the biggest Allied victory parade of the war. General Giraud and General Eisenhower took the salute.

The Royal Air Force, in an offensive sweep over the Aegean Sea, restroyed a German seaplane and damaged an enemy sailing vessel. Messina was attacked. Objectives in southern Italy were also bombed. Flying Fortresses attacked Borizzo airfield in Sicily. Fires were started.

24TH MAY.—The German radio announced that German troops were in Sardinia.

The Royal Air Force pounded Pantellaria and Sardinia. A number of sweeps were made on enemy shipping in the Aegean Sea and along the west coast of Greece. Lampedusa and Messina were also bombed.

The Chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Army, Marshal Vassilevsky, in a message to General Eisenhower, said: "I congratulate you on behalf of the High Command of the Red Army on the victorious conclusion of the campaign in North Africa."

25TH MAY.—The Berlin radio announced the formation of an Albanian army to fight on the side of the Italians.

Field Marshal Smuts declared that the end of the war would come with great suddenness with irresistible impulse.

The North-west African Air Force attacked Sardinia. Twelve vessels were hit in the port.

American Liberator bombers raided the harbours of Reggio de Calabria and San Giovanni.

26TH MAY.—Nearly 400 Allied planes attacked Sicily, Sardinia and Pantellaria. Nine German fighters were shot down. An enemy merchant vessel was set on fire at Port Scuso.

It was reported that M. Laval had ordered the closing of all schools in and the evacuation of all children from Bordeaux.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19TH MAY.—It was reported that Soviet Forces were concentrating in the areas of Tula and Kaluga. Big air battles were fought over the Kuban. It was disclosed that the Germans lost 500 aircraft in the last three weeks.

20TH MAY.—Strong Red Army attacks on the Kuban and Donetz Fronts were reported. Soviet troops in some sectors of the Novorossisk Front started active operations. The Soviet Air Force destroyed more than 500 Axis planes.

21ST MAY.—Soviet Artillery bombarded the second German defence ring before Novorossisk. The Berlin radio announced that a full-scale Russian summer offensive was expected any day on the Orel Front.

22ND MAY.—The Russians widened their bridgehead in Lisichansk region. Battles of local significance took place in several sectors of the Northern Donetz.

Russia's dissolution of the Third Internationale was hailed in Allied quarters as a major Soviet gesture for the estabishment of firm and solid relationship with Britain and United States, both for the remainder of the war and the critical post-war era.

[The Moscow radio broadcast a decree by the Executive Committee of the Communist International, recommending the disbandment of the Communist International.]

23RD MAY.—The Germans failed in their big counter-attack against the Soviet bridgehead at Lisichansk. Guerillas operating in the Smolensk region ambushed a German military train.

24TH MAY.—Soviet gunners broke up a large German Force in the Sevsk area. A Russian attack south-west of Velikie Luki led to a violent battle.

25TH MAY.—German Infantry detachments were repulsed near Izyum.

26TH MAY.—According to the Rome radio, eight million men were massed on the Russian battle front from Leningrad to Black Sea.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

21ST MAY.—A new United States destroyer, *Downes*, was launched in California to replace the ship of the same name lost at Pearl Harbour.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19TH MAY.—The Chilean Government announced the rupture of diplomatic and consular relations with the Governments of Vichy, Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

19TH MAY.—The Japanese captured the Chinese General, Pang Pingh Sun.

United States troops established positions on the island of Attu in the Aleutians.

United States heavy bombers attacked Japanese installations on Ake island. Enemy aerodromes in New Guinea were bombed.

20TH MAY.—American pincers closed round the Japanese positions at Attu. Japanese troops fell back.

Chinese bombers raided the Japanese-held town of Chihkiang Chiska in Hupeh Province.

After studying Mr. Churchill's speech, diplomatic observers opined that Britain and United States may try to prevail on M. Stalin to grant the use of Russian Air Bases for an onslaught on Japan.

21ST MAY.—The Chinese forced the Japanese to retreat near Shanshien in Shantung Province.

President Roosevelt told a Press Conference that America was concerned with getting war materials of all kinds into China.

It was revealed by the Tokyo radio that Admiral Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet (who planned the Pearl Harbour attack), was killed "in an aircraft in the course of combat with the enemy" last April.

According to the Vichy radio, the Japanese had begun to evacuate Attu island. Bombs were dropped on the enemy-occupied Vunakanan airfield in New Britain.

22ND MAY.—Ground fighting flared up again in Mubo area in New Guinea. Heavy bombers dropped thousand-pound bombs in a series of harassing attacks on Gasmata.

A Japanese attempt to raid Exmouth Gulf, near Onslow, in Western Australia was foiled.

Attu village was completely destroyed and the battle for the island entered the final phase. Col. Knox, United States Secretary for the Navy, said that the Attu campaign was now in a mopping-up process with the Japanese facing liquidation or surrender.

23RD MAY.—It was reported that 17 out of the 22 American warships lost in the Pearl Harbour attack were back on active duty.

Allied bombers started fires in the wharf area at Kaimana and sank a 500-ton vessel.

Three Japanese bombers made another raid on Exmouth Gulf, West Australia. The bombs fell harmlessly into the sea.

An announcement from official Chinese quarters revealed that a big Japanese offensive to the west of the Yangtse river front was about to begin.

United States troops launched a triple drive in Eastern Attu island against Japanese remnants holding out.

25TH MAY.—The Japanese captured the Yuyangkwan highway centre.

United States Army Forces continued to advance and exert pressure on Japanese Forces in Attu despite sleet, snow and rain.

26TH MAY.—United States troops wiped out the Japanese position in Chicagof valley in Attu island.

The Japanese captured Changyang.

MANURES

A plant is a living thing and hence needs food for its growth. It has to find its food-materials from the soil which surrounds the roots and the air enveloping the shoot. As plants are continually absorbing food materials from the soil, we have to add fresh supplies of them. Any substance added to the soil for increasing its fertility may be regarded as a manure. Manures may directly supply the food of the plant or they may act indirectly by (1) improving the physical condition of the soil (2) having a chemical action on the substances present in the soil, thus making them soluble.

Manures are of two kinds (1) organic manures consisting of vegetable or animal matter (2) *inorganic* manures or mineral salts, sometimes called artificial manures. Most of the essential elements for the growth of plants are required only in small quantities and are present in practically all soils. The chief materials removed from the soil by plants are nitrogen, *phosphorus and potash* and hence must be added to the soil under cultivation.

Nitrogen:—Is mainly responsible for the growth of stem and leaves; hence nitrogenous manures should be added in the early stages, when the plants are growing vigorously, and are specially useful in the cultivation of leafy vegetables. When there is a shortage of nitrogen, the plants fail to grow normally, and the leaves turn yellowish.

Phosphorus:—Stimulates and promotes the production of flowers and the growth of fruits. A deficiency of phosphorus is indicated by the leaves turning bluish-green.

Potash:—Encourages the formation of starch and sugar. When potash is deficient, the leaves usually become spotted.

COMMON ORGANIC MANURES.

1. *Cattle manures*.—The most important manures for vegetable growing are those of organic origin since they usually contain nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. Out of organic manures, cattle manure is the most useful, and it is also easily obtained; but a great deal of it is wasted by turning it into "dung cakes" which are used as fuel. Cattle manure consists of not only cow dung, but also the liquid excrement, mixed with the waste food material in the cow-shed. These should be collected from the shed daily and put into a pit, and allowed to rot. Well-rotted cattle manure contains most of the constituents of plant food and is the best manure for vegetables.

Goats' dung.—Is also a good manure; but its action is comparatively slow.

Bones.—Are rich in phosphoric acid, lime and nitrogen. One of the commercial products of bone is "bone-meal" and this can be used in soil poor in phosphorus and lime.

Leaf mould.—Leaves when allowed to decay in a pit is usually rich in potash and nitrogen.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1943 No. 38

Companionship of Nations Based on Equality

M. STALIN

The dissolution of the Communist International is proper and timely because it facilitates the organization of the common onslaught of all freedom-loving nations against the common enemy Hitlerism

It exposes the lie of 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

It exposes the calumny of the adversaries of Communism within the Labour Movement to the effect that Communist parties in 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

It facilitates the work of patriots in freedom-loving countries for uniting 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

It facilitates the work of patriots of all countries for uniting all freedom-loving peoples into a single international camp for the fight against the menace of the world-domination by Hitlerism, thus clearing the way to future organization of a companionship of nations based upon their equality

I think that all these circumstances taken together will result in further strengthening of the united front of the Allies and other nations in their fight for victory over 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

M. STALIN, *in a letter to Mr. Harold King on Saturday, May 29*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Stalin Pricks the Bubble	5
The Economic Solution in a Nutshell: Perils of too much money!	6
Indian Troops in the African Campaign	8
Time to India by Sea Halved	10
Paying Back the Debt	10
Miscalculations of erman High Command	11
Soldiers of "Superior Race" Surrender	11
Emergence of Outstanding Allied Generals	12
North Africa: Three Lessons to Germans	13
North African Milestones	13
From Cairo to Cape Bon	14
Luftwaffe whipped over Tunisia	15
Infantrymen prove their mettle	15
Reverses and Parodies of History	16
Axis Mediterranean Fleet Dwindles	16
Operation on "The Under Belly"?	17
A Milestone round Germany's Neck	17
War Diary	18

"FAVOURABLE TENDENCIES"

"It looks as if the number of U-boats destroyed in May will exceed the number which the enemy have been able to bring into the war.

"In each of the first five months of this year, there has been a substantial reduction in merchant shipping losses compared to the corresponding period last year and a saving of over one third of the losses over the whole of these five months. During the last 12 months, the number of kills exceeds the whole of the previous period of the war and, in the last six months, the rate of destruction has been 25 per cent better than that of the previous six months."

"We must still be prepared to encounter setbacks and periods of heavy loss. The enemy is to bound to make greatefforts alter the present situation. Nevertheless the report I have just made discloses a number of favourable tendencies and I can give the unqualified assurance that the enemy are quite wrong in asserting as they have done that the low rate of sinkings in April is due to a small amount of shipping at sea. During that month our imports were the highest since the beginning of 1942."

—MR. A. V. ALEXANDER, *in the House of Commons on June 2.*

◆ ◆ ◆

Indian Troops! **Hope Club calling!!**

If you are on leave, or passing through Madras, you can stay

AT

His Excellency SIR ARTHUR HOPE CLUB

FOR

INDIAN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN

RUNDALL'S ROAD, VEPERY

MADRAS

No Rent Charged! **It's Your Club!!**

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1943 No. 38

Defiance to Dictators

★

These will remain.—Though grisly worms of war
Furrow the face of earth and scar
Champaign and mountain-side, the field
Will generous wheat and barley yield,
And grasses wave, and clouds brocade
The skies and filigree the plain with shade.
Though you should irrigate with bloody rain
The acres thrusting up their thatch of grain,
These remain.

These will remain. Though guns spit fire and smoke
And fell a forest at a single stroke;
Though flesh be maggoty and mind diseased
And hearts by fear to dirty pellets squeezed;
Though Hell on roaring caterpillars ride—
Yet the brave banner of the countryside
With ancient honourable quarterings
Shall wave its colours while the linnet sings
And rainbows buttress falling heaven again.
Though you should soil the ground with bloody stain
These remain.

These will remain. Though you proclaim Doom,
Dictator, sweeping pell-mell to the tomb
Ten thousand villages, a thousand towns,
Their walls and wonders, riches and renowns;
Though raving like your robots' stuttering prattle
You prick indelible tattoos of battle—
O yet shall men be brave and women true
And children's laughter make a mock of you.
In the deep pit, in the black night
Shall be heart's beat and heart's delight.
Even in the odour of the slain
And memories of battles fought in vain
These remain.

R.G.

★

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Achievements of Indian Troops: Three years in Middle East.

Three-and-a-half months ago, General Sir ALAN HARTLEY, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, speaking in the Council of State, paid a great tribute to the achievements of Indian troops in Africa. He said, "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." Indian troops have subsequently given more reasons to earn the gratitude of the freedom-loving nations of the world. On April 8th, General ALEXANDER in a message to Field Marshal WAVELL testified to the "conspicuous dash and vigour" of the Fourth Indian Division in turning the Mareth positions. The victory of Wadi Akarit brought forth another great tribute from Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL. "We have watched with admiration," he said in a message to HIS EXCELLENCY 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 have 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."

Wherever Indian troops have been in the Middle East during the last three years, they have always covered themselves with glory and their performance has been worthy of India's great military traditions. Keren, Kissone, Messe, Sidi Barrani, Libyan Omar, Angila, Jalo, Bir Hakeim, Benghazi, Mareth, Wadi Akarit and Tunis—these place-names will always recall the heroic part played by Indian troops in North Africa.

* * * * *

"Spearhead of Attack": Germans Afraid of Indian Troops.

The Fifth Indian Division played a notable part in the conquest of Italian Eritrea. It was in this campaign that the Duke of Aosta was captured by the Fourth Indian Division. It was this same division which captured General VON ARNIM and practically wound up the African campaign. Referring to this, the London *Evening Standard* says, "Neither accident nor cynical humour dictated that the military custodians of the creed of *Herrenvolk* should be humbled by non-Aryans whom they affect to despise most. The Fourth Indian Division deserved their captures. They grasped the prizes won in battle against the best soldiers the Nazis and Fascists could pit against them." The Nazis have realised that Indians are a formidable foe and a note to this effect by a German Intelligence Officer was found when the Nazis retreated from Benghazi. It said, "So long as the Seventh Armoured Division and the Fourth Indian Division are in the desert, we must watch out. They will be the spearhead of any attack." These two

divisions, the steel core of Britain's magnificent desert army, were responsible for the first defence of Egypt. Later, in the battle of Sidi Barrani, five Italian battalions were destroyed by them. Their heroic stand behind Bir Hakeim and their gunnery delayed ROMMEL's advance on El Alamein. They were among the vanguards of General MONTGOMERY's 2,000 of-mile drive across the desert. During the concluding stages in the North African war, both the divisions were switched on to the vital sector, and here again they won great battle honours. "Wherever the British fight," writes the *Evening Standard*, "the Indians are with them and of them. They are the pride of British armies everywhere and esteemed for their intelligence and mastery of the complicated machinery of war and faithfulness in dangers, in which man's mettle counts far more than creed or colour."

* * * * *

Distinguished Military Record : Part played in 1914-War.

Indian troops have been Britain's pride not only in this war, but also in the last Great War. It may be recalled that, within a month of the declaration of war in 1914, a trained Indian corps sailed for France, where they helped in filling the breach in the Allied line with great gallantry. They distinguished themselves in Mesopotomia, Gallipoli and Palestine. Nearly a million and a quarter of men took part in widely-scattered theatres of war such as France, Belgium, Salonika, Egypt, the Sudan, Mesopotomia, Aden, East Africa, Nort-west Persia, South Persia and North China.

In this war they have fought in Norway, Flanders, Greece, Crete Malaya and Burma, and they have helped in clearing the enemy from the African soil. Thus one more brilliant chapter has been added to India's distinguished record of military achievement.

* * * * *

The Arakan Campaign : Five Stages—Causes of Failure.

The Axis radio has been magnifying the Arakan campaign out of all proportion, particularly after the crushing defeat sustained by the Italo-German forces in Tunisia. Two weeks ago a Berlin commentator in English cited the capture of Maungdaw, "the last British stronghold in Burma" as an evidence of the alleged "growing strength of Japan in the East." It has been pointed out time and again that the Allied campaign in Arakan was primarily defensive. The fundamental objective of the Allies was to prevent the Japanese from using Akyab as an offensive base against India, and in this they have succeeded. But considered from the point of view of acquisition of territory, it is no doubt a failure, and the Allies have candidly acknowledged that the results have been disappointing. This frank acknowledgment of failure must be contrasted with the ludicrous Axis camouflage of the colossal disaster sustained by them at the hands of the Allies in North Africa.

Though Arakan was a minor campaign, there has naturally been considerable discussion as to the reasons for its failure. The question of lack of training of troops and speculation as to whether adequate use was made of river transport are two of the points which have attracted most attention. Before we examine the reasons, it is of some interest to indicate in brief the course of the actual campaign. This may be divided into six definite stages. The first stage was an advance made by us to the Buthedaung-Maungdaw line, which found the Japanese unprepared. The second was a further advance by us to the Donbaik-Rathedaung-Kyuktaw line, where Japanese resistance hardened. An unsuccessful attack on Japanese positions at Donbaik and Rathedaung marked the third stage. The fourth began with a Japanese counter-attack from the Kaladan Valley, which took our Rathedaung force in flank. Another counter-attack across the Mayu river, which took our Donbaik position in flank, was the fifth stage in the Arakan campaign. And the last was the fall of Buthedaung and the evacuation of Maungdaw, which were the results of a Japanese thrust along the Mayu hills and the cutting of the Buthedaung-Maungdaw road.

Fighting Down the River : Difficulty of Communications.

It may be asked why the Japanese were allowed to dig in at Donbaik and Rathedaung and why their successive outflanking movements were allowed to develop and succeed. The answer is difficulty of communications. Fighting up he river is much easier than fighting down the river, because the side which holds the mouth can bring in as many craft as it can collect, but their opponents do not have this advantage. Further the side which holds the mouths of parallel rivers, as in Arakan, can concentrate superior forces on any one river. This was the reason for the Japanese stopping us at Donbaik and Rathedaung. We had enough troops to get to Foul Point opposite Akyab, but the difficulty was one of maintaining them there. While communications were being developed by our side, the Japanese had time to reinforce and dig in. We had limited forces on the Kaladan, but the Japanese could concentrate superior forces, clear the river, and then threaten our line of communications to Rathedaung.

Why did we not hold the Japanese threat when they also had to operate over a land line of communications, it may be asked. The answer is our line of communications was not strong enough to maintain troops at its head and enough troops to protect it throughout its length. That was why Rathedaung had to be evacuated. The same manœuvre was repeated on the Mayu Peninsula, and so we had to go back to the Maungdaw-Buthedaung line. But why did we evacuate Maungdaw also ? The answer is the Japanese could have repeated the same manœuvre here also, for the line of communications to Maungdaw runs down west of the Mayu hills, east of which runs the Mayu river. The position was such that there was no need for the Japanese to attack Maungdaw directly. They had only to use their ability to dispose greater forces on the river line of communications up to the last of the hills and advance up. Then the same old problem would crop up again—the problem whether the Maungdaw line of communications could maintain sufficient troops to hold Maungdaw and to protect the line of communications throughout its length. It was because this could not be done that Maungdaw had to be evacuated.

It might have been possible for small parties to get to the Japanese positions, but it would not have been possible to maintain through the hills sufficient forces to close the enemy's line of communications from Akyab. It was the lack of communications that was responsible for a large number of troops being engaged in fighting continuously for a period of five months without any relief whatever and under conditions which did not admit of sleep during nights.

There is also the question of training which is very important. Units trained to fight in a desert cannot necessarily fight well in a jungle. The Japanese were specially trained in jungle fighting. A crack Japanese division contained veterans of five or six years' experience in jungle-fighting.

* * * * *

Benefits of Arakan : Successful British Expedition to Central Burma.

On the whole, it may be said that though the Arakan campaign was a failure, it was not without its benefits. Firstly, Japanese were deprived of the use of Aykab during the fighting season on account of this campaign. Secondly, one of Japan's best divisions was severely mauled. Thirdly, our soldiers have learnt a lot about the Japanese and their methods of defence in jungle-fighting.

We referred to the Berlin radio statement about the alleged "growing strength of Japan in the East" at the beginning of this article. How can this be correct in the face of the recent daring and successful British expedition to Central Burma where, during the last three months, a British force comprising British, Burman, Gurka and Indian troops, has been successfully operating. This, however, is not the beginning of any general offensive. A full-scale offensive against the Japanese in Burma will surely come later on.

STALIN PRICKS THE BUBBLE

FIELD MARSHAL SMUTS addressing a party rally in Capetown on Tuesday night (June 1), referred to the dissolution of the Comintern and said, "M. Stalin's policy has been to wipe out international Communism in Russia itself. He consummated his victory by disbanding the Communist International and as far as Russia is concerned that form of Communism is dead." The great South African leader added, "I am sure that Russia will do nothing to interfere with the internal position in the other countries, and it is fallacious to say that an opportunity was presented for fostering Communism in South Africa because South Africa is in alliance with the Soviet. Communism is a minor movement in the Union and receives no support from Russia." This reflects the general opinion of all other leaders of the United Nations also. But so far as the Axis powers are concerned, they have been considerably upset by Stalin's pricking the bubble of Red bogey propaganda carried on sedulously by Dr. Goebbels' department.

First Axis Reaction

THE first Axis reaction was one of the irritation. Berlin said that the decree of the Presidium Committee of the Communist International disbanding the Comintern was not authentic, since M. Stalin did not sign it. In his broadcast talk in English on May 24, Lord Haw Haw said, "It is noteworthy that Stalin himself, although a member of the Executive Committee of the Comintern, did not sign the decree," and added that if it was necessary at any future time to disavow the validity of the document, M. Stalin would do so. But to the discomfiture of the disciple of Goebbels, M. Stalin has taken a very early opportunity to emphasize, in the most categorical manner, the object of the dissolution of the Comintern.

IN a letter written in reply to a question by Mr. Harold King, *Reuter's* Correspondent in Moscow, the great Russian leader says, "The dissolution of the Communist International is proper and timely, because it facilitates the organization of the common onslaught of freedom-loving nations against the common enemy—Hitlerism." He then discusses its implications, and concludes by saying, "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 organize the common onslaught of freedom-loving countries and finish off this beast and to deliver the peoples from Fascist oppression."

Strengthens Allied Front

THIS letter is a document of very great importance, as it has, firstly, the immediate effect of strengthening the united front of the Allies, and, secondly, the long-range effect of clearing the way to the organization of peace through "companionship of nations based upon equality." It completely knocks the bottom out of the suspicions and doubts raised by Berlin propagandists. It is significant that the announcement of dissolution so completely upset Berlin that one Nazi announcer, in his exitement, claimed that it was the direct result of German activities and that M. Stalin would not have been scared into renouncing the Communist International if the Fuherer had not raised a cloud of dust against Bolshevism But this blunder was discovered early, and was not subsequently repeated.

THEN a different kind of argument was taken up. It was stated that the decision was the result of President Roosevelt's suggestion made in the letter to M. Stalin sent through Mr. Joseph Davies. But in a news broadcast in German on May 25 Berlin claimed that the disbandment resolution was antedated by five days, "in order to camouflage the connection between the alleged disbandment of the Comintern and Roosevelt's letter handed over by Mr. Davies." In his talk in English next day, however, Lord Haw Haw said that the dissolution was intended to conceal the initiation of a new propaganda offensive against Britain and America and that it would deceive any one.

Stalin's 1924-slogan.

AXIS propaganda has been continuing to harp on this theory that the exit of the Comintern does not really mean an abandonment of Communist activity in various countries, but that it means an intensification of such activity on account of the freedom given to Communist organizations by the severance of relations with Moscow It is true that the Moscow decree does not make much difference in practice, but in quite a different sense. It may be recalled that in 1924 M. Stalin launched the slogan of "Socialism in a Single Country." He was of opinion that in view of the failure of the world revolution, the duty of the United States of Soviet Russia was to make itself a successful model for the proletariat of the world. Then there was a great controversy with Trotsky who persisted in believing and working for a "world-revolution." But he failed to carry with him the Communist parties of the world. M Stalin stood vindicated, and the Soviet Union engaged itself henceforwards in trying to build up a strong Socialis State in Russia, leaving the Communist parties in other contries to deal with their own problems in the way they thought fit..

A Logical Conclusion

THE dissolution of the Comintern is thus a logical conclusion of Russian policy during the last one or two decades. It contains an assurance to the peoples of occupied countries that, after the war, they will get a government of their own choosing. Communist parties will be part and parcel of the national body-politic of every country and will not receive any "orders from abroad," they will also share in shaping the post-war reconstructions of those countries.

IT may be said that the United Nations have scored two major successes of far-reaching importance. One is the Tunisian Victory, and the other is the Moscow announcement.

THE ECONOMIC SOLUTION IN A NUTSHELL

PERILS OF TOO MUCH MONEY!

The following is an extract from a recent speech by MR. C. H. MASTERMAN, C.I.E., I.C.S., *at Vizagapatam.*

A great many of you, in fact most of you, can assist enormously at this time by living economically and putting your savings into Defence Loans, Post Office Savings Certificates and the like. In contributing to the War Fund, Madras has done extremely well, and Vizagapatam, among the districts, has always been one of the foremost. In providing recruits too, the Madras Presidency has done excellently, and Vizagapatam is prominent among the districts.

The other day, I sat as Chairman of a Post-war Reconstruction Conference, and we had occasion to study the recruitment figures of each district. I observed with great pleasure that Vizagapatam stood fourth, Malabar, North Arcot and Tinnevelly being in the first, second and third places. *But* in contributing to Defence Loans and other Government Saving Schemes, the Madras Presidency has lagged far behind many other provinces, and Vizagapatam is a very long way down the list. Yet, at the present time, *this*, I think, is the most important contribution which the ordinary person can make to the war effort.

DEFENCE LOANS—THREE REASONS

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 war conditions. 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 worldwide 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 in 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 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 of 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 available for sale and an increase in the amount of money available with which to purchase things. Both are due primarily to war conditions. 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 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.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have appealed to you before in Vizagapatam for other purposes, and I have not been disappointed. I feel sure that my appeal this evening will not be in vain. His Excellency the Governor has requested me to serve on the Madras Provincial Defence Loans Committee for the express purpose of appealing to the mofussil towns on my tours to contribute to Defence Loans. I should like to be able to tell him that Vizagapatam leads the way among mofussil towns. I know that this evening I am not reaching directly many merchants in Vizianagram and other places who are, many of them, making profits out of contracts and supplies; but I suggest to your War Committee that you begin a "Savings Drive" in this district, as has been begun in Madras City. At present, you could do nothing more useful to further the war effort and, at the same time, to reduce the general level of prices.

TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TROOPS: A CYPRUS GIFT TO MADRAS GOVERNOR'S WAR FUND

We give below an extract from a letter dated 30th April 1943, received by the Madura Mills Company, Limited, Tuticorin, from their Cyprus Agents, Messrs. M. H. Bedelian & Co., Nicosia:—

"The fighting qualities of Indian soldiers in this war, their toughness, their skill and their devotion, have been praised several times by their Commanding Officers and recently by the Prime Minister himself. We, as civilians, can only admire and thank them for their courage and sacrifice, and as a small token of our appreciation we donate the sum of Twenty-five Pounds Stg. for their welfare and happiness."

The Madura Mills Company have, accordingly, sent a cheque to the Secretary, His Excellency the Governor's War Fund, Madras, for Rs. 335-1-3 being equivalent of £25 at ex. 1*s.*/5-29/32 *d.* towards amenities to Indian Troops.

INDIAN TROOPS IN THE AFRICAN CAMPAIGN

OUT of three and half years of conflict in the African war areas emerges a triumphant record of achievement by the Fourth Indian Division—the "Fighting Fourth." Probably never before in India's army history has one of her infantry divisions maintained such continuous action over so long and difficult a period, writes a correspondent in the *Times of India*.

The story of this division's part in the North African campaign is one of relentless tenacity and a refusal to accept defeat; of a fight against tremendous odds. It is a story in which an empire was destroyed and a continent freed.

OFFENSIVE

Almost exactly one year after the outbreak of war, Italy's Marshal Graziani invaded Egypt. But he was stopped at Sidi Barrani, about 50 miles inside the border, and that was the furthest he ever got, because at the beginning of December, when the enemy least expected it, Field Marshal (then General) Wavell suddenly launched his offensive. Indian and British troops made short work of the forts round Sidi Barrani. The Indian division thrilled the world by capturing 20,000 prisoners in three days, while the Australians took Sidi Barrani itself. And so the advance continued until the whole of Cyrenaica was in our hands.

Meanwhile the Fourth Division was transferred to East Africa where it joined the Fifth Division, to reinforce the small British and Sudanese detachments holding the border of the Sudan against vastly superior Italian forces. On January 19, 1941, the two divisions began a simultaneous advance into Eritrea. Five days later our forces cut off and destroyed five colonial battalions in Keru, while the main Italian forces were pushed back to the important road junctions of Agordat and Barentu, through increasingly difficult country. At both these places there was severe fighting; a shrewd turning movement won the first place and the second was won only after another display by Indian troops of sheer courage and determination.

RACE FOR KEREN

Then began a race for Keren where the Italians were withdrawing to their mountain stronghold. They got there only just in time and that meant bitter and prolonged fighting for our troops—the most severe the Indian Army had so far experienced in this war. But it was worth while, for the fall of Keren on March 27 sounded the deathknell of Italy's East African Empire.

Success then followed success. Berbera and the whole of British Somaliland were reoccupied without serious resistance, the Punjabis who had so heroically defended the colony in the previous year forming part of the landing party. An East African Force moved into Italian Somaliland, ships of the Royal Navy and the Royal Indian Navy made their way through the minefields of Massawa, and the colony fell.

Next followed the simultaneous advance into Abyssinia from south and north. The Duke of Aosta made a stand at the approaches to the mountain stronghold of Amba Alagi, but when he surrendered this national fortress, after some hard fighting, to the Indian, British and South African forces, the East African campaign was virtually at an end.

Indian troops could now be spared for other theatres where they were badly needed. The 3rd Motor Brigade had already been engaged in a heroic rearguard action at El Mechili, which enabled the main British forces to reach and hold Tobruk. For the first five months Indians formed part of the beleaguered garrison which continued to cramp the enemy's style.

October 1941, was a month of preparation. So far as Libya was concerned, we were back where we started. The enemy was strongly established along the escarpment which divides Egypt and Libya but the only Egyptian territory he held was a small outpost at Sollum. The 11th Brigade of the Fourth Division barred the enemy's approach along the coast and it was not until November 18 that our offensive was launched just in time, as we learnt later, for the Germans were preparing an assault on Tobruk with all they had on November 23.

In this offensive, Indian troops played a prominent part. While troops of the Fifth Division created a diversion from Giarabub towards the Jalo Oasis, the Fourth Division attacked the strongly fortified enemy positions in Libyan Omar. A brigade of the Fifth Division made a remarkable journey of 300 miles, capturing Jalo with 700 prisoners, and despite all enemy efforts on both divisional fronts, the Indians drove on until December 17 when patrols discovered the enemy in flight.

It was after Benghazi had fallen that the following message was received by General Auchinleck from General Ritchie: "The Fourth Indian Division have really done the most magnificent work. No praise can be high enough for their achievements."

But their task was not by any means ended, although the position looked hopeful at the time. The Nazis made their second comeback and got as far as Gazala. For a time our 7th Brigade at Benghazi was completely cut off. But the Indian troops proved themselves as steadfast in disaster as in success, and they managed by clever tactics to evade Rommel's ring steel and rejoin the rest of the Division.

ALAMEIN LINE

From Gazala Rommel came on again in May 1942, with all his armour. The 3rd Indian Motor Brigade made a gallant stand just north of Bir Hacheim and the gunners of the 2nd Indian Field Regiment put paid to more than 50 *panzers* before they were overrun. Further north our own armour took a still heavier knock, which compelled the Eighth Army to fall back further than ever before, back past the Egyptian Frontier to the Alamein line. This time Tobruk, too, fell, but not before the 11th Brigade (then under the Fifth Indian Division) had fought gallantly on the perimeter in a vain effort to stem the *panzer* push.

It was at this time that General Alexander took over command in the Middle East and on November 4 the Eighth Army attacked and broke through at El Alamein to start what eventually was the final rout of the Axis from Africa. Then came the magnificent entry into Tripoli; Mr. Winston Churchill's dramatic meeting there with General Montgomery, and the ceremonial march-past of Indian and Commonwealth troops on January 23, 1943.

Between January 1 and April 15 last Rommel and von Arnim had lost 66,000 men killed, wounded, or taken prisoner. In addition, 250 tanks were captured or destroyed. Other losses included 3,000 vehicles, 425 guns and over 1,000 planes.

MARETH VICTORY

Then followed the great Mareth victory on March 29 in which Indian troops were again to the fore. Gabes was entered on March 30, Sfax occupied on April 10 and Soussee two days later, with the Fourth Indian Division still in the vanguard of the attacks. The division finished up by entering Tunis and capturing von Arnim. Mr. Churchill wrote: "We have watched with admiration the splendid achievements in the Fourth Indian Division in the battle of Mareth and in the recent victory at Wadi Akarit. The high renown of India's soldiers and of the redoubtable Gurkha troops has been enhanced by the outstanding performances 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 successes which have crowned the long uphill contests in which they have played so valiant a part."

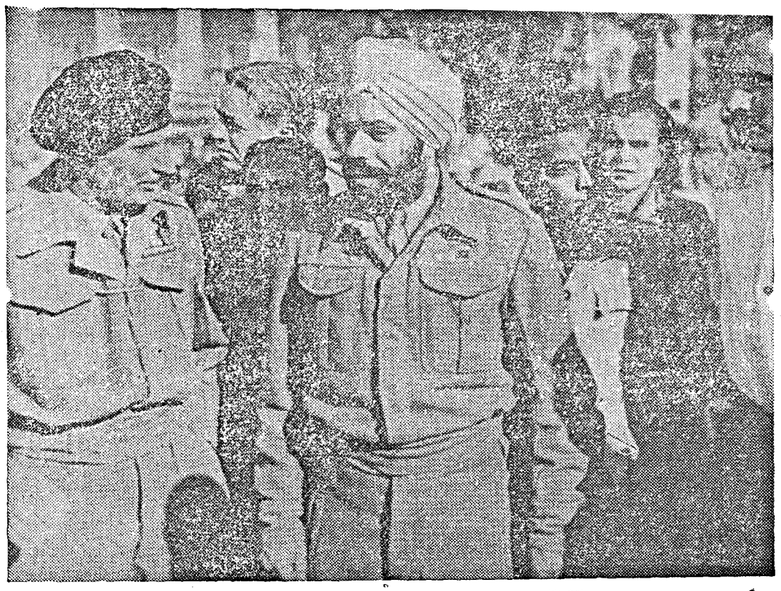
THAT STRIP OF WATER!

Hitler looted Michael Angelo's "Moses" from the Louvre and carried it off to Berchtesgaden. When asked by his associates why he had stolen this particular treasure he replied:

"Oh, it's a great piece of art, you know."

But one of the Gestapo, spying on the boss, has reported another explanation. He saw the Fuehrer on his knees before the great Jew and he was saying:

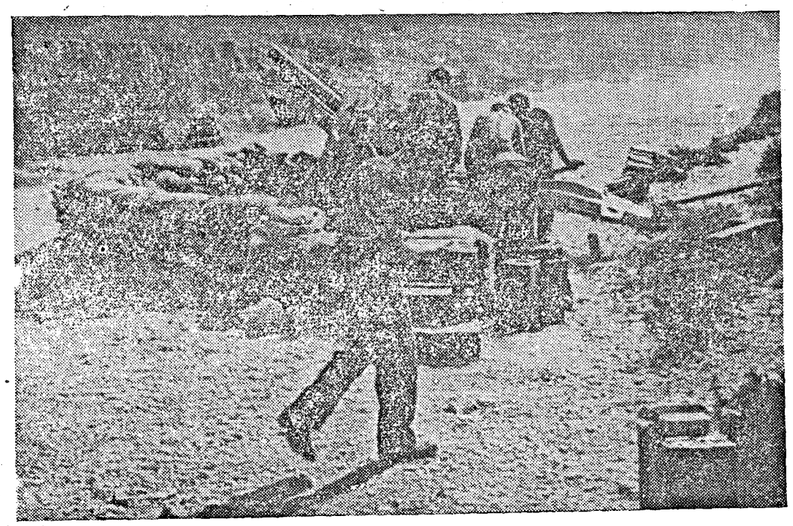
"Dear Moses, tell us how to get across that strip of water!"



His Excellency the British Ambassador to Egypt and Lady Lampson gave a garden party in the beautiful grounds of the British Embassy, Cairo, on Easter Sunday (April 25) to over three hundred British, Indian, Australian, New Zealand, South African, American, Canadian and Fighting French repatriated prisoners of war. A surprise was the appearance of General Montgomery, who received a big welcome. With Lord and Lady Lampson, General Montgomery chatted with men of the Fourth and Fifth Indian Divisions and referred to the great part played in the present campaign by the Fourth Indian Division.

His Excellency the Ambassador and Lady Lampson each made a special broadcast for Indian troops.

Photo shows General Montgomery chatting with Major Aluwalia, M.C., who commanded the 17th Indian Field Light Ambulance before he was captured.



Indian troops played a major role in the battle for Enfidaville which was bitterly defended by strong German and Italian forces. Batteries of twenty-five pounders laid a heavy barrage on the enemy positions prior to the infantry attack.

Photo shows the twenty-five pounders in action.

An American war correspondent gets first-hand information of the battle of Enfidaville from a Commanding Officer of an Indian battalion.

TIME TO INDIA BY SEA HALVED

By THE NAVAL CORRESPONDENT *of the "Daily Mail"*

WITH the last Axis soldier driven from Africa, Britain can once again use the Mediterranean as a great artery of her communications. Thinking only in terms of the Middle East, Iraq and Persia this is estimated to mean a saving of 2,000,000 tons of merchant shipping, while it is easy to see a saving of nearly 5,000,000 tons when all our sea routes have been reorganized on the basis of the full use of the Suez Canal.

That epic story of the "two Mediterraneans" is over for good. The eastern and western basins fade again into the background of navigators' charts and plans. No longer are they prime considerations of naval strategists and tacticians poring over secret maps of enemy coastlines and possible channels to force through a convoy or a squadron of warships from one end to the other.

TWICE AS MUCH

Nor by any means does the victory of Tunisia end in the Mediterranean. The time to India by sea is halved, or put in more appropriate terms, we can now send by way of the Suez Canal and the Red Sea twice as much war material in exactly the same number of ships.

Little wonder then that the Germans have made such desperate efforts to drive us out of the Mediterranean. Do not be led astray for one second by their propaganda that the loss of Tunisia is of secondary importance to them. To the United Nations who depend on the seas of the world, it is of extreme and vital importance.

CANNOT COUNTERBALANCE

For every merchantman that entered this struggle think of the warships, manpower and shore organization that were permanently occupied in shepherding her every moment, and you have some idea of the fighting strength once tied up in the Mediterranean, but which is now released for other and more aggressive work.

Nor does this story end in the Mediterranean. As our shipping is increasingly able to use the direct route, much of the naval tonnage and personnel scattered round 9,000 miles of Africa's western and eastern shores is relieved from guarding the overwhelming proportion of our vital traffic round this vast detour. It too can turn to offensive again. If Hitler can now at the touch of a magic wand double the number of his U-boats and their crews he could not begin to counter-balance the disaster that our conquest of the Mediterranean means to him.

PAYING BACK THE DEBT

By WICKHAM STEED

MORE swiftly than the most optimistic forecasts suggested, the Allied campaign in Tunisia has ended in complete victory. The Axis forces have suffered a defeat comparable only to the disaster that befell them at Stalingrad. No less significant than the defeat itself are the means by which the Allied armies inflicted it at remarkably small cost to themselves.

Unity of command, full harmony of purpose and action unprecedented concentration and co-ordination of air power and gun power, armour and infantry attack, broke through formidable enemy position, swept him off his feet and drove him to surrender one of the strongest fortresses in the world. This Allied victory is a portent, both political and military. For the Axis it heralds, as Field Marshal Smuts of South Africa has said, the beginning of the end.

REACTIONS IN EUROPE

Throughout Europe the effects of this outstanding achievement are already apparent. In Russia enthusiasm for the allied Western democracies has replaced any misgivings upon their determination to launch an invasion of the European continent.

Every people from Greece to Norway, and from France to Poland, oppressed by Axis occupation, rejoices over the prospect of approaching liberation. Axis satellites from Finland to Rumania, including Italy, have lost faith in German victory. Morally, no less than militarily, the Axis has received a stunning blow.

General Franco, the Spanish Dictator, could hardly have chosen a more inopportune moment to resume the peace offensive which Count Jordana recently undertook without success. Both Mr. Cordell Hull for the United States and Mr. Anthony Eden for Britain have answered the Caudillo by repeating that the Allied terms are unconditional surrender and that the Allies are not interested in any attempt at mediation.

ALLIED STRATEGY

How the military situation will now develop is a secret of the co-ordinated Allied stategy which Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt are now reviewing. It is no secret, however, that the victory in Tunisia will set free a large amount of shipping tonnage for Allied operations by shortening the supply routes. Nor is it doubtful that further blows against the Axis will be struck without avoidable delay or that they will be powerful. It was the Allied speed that upset Axis calculations in Tunisia, speed combined with strategical and tactical superiority. The Allied Governments and Commanders are unlikely to forget this truth.

Nor are they likely to lose the advantage of unity. Every report from Tunisia attests to the complete fusion of the United States, British and French armies under General Eisenhower and General Alexander which overwhelmed and surprised the Axis. Never in the last Great War was a comparable degree of willing co-ordination attained. Politically and militarily, this identity of purpose and effort will influence both the future course of the war and peace.

CHOICE BEFORE ITALY

No such unity or identity exists in the Axis camp. Throughout the North African campaign German soldiers have treated the Italians contemptuously as inferior and subordinate associates.

After every successive defeat from El Alamein in October to Wadi Akarit in April, the Germans left the Italian troops in the lurch and appropriated Italian transport.

Now Italy herself is faced with the choice between progressive devastation in the service of Hitler and escape from the German clutches. Allied air raids upon Palermo, Messina, Naples and other Italian ports and centres of communication foreshadow the ordeal that Italy must undergo unless she repudiates Mussolini and Hitler alike.

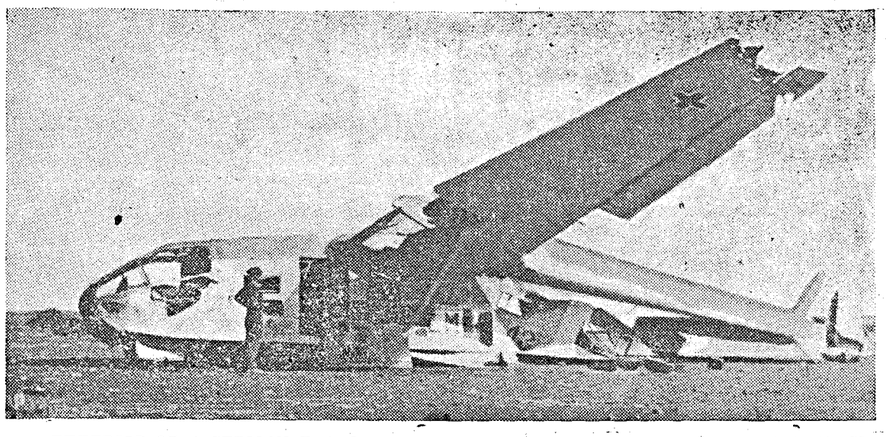
Germany's ordeal will be severer still. The Ruhr and the Rhineland are covered with the wreckage of German industrial plant. Even Goering's journal at Essen confesses that the limits of human endurance have been reached. But British and United States aircraft have not reached the limits of their power to avenge the immense wickedness which Germany has let loose upon the world.

The King of England has written that in Tunisia the debt of Dunkirk has been paid. The debts of Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Greece remain to be paid. They will be paid in full until Hitler, Nazism and the German war machine are eliminated for ever.

PLACED

INSTRUCTOR (somewhere in England): "That's six rounds you've fired without hitting the target once. What were you in civil life?"

RECRUIT: "A racing tipster, sir!"



EXTERIOR OF A GERMAN TROOP-CARRYING GLIDER DAMAGED BY ROYAL AIR FORCE BOMBING ON AN AERODROME IN THE WESTERN DESERT.—Even allowing for the increased appearance of size created by the camera's perspective, this photo gives a fairly accurate idea of the size of these troop-carrying gliders.

MISCALCULATIONS OF GERMAN HIGH COMMAND

By MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES GWYNN

SELDOM can a great fortress position such as the Axis held in North Tunisia have been crushed with such speed or with such devastating result and loss of prestige. The capture of von Arnim and the final collapse of all resistance occurred almost overnight.

Axis excuses are little more than an acknowledgment that their High Command had failed to appreciate the capacity of the Royal Navy and Allied air forces to interrupt the flow of reinforcements and an admission of a desperate gamble deliberately undertaken. The true facts, I think, are that the Axis command was confident that the position could offer prolonged resistance and was prepared to accept a degree of risk in order to retain its power of blocking the Mediterranean route. But it had disastrously miscalculated the extent of the risk.

COMPLETELY OUT-GENSALLED

What may we and what will the German people think of a High Command capable of such gross miscalculations? In the actual defence of the positions, the commander on the spot appeared in hardly more favourable light. He allowed himself to be misled by Alexander's manœuvre and was completely outgeneralled. When the decisive attack came, his best troops and the strongest body were facing the Eighth Army which did not attack. The moral ascendancy which the Eighth Army's achievements have established is worth noting. Von Arnim evidently looked on it as his greatest danger.

On the parts of the front which were attacked, his troops were exhausted and his reserves dispersed and depleted in counter-attacks delivered during the last week of April may have delayed Alexander's decisive attack by a few days but only at the sacrifice of power to resist the attack when it was finally delivered.

The Axis troops, until they had been exhausted by Alexander's preliminary attack and by demands made on them by their own commanders, fought with determination and courage and they cannot fairly be held responsible for the debacle. The fighting of the Allied troops was beyond all praise, but they could hardly have achieved such amazing success if they had not been superlatively commanded.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN SERVICES

Throughout the whole battle, Alexander was evidently admirably supported by the initiative of his subordinate commanders of all nationalities. It is quite obvious that British troops of the First Army have gained much by experience, and the strides made by the Americans since they first came in action are even more noticeable. The French too have had the opportunity and incentive to throw in their lot with the Allies wholeheartedly. Their magnificent achievement, even without full equipment, has proved conclusively that the spirit of France has survived and that the defenders of Bir Hakeim gave true indication of what might be expected when the opportunity came. Co-operation between services has been better than ever and in this respect the experience gained can be passed on to the forces of other theatres.

On the German side, the withdrawal of the Luftwaffe in the final phases and its poor showing in general will require some living down. The non-appearance of the Italian navy was less unexpected but one is left to wondering how far the possibility of evacuation was ever included in German plans.

SOLDIERS OF "SUPERIOR RACE" SURRENDER

By H. C. O'NEIL (*Strategicus*)

WE can see in the enemy defeat a fitting tribute to the brilliant plan of General Alexander.

It had in it the quality of supreme generalship—complete simplicity. It turned upon fostering a German conviction that the Eighth Army would give the *coup de grace* while transferring two armoured divisions and the Indian Division to the left of the First Army to launch the attack.

But this does not adequately explain the collapse of the resistance which has been so complete that never before has the German army suffered so swift and so wholesale a defeat. Every circumstance we can discover makes the defeat more abject.

It was in fact due to a complete breakdown in morale; and nothing can minimise that astounding collapse.

German generals in the last war provided us with the criteria by which we can judge the episode. Looking back on a much less abject defeat on August 8, 1918, Hindenburg said: "To be beaten in a battle in which we stood on the defensive was a very different matter from failure in attack."

VON ARNIM'S TACTICS

Now von Arnim was, of course, fighting on the defensive. He had, moreover a very strong position, his left flank being covered by the massive bastion of the Cape Bon

peninsula and even his weaker right protected by the crumpled outwork of hills which had for months held up the British advance. Behind his right was one of the most elaborately fortified positions in the world.

Admiral Muselier had described the defences of Bizerta in such terms that it seemed impossible that they could be breached except by prolonged bombardment.

Not only had the German Commander very strong defensive position, he had also a sound defensive plan. He intended to leave an adequate force in Bizerta and pivot the rest of his army on Zaghouan Massif in order to withdraw into the Cape Bon Peninsula.

The advantage of the defensive strength of his positions and the skill of his plan gave him just a few days! Ludendorff, referring to the 1918 episode, added this comment to that of Hindenburg: "I was told of their behaviour, which I frankly admit I should not have thought possible in the German army: whole bodies of our men had surrendered to single troops or isolated squadrons. . . "

But what would he have said of the scenes witnessed during the last few days?

HITLER-GOEBBELS THEORY

It is a very dangerous thing to encourage an army to believe that they belong to a superior race, because the day may come when they encounter modest and courageous people, who anticipate all their boasted cunning and fight them until their only desire is peace and rest. Then all their trusted landmarks disappear and they collapse and revert to the needs of the animal. That happened in Tunisia. It has happened before, but never so completely.

The Hitler-Goebbels theory then is good only so long as the army is victorious. In defeat, it exaggerates the characteristics of the German people. The elder Moltke, one remembers, said that he was satisfied with the morale of the German army in victory, but would prefer not to discuss its behaviour in defeat. Its morale is brittle and tends to be as abject in defeat as it is flamboyant in victory.

DECLINE OF MORALE

There are special reasons for the decline of morale in the army at present. It is a profound mistake to imagine that the only effects of the tremendous and growing power of the Allied air offensive are the damage done to the German cities and sufferings of the people who live in them.

The most important effect is their influence upon German soldiers. These men have been launched all over Europe and in Africa! and on the whole they appear to have won an almost unbroken series of great victories. Yet they are daily receiving from their wives, sisters and sweethearts reports of their sufferings under Allied raids.

Letters have been found upon soldiers on the Russian front as well as in Africa; and the descriptions of the destruction and terror of these raids lose nothing in the telling. Under this bombardment, soldiers suffer more than they did in the last war when it was mainly of the effects of the blockade.

In Tunisia the Germans gave the battle a decisive character and in the end simply threw in the towel. The effect of that will penetrate the whole of the enemy army.

EMERGENCE OF OUTSTANDING ALLIED GENERALS

By L. S. B. SHAPIRO

SUCH names as Rommel, von Arnim, von Bock, von Mannstein and von Rundstedt have become household words in our communities 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 been 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 the 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.

—Condensed from a recent B.B.C. talk.

NOT OURS

"Are battleships really doomed?" asks a reader. Not all battleships—just those flying the German, Italian and Japanese flags.

NORTH AFRICA: THREE LESSONS TO GERMANS

ATTEMPTS by Goebbels to hide from the German people the immensity of their army's disaster in Africa will fail, because the Germans are a military minded people. They understand the technique of land warfare, almost as naturally as we British grasp the elements of sea strategy.

They will learn the news. From other countries, radio, private messages and rumours and the Germans in Germany will soon know the precise truth.

Even rumour cannot exaggerate this total eclipse.

What then will Africa teach the Germans? The first lesson—the Nazi creed collapsed in the vast von Arnim expeditionary force. They were ordered to fight to the last. They surrendered while they still had an immense fighting potential.

BESTIAL TRADING ON FAMILY SENTIMENT

Moreover, they threw their arms down and hands up *en masse* after formal warnings that their relatives in Germany would be punished for such "shameless conduct."

This bestial trading on family sentiment is the root of Nazi domination. Hitler has just seized Giraud's daughter. It was by this dirty tactic that he first established himself among his own people. In occupied countries, it is his routine method of forcing labour among non-collaborators.

Yet in the African army, these threats to relatives were scorned and ignored. In this isolated Tunisian theatre, the conduct of the Wehrmacht challenges the Nazi creed.

The second lesson: The Germans will understand that we have acquired their blitz technique wihout forgetting our old battlecraft of penetration by infantry. The Germans well know the use of infantry.

SUCCESS IN ARTS OF WAR, NEW AND OLD

In this war, they have had no large-scale infantry success on their side. But they have seen our men succeed in both old and new arts of war. To the German—understanding war, since it is his main business in life—this is a shocking and nerve-shaking revelation.

Lesson number three: These "decadent democracies" are beating the Germans in generalship. Since its initial application of the panzer technique to give weight and speed to the striking force, German generalship has not advanced while Germans see Allied generalship constantly improving.

Nor need they think that we will not go on improving. For it is our way of life to be original and full of initiative. And we never doubt that our way of life contains within its instincts of its own preservation against Hitlerite robots.

THE CREED OF FRIGHT

Himmler, Gestapo Chief, is the only living German whom Hitler praised at Lutze's grave. Let Himmler go ahead, starving, torturing, murdering German relatives of the 160,000 German prisoners. Let the Nazi creed come to its full putrid head.

That is doubtless Hitler's instinctive way of putting fight into his men—putting fright into women. But if even he finds this purge too big to be feasible, he has no appeal left except the fear of the wrath to come in defeat.

—Daily Express.

NORTH AFRICAN MILESTONES

THE summer of 1942 was a summer of crisis for the Allied forces in the Middle East. Having driven the enemy to El Agheila during the winter of 1941–42, they had been pushed back in their turn to the eastern extremity of the Cyrenaican highlands. The scorching heat of May found them holding an untenable front at Gazala. Except for their own minefields and gun positions, there were no natural barriers to stop the onrush of the enemy through the open desert.

On may 27 the enemy struck. He by-passed the minefields, besieged the French garrison at Bir Hakeim, drove a lane through the minefields, and, in a whirlwind battle, inflicted heavy losses on Allied armour. The Allied had no choice but to withdraw. On June 11 the magnificently inspiring resistance of the French garrison of Bir Hakeim came to an end. A week later Tobruk isolated, fell before a massive air and infantry assault. The enemy pressed forward. On June 28 he occupied Mersa Matruh, on June 30 El Daba and on July 1 he was at El Alamein—only 65 miles from Alexandria.

A MONTH OF SUSPENSE

The hot-house trained, crack German Afrika Korps was nearer to Suez—its primary objective—than it had ever been. Mussolini—that "sawdust Caesar"—hurried across the Mediterranean hoping to be in time to enter Alexandria at the head of the Axis forces. August 1942 was a month of extreme suspense for the Allies. Marshal Rommel was reinforcing his mauled divisions for a new attack. In an Order of the Day issued to his men on September 1, he declared: "To-day the Army, reinforced by new divisions, will launch a new attack in order finally to destroy the enemy." That attack was launched. It was met—and held. Within a week his men were back at their starting point.

On October 23, 1942, the loudest cannonade ever heard in the desert heralded the Eighth Army's offensive. After 12 days and nights of "ceaseless attacks", the Axis forces were in "full retreat". It was to be a 1,700 mile retreat, one of the longest in the history of warfare. "The battle just won," said Montgomery to his men, "is only the beginning of our task".

EL ALAMEIN

El Alamein was won on November 4. On November 8 the greatest armada ever assembled (more than 500 transports and 350 escorting warships) arrived at pre-arranged stations off the shores of French North Africa and Anglo-American forces occupied in quick succession Rabat, Algiers, Oran, Bougie, Casablanca and Bone. At the other end of the Mediterranean the Eighth Army's advance, after the initial stage, was progressing with lightning speed. On November 13, only nine days after El Alamein, Tobruk was taken and avenged. The Eighth Army had covered this distance in less than half the time it took the enemy to come in the opposite direction five months earlier. By November 29, the enemy was once more at El Agheila.

FALL OF ITLAY'S LAST EMPIRE CITADEL

Less than two months later (January 23), Tripoli, the heart and the last citadel of the Italian Empire, was entered and the Eighth Army crossed the border into Tunisia. In exactly three months the enemy had been chased 1,400 miles. He now entrenched himself behind the Mareth defences—the "Maginot Line" of French Africa.

After two months of careful preparation, Montgomery broke through the Mareth defences (March 29). Then followed the victory of Wadi Akarit and the occupation of Sfax (April 10) and Sousse (April 12). The Eighth Army's arrival in Sousse was the signal for intense and sustained Allied pressure to be exerted on all sectors of a 100-mile front, with the Eighth Army on the right wing, the First Army and the French Corps in the centre and the American Corps on the left wing. Hill after hill was taken in fierce, bloody, hand-to-hand fighting until finally the Allied armour roared down into the plains and into Tunis and the great naval base of Bizerta, both of which fell on May 7.

"HONOURABLE TO SURRENDER"

On May 12, an officiall Allied communiqué announced the end of the campaign, the last Axis units on African soil having laid down their arms. The following day an official communiqué from Hitler's Headquarters said: "The Commander-in-Chief of the German and Italian formations in Africa has today found it honourable to surrender."

In the Western Desert—"Can't you whistle anything else but 'Sand in My Shoes'?"

FROM CAIRO TO CAPE BON

By MORLEY RICHARDS

THE first man in the Afrika Korps to get out of Africa was Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. This was the Rommel who boasted in Berlin in August last year, "We've come into Egypt to stay." Hitler was present when this dauntless General addressed his acquiescent audience. "Cairo is before me," he said, "my mission is to reach Suez and my Fuherer's commands are my law."

The Allied cause had reason to falter. At El Alamein, Rommel was fewer than 90 miles from Cairo. The Eighth Army had retreated a thousand miles, its armour lost, a third of its total force taken prisoner, or dead.

Scarcely 10 months have passed. And, to the credit of British arms be it remembered, Field Marshall Erwin Rommel did not wait that long. He left Africa on March 19, fleeing before the enexorable force of an army that has beaten him and beaten him to near annihilation.

LONGEST PURSUIT

To do that British and Dominion solidiers have carried out an advance of nearly 2,500 miles. It is the longest pursuit of any beaten foe in military history. It exceeds the retreat of Xenophon; it far surpasses the retreat of Napoleon from Russia. Time is nobody's friend when those who wait at home pray for the fortunes of their men battling in the sands of a distant land. But time is an avenger.

Think back to 1940, when Italy, thinking the coast was clear, entered the war. Then Field Marshal (as he is now) Wavell had barely 20,000 men under his command. Marshall Graziani commanded 300,000 troops. They crossed the frontier into Egypt and entrenched at Sidi Barrani. Cautious Graziani thought that that was far enough for the time.

WAVELL'S CAMPAIGN

Back in Cafro, Wavell with his odd brigade or so of tanks decided to bluff the Italian spies who then honeycombed the city. He sent tanks out on a circular tour—it is an old stage-trick—to enter and re-enter their headquarters with their drivers prominently displaying themselves above the turrets of the tanks.

Sometimes they wore a tank beret. Sometimes they wore Service caps. They would affect false moustaches, even a generous beard. The spies counted them, and decided that Wavell had overwhelming tank strength. His total number of armoured fighting vehicles was not more than 150, most of them obsolescent models. You know the story—he lived on Italian supplies which he captured as he went along, and gained Benghazi. His little army was worn out, exhausted. They tried to hold Benghazi with a handful of men and guns.

EPIC OF TOBRUK

Enter Rommel. He brought with him his Afrika Korps, trained under hot-house conditions in Germany, so as exactly to reproduce the tropics of Africa. Every man was a picked man. Rommel, the good Nazi, was the man who had broken through with his tanks at Sedan. Rommel was Hitler's chosen General.

He drove the Eighth Army back to the Egyptian frontier. There came then the epic of Tobruk. Nine months' investment in which the enemy lost far more than the defenders. The Navy, though it cost them ships and many lives, kept the garrison an aggressive, wicked thorn in Rommel's side.

He built his road below Tobruk to bypass it and render it ineffective. The garrison stole out at night and destroyed it. He was never able to marshal his strength to attack fair Egypt.

SEESAW BATTLE

The battle became a seesaw. Both adversaries fought for position. It came to a day in November 1941, when the British attacked. By then Rommel had built up an armoured force of more han 800 tanks, with his 88-mm guns as a surprise weapon and his elite grenadiers to overcome anything the Eighth Army could do.

General Cunningham, then in command, had good weapons too. Numerically as good as the enemy's, but he was unable to bring concentration to bear, which would have carried us through an annihilated Afrika Korps. Tobruk was relieved fleetingly, and then Rommel swept on again. For days the bloody battle raged. Rommel then made the greatest mistake in what has now to be regarded as a highly unsuccessful career.

He sent his force into Egypt behind a major British force which was committed in battle. In the judgment of one of our corps commanders given to me afterwards, if he had gone on then he would have cut us off completely and destroyed us. He faltered, turned back, and the battle ended indecisively. It came to 1942, with Rommel back beyond Benghazi, but still unbeaten. Both sides built up their strength again. New weapons were brought to this strangest of all battlefields, where there are comparatively few civilians and great waterless spaces in which armies can fight.

"DO-OR-DIE" COMBAT

Once again the British Eighth Army had to fall fack. Rommel counter-attacked in strength, but not with any definite purpose. General Auchinleck, our Commander-in-Chief in Cairo, was building up his strength and after a lull which lasted for three months he was ready again. Once more British tanks and Empire infantry moved across the sands to assail the pride of the Third Reich.

It was May, and Rommel was halting on the line from El Gazala to Bir Hakeim. Again the days passed in do-or-die combat. It went in the end against the British. Tobruk, with its 25,000 ill-prepared troops, fell captive to the enemy. Rommel swept on towards Egypt at last and the British crossed the frontier with scarcely 50 tanks intact.

THE RETREAT

Auchinleck had lost the battle that was to gain him Tripoli. He had not lost the retreat which was to retrieve our fortunes. He made no mistake. He kept together his force—what was left of it—intact and went straight back to El Alamein, where Wavell, back in 1939, had calculated that there on the 40-mile front with the impassable salt marsh depression as the other flank from the sea he could defend Cairo and Alexandria.

Rommel drove his men so hard that when they reached the British line they were so exhausted that some of them went to sleep as they stood up. He had to give us some days' respite. He attacked again. By then General Alexander, who had succeeded Auchinleck's command, had strength and his soldiers had the "we-are-not-beaten-yet" spirit to throw him back. Wtih Alexander had come Montgomery.

EXIT ROMMEL

Over in Washington, Churchill and Roosevelt had made great decisions. The Sherman tank, said Roosevelt, should be released from supply to the American army and sent to the Eighth Army. The rest of the story you know. Bombastic Rommel begging supplies from Berlin that never reached him had to stand his ground. The real truth that when he was being publicised in the Wilhelmstrasse, he was in fact asking the German High Command for weapons that could achieve him the victory about which he so glibly spoke.

Churchill and Roosevelt saw to it that the Eighth Army had the weapons. Already they had the fighting spirit of "desert rats"—bank clerks, labourers, once unemployed, ordinary men of England—whose courage with the weapons that the Allies had given them has finally swept Rommel into as resounding a defeat as ever an army commander has suffered. Rommel was the first man out of Africa. —*The Daily Express.*

O.K.

"I've got the man you wanted for the officers' mess, sir," said the sergeant.

"Has he had any experience?" asked the officer.

"I think so, sir," replied the sergeant. "He says he was a platelayer before he joined the army."

LUFTWAFFE WHIPPED OVER TUNISIA

By WING COMMANDER L.V. FRASER

ONE thousand six hundred and fifty-five Axis planes, 62 ships, 18,00,000 lb. of bombs—Working almost within sound of aircraft in battle, statisticians have struck this remarkable balance sheet for the months from November 1942 to May 1943, from thousands of combat reports of Allied pilots of the North-West African air forces: 1,655 enemy aircraft destroyed in the air for the loss of 631 Allied aircraft (1,655 includes those destroyed by anti-aircraft batteries).

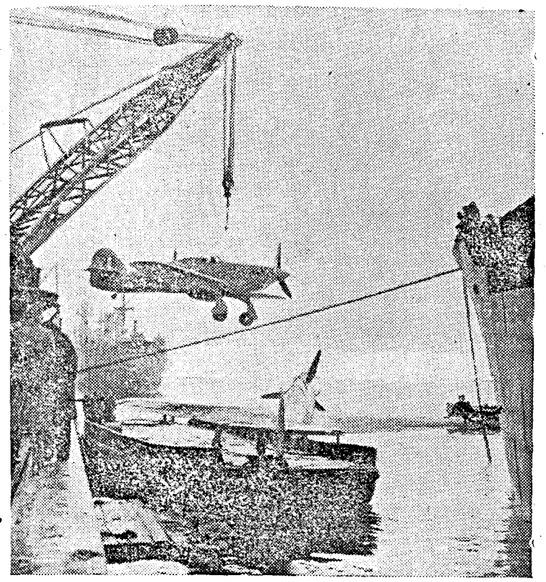
18,526,724 lb. of bombs dropped on docks, shipping, landing grounds, supply bases, armoured vehicles and transport and front line positions of the enemy. (This figure excludes attacks carried out by the Desert Air Force.)

Sixty-two ships have been sunk by air attack. The supply ships sunk include two tankers, two freighters, four barges, twelve motor ferries, eight merchant vessels and other vessels. The naval vessels destroyed include four destroyers, one cruiser, four E-boats, five landing craft and one escort vessel. Many others, left burning or damaged, but were not seen to sink.

THREE ARTERIES

The North-West African air force is fed by three main arteries—strategic, tactical and coastal air forces. It was created and built to its present gigantic strength despite great difficulties in the way of weather, supply and terrain. Yet despite all the difficulties it has grown.

In the last stages, the Luftwaffe was swept from the skies. Tanks and infantry broke through. Tunis and Bizerta fell. Axis remnants were still harried and the African campaign sped to its abrupt and triumphant close.



M.S.F.U. in full means the Merchant Service Fighter Units one of the R.A.F.'s most daring fighter bands. The pilots with a small maintenance staff, journey with defensively armed merchant ships in convoy. Their aircraft is catapulted off when going into action. against enemy aeroplanes approaching the convoy. The operation is controlled by an officer of the Royal Navy known as the Fighter Defence Officer. At the end of the combat, or if running short of fuel, the M.S.F.U. pilot tries to land on friendly soil. If he is at sea, he takes to his dinghy and hopes to be picked up. Photo shows M.S.F.U. Hurricanes going aboard the parent vessel.

INFANTRYMEN PROVE THEIR METTLE

THE hero of the Tunisian campaign in the First Army as in the Eighth Army is the infantryman, writes the "*Daily Express*" Australian correspondent with the First Army. Your tankman lightly faces death or horrible mutilation by burning or explosion. Your bomber or fighter pilot flirts with death day and night. But even so, it seems to me that the man who has the hardest, toughest, most perilous—and, of course, the most thankless—job in the war remains here, as in Russia now and as in the last war, the little man with the gun.

I have watched the British infantryman in action on two sectors of the African front against the finest desert and mountain fighting machine which German military genius could place in the field. They fought in combination with planes, guns and tanks, but to them belongs the lion's share of the credit for victory. Their difficulties have been tremendous; their success cannot be measured in terms of occupied area.

In one instance, British infantry advanced five miles along a ten-mile front across the Medjerda valley. With bayonet and tommy-gun they drove a determined foe out of fortified earthworks, heavily-mined ridges and precipitous strong points. On flat country this would be equivalent to an advance of at least 50 miles along a front of the same width.

On the stony slopes of "Longstop" Hill, that bare shell-packed ridge which hampered the British advance from Medjez-el-Bab, the infantry dug in for two nights under murderous mortar and machinegun fire before they drove the enemy from the highest pinnacle.

No man can challenge the vicious stutter of machine-guns emplaced in rocky heights without high courage and fighting spirit but when he charges those guns across ground packed with live dynamite and presses on unwaveringly as mines explode on either side, he exhibits heroism and fortitude that seem at times to be more than human.

Seldom does this stubborn infantry fighting—which has been necessary to clear the flanking hills of guns so that tanks could lumber across the plains—cease at night. At midnight or when cold fogs descend on these central Tunisian hills before dawn the infantryman, exhausted and battle-frayed in his hard-won trenches, can expect the enemy to counter-attack. He dozes for an hour or two in his dusty sweat, his gun beside him, his tin hat on his head—because the night raiders know his exact position. Most of the Tommies seem to agree that the worst moment in an infantryman's life is to awake startled, half-sleepy still and unutterably weary, to face the blaze of tommy-gun fire and the black silhouettes of an advancing enemy determined to wrest back the day's lost territory.

"You get sort of worked-up, hot-like, fighting in the day," one infantryman put it, "but when you wake up you're tired, cold and surprised. You feel like you're starting all over again. Cripes! There's been times when I'd have given everything I'd in this ruddy world for another hour's peaceful sleep."

According to experts, the German earthworks in this campaign have been models of military art in digging in. When concrete pill-boxes were joined with deep trenches behind an ugly wadi at Mareth, stout-hearted Germans could withstand the heaviest barrage or bombing raids, provided they kept their heads down and their spirit up. Concentrated shellfire is deafening and terrifying, but it is astonishing how safely the garrisons can endure it if they are in the shelter of well-prepared positions.

Those unsung heroes of the Durham Light Infantry—"White Gurkhas" the Maoris call them—who climbed the Mareth wadi on one another's shoulders in moonlight under a hail of fire proved that the infantry-man's bayonet is still needed to dislodge an enemy numbed but unshaken by artillery barrage.

Other infantry epics which cannot yet be told in detail are the midnight assault on the "Peak" before the battle of Akarit and the incredible scaling of the Takrouna citadel by the Eighth Army Maoris. These British infantrymen are heroes of the Tunisian campaign.

REVERSES AND PARODIES OF HISTORY

LESS than three years ago, we were enduring the anguish, at moments almost despair, of Dunkirk. If history does not repeat itself it sometimes reverses or parodies itself.

From that grievous and heroic scene, we rescued close upon 335,000 men, including a very large number of our French Allies. Only a relatively small proportion of the British Army was captured in Flanders.

How different has been the performance of the Axis in deceptively similar circumstances. None of their troops have been evacuated and over 170,000 of them have been captured after sudden and surprising collapse, despite their strong mountain positions and supplies still plentiful, though ill distributed. The surrender at Stalingrad was the first great stroke at the myth of German invincibility. North Africa has been its grave. The German defeat there is on an even vaster scale than at Stalingrad and we are entitled to satisfaction on our preponderant share in it.

A glance back is refreshing in several other respects. Less than three years ago Mussolini by a cowardly and ignoble stroke stabbed prostrate France in the back. It seemed to him a cheap and safe way of establishing claim to some scavenging among the ruins of the Third Republic. A felon's blow has cost him the whole of the Italian Empire. Never has justice been more complete.

And by a crowning irony his egoism paled into insignificance beside that of the Germans who consistently left their allies in the lurch.

Let us look back again a little more nearly. Only last autumn, Rommel stood at the door of Egypt. "We stand there to act," he said vauntingly.

Now the scene will shortly shift to Europe. We make no suggestion as to the area to be smitten and first liberated. One point, however, stands out as a sequel to the great victory; the Mediterranean is henceforth wide open to our merchant marine with the vast gain in time and economy in tonnage. The larger question: "Where do we go from here?" was, no doubt, settled, so far as it then could be at Casablanca. What will follow is now being discussed at Washington whither Mr. Churchill has again betaken himself "to plan well ahead of the armies" as he put it in his broadcast.

It is clear from his further reference to the liberation of "long tormented China" as well as from the galaxy of British and American commanders in attendance that operations in the Far East as well as in Europe are on the agenda.

We will not emulate the frantic boast and foolish words of Rommel and the now subdued vaingloriousness of German propaganda. But now it is we who stand at the door of Europe with the vast difference that the peoples of the Hun-racked continent are longing to let us in.

—*Sunday Times.*

AXIS MEDITERRANEAN FLEET DWINDLES

By A. J. McWHINNIE

THE sensational defeat of the Axis in North Africa could not have been achieved without sea power—sea power which landed troops from the greatest armada in history, sea power which kept those troops reinforced and supplied from 11,000,000 tons of shipping in six months.

That fundamental fact may influence the Italian Admirals and their German advisers to overhaul their futile naval strategy in the Mediterranean. Some new indication that the Italian Admirals realize that naval warfare means more than "showing the flag" to their own people may yet come.

But the British sea power welded with air power did more than protect the passing through to the North African theatre of constant war supplies. Aircraft and naval forces on the surface and British submarines have between them sunk and damaged more than 100 Axis ships in the Mediterranean during the six months of the North African campaign.

AWKWARD GERMAN NAVAL QUESTIONS

Apprehensive and furtive questioning about why the decisions were not made to frustrate this sea power have forced the Axis spokesmen to some of the frankest confessions of the war. They have described their difficulties. But they have not been so glib at explaining their decisions.

Admiral Luetzow in German went before the microphone to answer the one question which has been sweeping the Axis and the occupied countries.

Why, the people have asked themselves, do the U-boats not concentrate their activities in the confined waters of the Mediterranean where we know that Allied ships are steaming every day? Would it not be easier to locate and attack them in the narrow waters than in the vast waters of the North Atlantic?

Admiral Luetzow was frank.

He explained the difficulties of U-boats in shallow water where they could be more easily located with improved detection methods and then depth-charged.

HALF THE REAL ANSWER

That was only half of the real answer. The German Admiral has merely stored up more anxiety in the hearts of his people whose reasoning must make them see that British submarines have been fighting successfully in those same shallow and dangerous waters for two years.

Up to now, the Allied shipping for the armies in the Middle East had been forced to travel a long journey round the Cape—12,000 miles—as the Mediterranean dangers were too great. The ships on that run could make only two trips yearly. It took three months from England to Alexandria. Now each ship should be able to do the journey well under three weeks. Instead of two trips yearly, they may find eight trips possible at long last. With only a quarter of the steaming time to undertake, every ship on this run should now be able to do four times as much work. That means more tonnage available for the thrust at the Axis coastline; more tonnage available over and above the 160 new ships being built by the Allies monthly.

EFFECT OF NON-STOP BLITZ

I estimate that Axis shipping in the Mediterranean is now down to below 2,000,000 tons. Italy may have 1,000,000 tons left; there is 150,000 tons of German shipping which was trapped in the Mediterranean when the war began, unable to escape because of the British sea power at either end and in addition about 850,000 tons of Vichy shipping seized when Hitler marched on the south of France.

With the non-stop sea, air and underwater blitz, such as the Allies are staging now, that 2,000,000 tons will not last long. Less the shipping available to the Axis the greater is the Allied chance of striking at inadequately supplied and fortified spots.

WAS Mr. CHURCHILL TOLD?

"It's really disgraceful," said the elderly lady, glancing up from her newspaper, "permitting all this gambling in the R.A.F."

"What on earth do you mean, Aunt?" inquired her nephew.

"Why these 'sweeps' the R.A.F. are having every day," replied the Aunt. "No wonder so many owe so much to so few."

OPERATION ON "THE UNDER BELLY"?

WITH Tunis and Bizerta in Allied hands, great events may take place on Europe's "under-belly"—or, equally well, they may not. It will depend entirely on the strategic plans of the United Nations' military chiefs. It is probable that, at any rate at the outset, there will be more than one landing on the Continent. Whether it will be on the northern or the southern coastline is a question for the answer to which we must wait.

Some of the main questions that must be borne in mind when planning to invade the Continent and when choosing any particular area for an attack are: (1) complete air supremacy; (2) complete sea supremacy; (3) a vast fleet of transports and supply ships; (4) good ports, with modern dock facilities, in the area to be attacked; (5) as short a sea voyage as possible, in order to conserve shipping; (6) plenty of airfields in the area to be attacked from which, after their capture from the enemy, aircraft could continue to give full and close support to the attack; (7) sufficient "depth" to make deployment of a large force feasible; (8) secure flanks, if possible; (9) the area to be attacked should itself be strategically important.

These are some, but by no means all, of the questions which must be considered. They should, however, be sufficient to show that much thought and still more preparation must be given to such an immense, difficult and daring operation.

MOST PROMISING AREA

Strategically Italy, in general, is the obvious area to attack. If Italy crumbled the Axis would be weakened, not so much economically but militarily. Many Allied troops would be released for action elsewhere and the encircling grip around Nazi Germany would be much shortened. The Mediterranean would be almost entirely free from severe Axis aerial attacks upon our shipping: only Crete would still lie on the flank—and if Italy were occupied operations on the Balkans could be put in hand. Corsica and Sardinia would be cut off and their position would be hopeless. The most promising area to attack in Italy is clearly Sicily and the "heel." This attack could be greatly helped by a large-scale raid (or even a second invasion) in the Genoa or Naples areas with the object of cutting the supply railways of the enemy in Sicily and, at the same time, providing our attacking force with good ports.

The enemy's power to resist would depend upon his ability to reinforce from the north—and, even in normal times, the rail journey would be of some considerable duration. If this railway system could be cut—it is particularly vulnerable in the Bologna "bottleneck"—the position of the Axis forces further south would be serious.

—*Adapted from an article by Major Hamish Wilson.*

A MILLSTONE ROUND GERMANY'S NECK

A few days have passed since the Axis collapse in Tunisia. Allied strategy is now focussed on Italy itself, or rather its Sicilian and Sardinian outposts.

Now the whole weight of Allied air forces based in Africa and Malta is being thrown against them and the mainland air and sea ports which serve them. Day by day, with almost monotonous regularity, blasting of aerodromes, barracks, harbours and power stations by Flying Fortresses, Wellingtons, Mitchells and Marauders goes on.

Communications between the two islands and the mainland must have been rendered most precarious; Reggio di Calabria and Messina, two terminals of the train ferry which links Sicily with the toe of Italy have been repeatedly hammered. Palermo, Cagliari, Catania and a dozen or more smaller ports in the two islands have been so much knocked about that their quays must be almost unusable apart from the risk which shipping on the high seas runs from British submarines as well as aircraft.

ITALY'S HELPLESSNESS

There can hardly be a landing ground in Sicily and Sardinia which has not been raked again and again. The Axis is desperately endeavouring to strengthen its defence. Fresh German fighter units and some of the monster Messerschmitt transport machines, which were vainly used in trying to save the situation in Tunisia have made their appearance. Much of this reinforcement is being smashed as it arrives. More Axis aircraft have been destroyed on the ground than in the air during the past few days; the total of Axis air losses runs well into three figures against a few dozens for the Allies.

The ineffectiveness of the defence which Italy has been able to offer in these attacks is characteristic of the helplessness in which she now finds herself. Her leading men make no bones about it. During the discussion of service budgets in the Senate a few days ago the First Under Secretary of State for the Navy, Admiral Riccardi, and then his colleague of the Air, General Fougier, openly confessed the weakness and the inadequacy of their respective arms.

PRECARIOUS LAND COMMUNICATIONS

Admiral Riccardi referred particularly to the difficulty of the task which the navy had had to assume in providing for communications by sea with the Italian forces in the Balkans owing to "insufficiency and precariousness" of land communication. This is a grave and significant admission. Some 20 divisions of the Italian army are required to assist in holding down the insurgent populations of Yugoslavia and Greece. This is a larger force than remains for the defence of Italy.

Could a country, threatened with invasion, find itself in a more deplorable plight? No wonder there has been a fresh combout of manhood and that the Prince of Piedmont has appealed to the population to "fill in the gaps" in the fighting forces. The gaps are wide indeed.

In other respects, the situation is equally desperate. Local shortages of food supplies are frequent and food prices have been soaring, although the Government organs declare that stocks in the country are sufficient. Several cases have lately been reported of sit-down strikes in industrial towns in Northern Italy where workers have demanded their wages in food since the money they were receiving was not enough to buy meals. This testifies to the serious breakdown in organization due partly, no doubt, to the confusion which has been produced in railway and sea communications by Allied air raids.

STATE WITHIN A STATE

On top of all this is the Fascist Party, that State within a State, created by Mussolini for the reform of Italy whose proud boast was that it had saved Italy from chaos, is shown to be rotten to the core. Its own newspaper organs have confessed to devastating criticism which the man-in-the-street poured out on the bungling cowardice and corruption of its jacks-in-office.

Now at the eleventh hour, Mussolini has ordered a super purge for the Party. His lieutenant, Scorza, is endeavouring to cure the rot by staffing its offices with men whose title to distinction is that they fought in the last World War against Italy's present allies. The bankruptcy of its reputation is proved by the way in which its leaders have begun to use the throne as shield for the Party. Twice in the last few days, prominent Fascist spokesmen have appealed to the Italians to "rally round the Royal House of Savoy and the Duce." Thus the Italian Royal Family, for 20 years slighted and thrust aside by Fascist upstarts, is once more serving as their tool.

Italy's plight places her Axis partner in a dilemma. If she sends troops to assist the defence of Italian coasts, she will have to draw on her strategic reserve before a land attack on the fortress of Europe has even begun. Moreover, she will be placing them in a position from which it may be difficult to extricate them when the time comes. Everything goes to show that Italy's internal communications are already much disorganized. Allied bombing will disorganize them much more and German divisions might find themselves almost as completely bottled up in the Italian Peninsula as they were in Tunisia.

ALLIED AIR SUPERIORITY

So far, Germany appears to be limiting her reinforcements to aircraft and anti-aircraft units. So far the German air force has been powerless to check the weight and efficacy of Allied attacks. In their air squadrons posted along the North African coast and at Malta, the Allies dispose of an overwhelming concentration of air power, the importance of which was justly emphasised by Air Marshal Tedder the other day.

If Germans wish to gather anything like an equal concentration, they will be compelled to call in "the mass of manoeuvre," which they are believed to have been husbanding for an emergency. Reinforcements on any less ample scale are likely to be frittered away in vain. But if that central pool is once engaged, they will have nothing to use against an Allied landing elsewhere.

This is the quandary in which Germany is placed by the weakness of Italy. If she uses her full strength to go to Italy's assistance, she weakens her position elsewhere and plays into the hands of the Allies. If she abandons her to her fate, the shores of Italy may offer the Allies excellent jumping-off places for further penetration of Europe.

Recently the two Axis partners have been celebrating their fourth anniversary of the signature of their pact of friendship and alliance, a pact of steel as their propagandists have dubbed it. While drawing up their sycophantic telegrams of mutual congratulations either Party may well have pondered on the folly which induced it to take to the other for an ally.

—*The Times.*

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

27TH MAY.—One German trawler was left sinking off the Dutch coast after an engagement with British light coastal forces. Four enemy trawlers were intercepted near Terschelling.

28TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force made a very heavy attack on Essen, the home of the Krupps. [Essen had been raided 55 times before.] Mines were laid in enemy waters. Two formations of Mosquitos bombed the Schott Glass Works and Carl Zeiss Instrument Works at Jena. Two enemy fighters were destroyed during sweeps over Northern France and Belgium.

29TH MAY.—The *News Chronicle's* Naval Correspondent wrote: The greatest naval operation in history is imminent. It will be the landing and maintenance of an Allied army on the Continent of Europe . . . Never before has the Navy been in a stronger position to do a task assigned to it . . . An immediate attack on Europe from the Mediterranean area is technically possible.

Six R-boats were destroyed and three more damaged off Cherbourg Peninsula by the Fleet Air Arm.

American planes pounded U-boat bases in France—La Pallice, St. Nazaire and Rennes.

30TH MAY.—German aircraft dropped boms in the districts of a south-west coast town. The Royal Air Force destroyed seven German fighters.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command in very great strength attacked Wupperthal, a great industrial centre in Germany.

31ST MAY.—About 15 enemy aircraft dropped bombs at a place on the south-west coast of England, three of which were shot down. Bombs were dropped in an East Anglian coastal district by about 12 enemy planes.

1ST JUNE.—Twelve enemy bombers visited a south-east coast town in Britain. Four of them were destroyed and two were hit by anti-aircraft fire.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. C. Attlee, gave to the House of Commons the following figures: The total British Empire casualties during the first three years of the war, 514,993; killed, 92,089; missing, 226,719; wounded, 88,294; prisoners-of-war, 107,891.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

27TH MAY.—An official statement on the result of the Washington talks between President Roosevelt and Mr. Chruchill stated: "The recent conference of combined staffs in Washington has ended in complete agreement on future operations in all theatres of war."

Mr. Stimson, Secretary for War, said that the Army would not interfere in politics when invasion forces moved into Europe.

30TH MAY.—Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana said: America should proceed primarily with the offensive against Japan and secondarily with an Allied invasion of Europe.

Mr. James Forrestal, United States Under Secretary of the Navy, disclosed that destroyer escorts carrying new and secret weapons to fight submarines would become next year the largest single class of warships in the United States Navy.

1ST JUNE.—Mr. Wendell Wilkie said in the course of Front Federation in a broadcast said: "I have reliable reports that Japan is planning to strike at the West Coast of the United States between June and October, 1943."

Mr. Wendell Wilkie said in the course of a speech: The post-war world faces a period of demoralization that will be critical for all nations.

The structure of the United Nations permanent organization to free the word from what was disclosed in the final declaration of the Food Conference. The declaration contained seven points.

Reports of three isolated Japanese attacks on the American West Coast were disclosed. The dates of the attacks were not revealed.

2ND JUNE.—United States merchant shipyards set up a new record when they delivered 175 vessels aggregating 1,782,000 tons during the month of May.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

27TH MAY.—It was revealed that British aircraft strafted over 100 sailing boats in one enemy convoy.

28TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force attacked a Japanese-occupied village on Akyab island. A bridge and enemy-positions south of Buthidaung were machine-gunned.

29TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force attacked Heho airfield in Central Burma. Bombs were dropped on the Mandalay marshalling yards. Japanese troop positions in Kalemyo area were machine-gunned.

30TH MAY.—Fifteen Japanese bombers attacked Chittagong airfield. The Royal Air Force engaged the enemy, destroying one enemy bomber and three fighters and damaging others. Locomotives and rolling stock south of Thazi were damaged. Japanese aircraft were machine-gunned in Meiktila airfield.

31ST MAY.—Sir Nazimuddin, Chief Minister of Bengal, said that there was no apprehension of an invasion of Bengal and Assam.

The Royal Air Force attacked Kalemyo. Japanese troop positions near Buthidaung were machine-gunned.

1ST JUNE.—It was disclosed that in the past ten days a number of localised encounters took place in the Tiddim area of the Chin hills. The Royal Air Force bombed two enemy positions between Kalemyo and Fort White.

Six enemy aircraft were destroyed in the raid on Chittagong airfield on May 29.

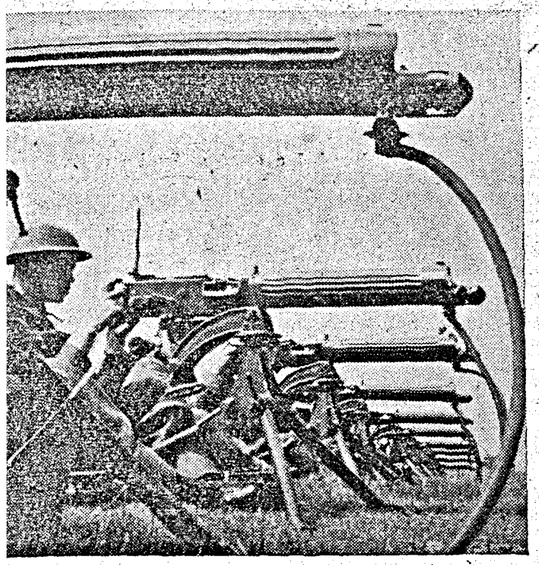
* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

27TH MAY.—Three important airfields in Sicily were attacked by Allied aircraft. The Royal Air Force bombed enemy shipping off Cape Male in Southern Greece.

28TH MAY.—Royal Air Force aircraft attacked two more Axis shipping vessels on the south-east coast of Greece. One small ship was sunk and one schooner was left sinking. Allied planes attacked Decimomannu and shot down 13 enemy aircraft. Pantellaria was again attacked.

The Greek submarine *Papanicolis* sunk a small German supply ship off Crete.



MACHINE GUN BATTALION IN TRAINING.—In the South-east Command, machine gunners are being trained to use their formidable weapon with deadly efficiency. Photo shows an angle shot of a line of Vickers machine guns.

It was revealed that 15 German divisions and 5 Italian divisions were stationed in Greece and the Bulgarian occupied Thrace and Macedonia. It was also reported that guns from the Maginot line were set up on the Adriatic coast.

General Catronx arrived at Algiers.

29TH MAY.—Flying Fortresses attacked Leghorn in Italy. Damage was done to oil refinaries, docks shipbuilding yards and railroad yards. Enemy airfields in Sardinia and Sicily, the Castelvtiano airfield and Pantelleria were also attacked. 19 enemy aircraft were destroyed. The aerodrome at Foggia was raided.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, warned Sgr. Mussolini that the bombing offensive would go on "until the utter defeat of the Nazi and Fascist regimes and all they stand for."

The Morocco radio stated that the Duce had decided to continue resistance "to the end" in Sicily and Sardinia. A report from Stockholm stated that Hitler, expecting a successful invasion of Italy evacuated wounded Germans from Italian hospitals to Austria and to the Reich.

30TH MAY.—General de Gaulle arrived in Algiers. He was welcomed by General Giraud and General Catroux. General Giraud in the course of a statement said: "Agreement has been reached between the French National Committee in London and the French High Command in Algiers."

In the course of a broadcast speech, Field Marshal Smuts warned the Axis that the Allies were coming and gave a message of hope to Axis-occupied Europe.

According to American estimates, detailed Axis losses in Tunisia were 30,000 killed, 26,400 wounded and 266.660 prisoners. The total Allied casualties in Tunisia were 70,000 compared with Axis losses of 323,000.

31ST MAY.—The Axis Radio reported that an invasion of Italy was "imminent" which was awaited with "extreme tension." The *New York Times* forecast that the next month will see the beginning of an Allied invasion of Europe.

The Algiers radio stated that Generals Giraud and de Gaulle have agreed to send a common representative to Washington.

The *German News Agency* (quoting a Vichy dispatch) stated that the French Fleet at Alexandria had "yielded to Anglo-American pressure."

Naples was attacked by formations of Allied planes which dropped numerous bombs. Sardinia, Foggia, Bari, Potenza and Pantelleria were also attacked.

2ND JUNE.—Reuter's special correspondent reported that a deadlock had been reached in the political discussions between General Giraud and General de Gaulle.

M. Peyrouton resigned the Governor-Generalship of Algeria.

Allied naval forces bombarded Pantelleria. Targets in Sardinia were also attacked.

[illegible] press reports stated: "Allied invasion ships are massing in great numbers in every port in the [illegible]ean."

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

27TH MAY.—As a result of Russian attacks, German troops evacuated a strip of land in Kuban. A group of German Scouts who crossed the northern Donetz was wiped out.

28TH MAY.—Waves of Russian infantry attacked German positions in the Kuban There was fierce hand-to-hand fighting. The Soviet air force sank a troop-ship in the Black Sea. German airfields were bombed.

29TH MAY.—The Russians repelled a number of German counter-attacks in the Kuban. Considerable losses were inflicted on the enemy. It was revealed that the Germans lost 194 planes in the Kuban during the last three days.

Premier Stalin, in the course of a statement, said that the dissolution of the Communist International was proper and timely because it facilitated the organization of the common onslaught of all freedom-loving nations against the common enemy, Hitlerism.

30TH MAY.—The Germans brought up reinforcements to the Lisischansk sector where they were strafed by Soviet aircraft.

31ST MAY.—Soviet aircraft attacked the railway junction of Gomel and the railway station of Karachev. Trains and artilery depots were bombed.

2ND JUNE.—A new battle flared up in the Kuban bridgehead.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

29TH MAY.—The British submarine *Regent* was lost.

* * * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

27TH MAY.—Axis troops started a general offensive against General Mihailoritch's positions in Montenagro and Herzegovina.

29TH MAY.—According to despatches received by Polish quarters in London, the Jews of Warsaw Ghetto killed or wounded 1,000 Germans in a "second battle of Warsaw" lasting over three weeks. Blocks of buildings occupied by Jews were blown up and men, women and children were murdered *en masse*, but the Jews fought back fercely, burning factories and German stores of war materials.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

27TH MAY.—Mr. H. M. Forde, the Australian Army Minister, disclosed after a tour of Darwin area that hundreds of Japanese planes and 250,000 Japanese troops were massed in the island perimeter from Timar to Rabaul, north of New Guinea.

Mr. Fumio Goto, former Japanese Home Minister, who had been appointed Minister of State without portfolio, was reported to have said that the Japanese people were facing an unprecedentedly grave situation.

The Chinese launched a vigorous offensive along the north bank of the Yangtse in the direction of Ichang and Tangyang.

Mr. Kilsoo K. Haan, Washington representative of the Korean National Front Federation, revealed a Japanese plan to offer China separate peace not later than September next.

28TH MAY.—Allied aircraft gave Lae in New Guinea its heaviest raid yet with 28 tons of bombs and 12,000 rounds of ammunition. There were heavy explosions and numerous fires. Two enemy planes were destroyed.

Chinese troops cut the vital highway between Ichang (a great Japanese base) and Hankow.

American troops launched an attack on the Japanese in their third main position on the Attu Island.

29TH MAY.—Fourteen Japanese planes raided Millingimbi in Northern Australia, "causing minor damage and no casualties." Spitfires intercepted and shot down three bombers, damaging others.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
The United Nations	5
The Press in the War	7
Fruits of Anglo-Soviet Treaty	8
Britain is Lease-lending too	9
Storming European Fortress by stages	9
Will the Axis attack Turkey ?	10
Axis being hit on three sides	10
" Undermining " Axis sea strength	12
Went without sleep for four days : Subedar's great work wins I.O.M.	12
Southern Army trains with live ammunition	13
Lallu the Sweeper	13
Stranglehold of R.A.F. mines	13
" Mines were laid in enemy waters "	14
The Balkans : Axis headache	15
Sicily in the Spotlight	15
War of Nerves in South-west Pacific	16
" New Order " at work	16
American offensive moves in Pacific	17
Air Power's part in aid to Russia	17
War Diary	18

Indian Troops! **Hope Club calling!!**

If you are on leave, or passing through Madras, you can stay

AT

His Excellency SIR ARTHUR HOPE CLUB

FOR

INDIAN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN

RUNDALL'S ROAD, VEPERY

MADRAS

No Rent Charged! **It's Your Club!!**

◆ ◆ ◆

IT WAS A C R A Z Y NIGHT, WASN'T IT?

—Well, how did you like
Two Pianos in the Ring?
How was the Newsboy's Song?
Huggins' Family!—they'd all gone nuts!

—And what were **YOUR** answers—before the gong went!—to these quizzes?

—What are dog days?
—What are the horse latitudes?
—What is the world's largest diamond?
—What is the length of the Great Wall of China?

Were you puzzled or amused?

WHATEVER IT WAS, TUNE IN

Next Wednesday Night at Ten to Madras, or Trichy

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1943 No. 39

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Hammering of Hitler's Island Bases In the Mediterranean.

The outer ring of Hitler's defences on the Southern Front of his so-called *Festung Europa* is being severely hammered during the last few days by the Royal Air Force. Sardinia, Sicily and Pantelleria are now bearing the whole weight of the Allied strategical air force against Italy in the Mediterranean. Pantelleria is about 40 miles from Cape Bon in Tunisia and the same distance from Sicily. It is a strategic position which can be utilized by the enemy to harrass the sea communications of the Allies. Therefore, the first step towards regaining the complete control of the Central Mediterranean narrows is the neutralization of this island and of Sicily. Pantelleria is 45 square miles in area. It was fortified in 1937 by Mussolini. Next year the construction of an aerodrome, " works quarters " and " harbour works " was officially mentioned. Later, additional defences were constructed in the steep cliffs of the island. There are pens to shelter submarines which operate against Allied ships. It would thus be seen that the neutralization of Pantelleria would be a valuable strategic gain.

Sicily which is the southern air headquarters of the Axis has an area of 9,860 square miles. After the entry of Italy into the war, more air fields have been constructed and enlarged in this island, which is the main base of the *Luftwaffe's* offensive against Malta during the North African campaign.

Then there is Sardinia which acquired a fresh strategic importance, when the Allied land offensives from the east and west in North Africa progressed from success to success. Sardinia's southern air base is Cagliari and its distance from Tunis is only 160 miles. Air fields, bases, ports, harbours, communications and power plants in all these outer defences of the Axis in the south are receiving terrific pounding by the Royal Air Force heavy bombers.

* * * * *

The Softening Process and the Second Front.

Apart from these the *Luftwaffe* and the *Regia Aeronautica* have suffered very severe losses. Unless large numbers of aircraft and pilots are transferred to other theatres of war, the Axis cannot avoid the greatest and most sustained air bombardment of this war on the southern front. The Allied air offensive in this area is mainly a process of softening with a view to the neutralization of the Axis bases and the pushing back of the Axis air forces to the Italian main land.

The special attention given to these island bases should not be taken to mean that there is an obvious connexion between the places bombed and the places selected for the Second Front. It may be pointed out that the occupation of Sicily and Sardinia are not essential for an attack on the Italian main land. If these islands are neutralized by overwhelming air and sea power while the invasion of Italy is taking place, they would automatically fall into Allied hands. Further, there are indications that naval blockade is beginning to grip the islands as Italian shipping is being successfully attacked by British submarines around these coasts. Direct blows may be aimed against the heart of Italy across the Tyrhennian Sea and also up the Adriatic.

In the Third Year of War—1941

The brute and blackguard storm ; before their trampling feet
The driven peoples quail, the armies crack and fall.
The nerveless necks are bent, and freedom's windingsheet
About her stricken body laid proclaims to all
The triumph of the howling beast, humanity's defeat.

But in the western seas, where ocean breakers roar
Against the crags and cliffs, the ancient walls of stone,
An island people girds, as it has girt before,
Its armour on its back, ready to fight alone,
Ready to meet the rolling tide and break it on the shore.

Overt its cloudy skies it throws a warrior swarm
To ride the bridge of air and pluck from monstrous height
A pride, a plume of fame, a shelter from the storm.
Across its narrow seas it watches day and night
And patiently moulds peaceful power to new and deadly form.

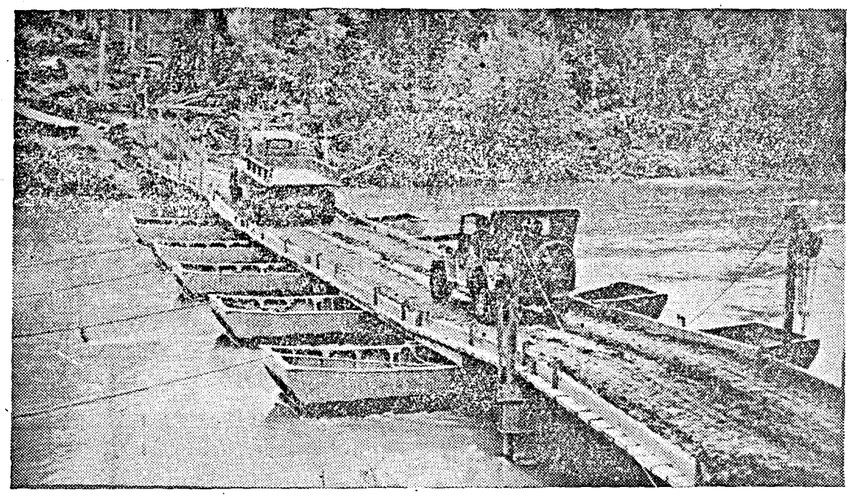
O staunch great-hearted isle ! Hard-hit but unafraid
Your men and women too to grievous tasks impressed
See Death in panoply of shrieking steel arrayed :
But like a bride to wed, with flowers at her breast,
They go to meet him : Death before that sacrifice is stayed.

And England's armies go, not now without allies
To west and east and south, to man the weakened walls.
To south and east and west the fleet of England plies
To join strong hand with hand wherever danger calls
On wings that fly for England, Right and Freedom sweep the skies.

—*R.G.*

Italy, a German Liability—What will Hitler do ?

What will HITLER do in the event of an invasion of Italy ? As things stand at present, there are no indications of German divisions being sent to help Italy, which, with her heavy demands on German coal and other raw materials, is considered to be a German liability. Will HITLER decide to abandon his ally and leave her to shift for herself ? If he does he will be conserving his manpower and resources. But by so doing, he will be dealing a staggering blow to the German prestige in the occupied countries, and there will also be the further difficulty of replacing the 10 to 12 Italian divisions which have



"Successful landings in Attu and unprecedented aerial bombardment were facilitated by the supplies which have gone up the Alaska Highway"—Photo shows a view of the Alaska Highway under construction last year.

been doing police duty for him in the Balkan Peninsula. One thing seems to be certain. The preliminaries to the great offensive of the Allies are well on their way, and it is merely a question of time when the Second Front will be launched with all the forces and resources at the command of the Allies. The more the Allies succeed, the more desparate Axis resistance will be. But the initiative is with the Allies and it cannot be wrested from them, however much the Axis may try.

* * * * *

Capture of Attu upsets Tokyo propagandists.

The capture of the island of Attu, which is at the extreme western tip of the Aleutians chain, has upset Tokyo radio propaganda. Attu was bombarded by American warships on February 20, 1943. Within three months, that is, on May 12 to be exact, American assault troops landed on the island. Tokyo admitted on May 30th that its Attu garrison had been overwhelmed. Within five days of the American landing, Japanese propagandists began indulging in mournful apologies. They said it was impossible to prevent the seaborne invasion of the Americans, because the island was 70 miles long and 30 miles wide. But the fact is that it is only 35 miles long and 18 miles wide. A Tokyo broadcast in German on May 19th threw the blame on the fog. "The notorious Aleutian fog", it said, "set in one month earlier than usual. Protected by this fog American troops landed....." In a statement broadcast a day earlier (May 18), Major-General YAHAGI pointed out that the landing of the American troops was made under the protection of heavy naval units. He said:

> "It is clear that the gun-power of the American men-o'-war who are supporting the invasion troops with their incessant fire and the continuous attacks of American carrier-borne aircraft, is of great advantage to the American units on land. The Japanese have nothing to make up for this American advantage."

The Japanese Major-General also referred to "American preponderance of material, especially artillery and aircraft." Another theme developed by Tokyo was the superiority of American communications. On May 22, Major-General YAHAGI made a further admission. "It is believed", he said, "that the enemy troops consist of one division, tanks and heavy guns."

We have referred to the Tokyo broadcasts on Attu to show that this excuse-making policy is a new departure in Japanese propaganda. It may be recalled that last year on June 6, Berlin Radio quoted the following passage from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:

> "Whenever the Japanese Navy decides to carry out operations, distance is considered as a factor of minor importance."

More than a fortnight afterwards (June 25), a Tokyo news bulletin in Burmese said:

> "In connexion with the Japanese capture of the Aleutians, a military authority has declared that the war in the Pacific, where the Japanese have been entirely victorious, has exposed the complete uselessness of the U.S. Navy."

Six weeks after, on August 10, 1942, a Tokyo broadcast in English declared:

> "The United States' dream of recapturing Attu and Kiska islands has been miserably shattered in the face of the mighty Japanese navy."

* * * * *

American Air and Naval Superiority Tokyo's Admission.

It is significant that Tokyo is now forced to make frank admissions that the Americans enjoy aerial and naval superiority somewhat near well-established Japanese naval and air bases in the Kurile Islands.

The island of Attu is roughly equidistant (about 800 miles) from the U.S. naval base of Dutch Harbour and the Japanese naval base of Paramushiro (Kurile Islands). The Japanese first occupied Attu in June 1942. Three months afterwards, that is, towards the end of September 1942, it was heavily bombed. On October 3rd, the Americans occupied the Andrean of islands and this led to the voluntary Japanese evacuation of Attu a week afterwards (October 10, 1942). Soon after, there was an intensified aerial bombardment of Kiska, which the Japanese had occupied at the same time as Attu. This reopened the eyes of the Japanese to the importance of the island, and the prospect of Kiska being neutralized made them change their minds and reoccupy Attu on December 5, 1942. The events that led to the American landings in 1943 have already been referred to above in brief.

It is of interest to examine the strategic background of the capture of Attu by the Allies. The Japanese have referred to the superiority of American communications. Though this has been put forward as an excuse for their not retaining Attu, the statement itself is not without foundation. The Japanese supply ships, it may be pointed out, have to sail across a long stretch of open ocean. For instance, the distance between Yokohama and Attu is roughly 1,700 miles. But American ships can move along this island chain protected by land-based fighter aircraft, when visibility is good, and by fog when it is bad.

(*Continued on page* 6)

THE UNITED NATIONS

FROM A CONFERENCE ∾ THROUGH A CHARTER ∾ TO A CONFEDERATION

ON Monday next, June 14, the world will celebrate the United Nations' Day—a day of thanks giving for the greatest and grandest combination of the forces working for freedom and progress. A year ago, President Roosevelt referred to this as "that great alliance dedicated to the defeat of our foes and to the establishment of a true peace based on the freedom of man". He pointed out that belief in the Four Freedoms of common humanity was the crucial difference between the United Nations and their enemies. "In it", said the President of the United States of America, "lies the absolute unity of our alliance, opposed to the oneness of the evil we hate. Here is our strength, the source and promise of victory. We, of the United Nations, know that our faith cannot be broken by any man or any force."

The London Conference

IT is of some interest to trace roughly the stages through which this concept of the United Nations has passed within a short time. The conference of Allied Governments in London on June 5, 1941, may be stated to mark the first stage. It consisted of representatives of the Governments of Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia and representatives of General de Gaulle, Leader of the Free Frenchmen. The conference resolved that they would continue the struggle against German or Italian aggression until victory was won and would mutually assist each other in their struggle to the utmost of their respective capacities. It declared that there could be no settlement, peace and prosperity so long as free peoples were coerced by violence into submission to domination by Germany or her associates, or live under the threat of such coercion. Referring to post-war relations, the conference resolved that "the only true basis of enduring peace is the willing co-operation of free peoples in a world in which, relieved of the menace of aggression, all may enjoy economic and social security and that it is their intention to work together and with other free peoples, both in war and in peace, to this end."

The Atlantic Charter

THE second stage was the historic and momentous declaration of August 1941, popularly known as the Atlantic Charter. It was a joint declaration of the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. It made known certain common principles in the national policies of both the countries, on which their hopes for a better future fo the world were based. Those principles are worth reiteration. The eight points on which Britain and America drew up a charter to which all freedom-loving nations have subscribed are as follows:—

> (1) their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other; (2) they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned; (3) they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them; (4) they will endeavour, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further the enjoyment by all States, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to trade and to the raw materials of the world, which are needed for their economic prosperity; (5) they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field, with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security; (6) after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries and which will afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want; (7) such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance; (8) they believe that all nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed, nations which threaten or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe pending the establishment of a wide and permanent system of general security, that disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten, for peace-loving peoples, the crushing burden of armament.

A Galaxy of Militant Peoples

OTHER nations whose representatives had met in London two months earlier accepted this eight-point charter and proclaimed "their adherence to the common principles of policy set forth in the declartion and their intention to co-operate with the best of their ability in giving effect to them". This marked the third stage. Further additions of freedom-loving nations have subsequently taken place, and the United Nations now stand out as a galaxy of militant peoples ranged on the side of freedom—"the massed and angered forces of common humanity", as President Roosevelt called them in his Flag Day appeal last year. He said,

> "It is fitting that on our traditional Flag Day, we honour not only our own colours, but also the flags of those who have, with us, signed declarations by the United Nations paying homage to those nations awaiting liberation from the tyranny we all oppose, to those whose lands have escaped the scars of battle, to those who have long been heroically fighting the blaze and havoc of war".

TO-DAY these nations of Europe are awaiting liberation from tyranny with greater hopes, and greater expectation of realisation of such hopes, than before, for the United Nations are on the threshold of a mighty all-out attack on the Axis. Referring to this Mr. Churchill said in a statement to the House of Commons on Tuesday

(June 8) " It is evident that amphibious operations of peculiar complexity and hazard are approaching ". He added " Brighter and more solid prospects lie before us ". Complete agreement was reached in Washington about the forward steps, and Anglo-American policy, strategy and economy were brought into full focus as regards the common objective.

The Next Move

THE eyes of the whole world are fixed on the next move of the United Nations. The Axis powers are left guessing what the invasion plans of the United Nations are. The German News Agency's Military Correspondent, discussing the possibilities of the invasion, says that the Anglo-American attempt to set up a Second Front on the periphery of Europe, or a large-scale summer offensive by the Russians, or a combination of both, is expected by the Germans, who, we hope, must be viewing the achievement of French unity at Algiers with further grave misgivings. There have been definite indications in the occupied countries that when an Allied invasion takes place the oppressed peoples of Europe will make an attempt to revolt against the Axis domination in various places.

WITHIN a short time, perhaps in a much shorter time than many people think, a large-scale invasion of Europe will be launched. It will represent the strength, power and determination of the United Nations, which have grown from a Conference, through a Charter, to a Confederation of world freedom. A hard task lies before this League of Nations, which is backed by the armed might of the defenders of liberty all the world over, but of its ultimate outcome there is no doubt whatever.

THE UNITED NATIONS

The following is a full list of the thirty-six United Nations :—

The United States of America, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, Republic of Mexico, Union of South Africa, Yugoslavia, Chili, Bolivia, Free France, Ethiopia, Iraq, Brazil, Columbia, Venezuela and Uruguay.

AXIS AND GAS: PRESIDENT'S WARNING

As President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the American armed forces, I want to make clear beyond all doubt to any of our enemies contemplating resort to such desperate and barbarous methods that, acts of this nature committed against any one of the United Nations will be regarded as having been committed against the United States itself and will be treated accordingly. We promise to any perpetrators of such crimes full and swift retaliation in kind and I feel obliged now to warn the Axis armies and Axis peoples in Europe and in Asia that the terrible consequences of any use of these inhuman methods on their part will be brought down swiftly and surely upon their own heads. Any use of gas by any Axis powers, therefore, will immediately be followed by the fullest possible retaliation upon munitions centres, seaports and other military objectives throughout the whole extent of the territory of such Axis country ".

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a statement in Washington on June 8.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY—*Continued from page 4*

Supply to Aleutians—Role played by Alaska Highway.

The bulk supply to the American forces in the Aleutians has been, it is of interest to note, SPEEDED UP THE Alaska Highway, which is one of the most remarkable road-building achievements of modern times. The unprecedented ærial bombardment of Kiska in recent weeks and the successful landings in the Attu island have been largely facilitated by the supplies which have gone up this Highway. It may be recalled that work on this Highway was begun in March 1942. 10,000 soldiers and 6,000 civilians began constructing a 24-ft. wide motor-road over mountain ranges, rivers and bogs for a total distance of 1,671 miles from Dawson Creek, British Columbia, to Fairbanks, Alaska. The Alaska Highway was completed on October 29, 1942 and formally opened on November 29, 1942. It has played an important part in the capture of Attu.

To the south-east of Attu lies Kiska, 180 miles away. This is the most important island held by the Japanese in the Aleutians. It is being subjected to terrific air raids. The island is 25 miles long and 5 miles wide, and has a good harbour which is used as a base for submarines and flying boats. The Japanese must be having a much stronger garrison here than they did in Attu. This means that the seizure of Attu will not be immediately followed by the occupation of Kiska. What is likely is that Kiska will be more closely blockaded in future.

* * * * *

Fog-bound Aleutians and Bombing Operations.

There is however, one difficulty—fog. The Japanese blamed the fog for their loss of Attu, but it will be helpful to them in keeping Kiska supplied during the next few months. It is important to note here that weather conditions are inextricably bound up with the allied operations in the Aleutians. This area is perennially fog-bound on account of the contact of the cold Arctic currents flowing southward through the Bering Straits with the warm currents sweeping north-eastwards from the China Coast. The worst enemy of the airman is stated to be fog, as large-scale bombing attack on targets cannot successfully be done on account of the ground fog. It is thus clear that the Aleutians are not a good base for bombing operations. Further, communications for supply of bombs and fuel are not of a high order, the air-fields are few, and a large air striking force cannot be maintained in the Aleutians. Heavy long-range bombing attacks at frequent intervals are, therefore, not possible.

THE PRESS IN THE WAR

By ALLAN TAYLOR

THERE is no doubt that the Press has a vital role to play in this world-wide conflagration, and that although hedged round with numerous rules and regulations, restricted as to size, and controlled in variety of ways, it has discharged its important and valuable functions with credit to itself, and with satisfaction to the reading public. In the face of many vicissitudes, and, who can say, perhaps still more stringent restrictions, it will continue to play its part, and an ever-increasing part, in the national war effort.

In the early days of the war stringent regulations were introduced, not only in India, but throughout the Empire, governing the publication of certain classes of news, prohibiting the writing of stories, and generally imposing restrictions on the Press. A free Press is regarded as an essential to democracy, but with the advent of war, it was recognized that these restrictions were necessary, if for no other reason than to prevent important information reaching the ears of the enemy, of the war effort of Britain, and of the Empire. To the general intention of these regulations the Press has readily submitted, although in some instances they might have appeared irksome, and to the lay mind absolutely unnecessary. Still those who are guiding the war effort of the nation must be accepted as the authorities, to decide what should, or should not, be published in the Press. The past has not been easy, the future may be no easier, yet the Press will carry on in the interests of the nation, and its people, for the value of the printed word cannot be over-estimated.

A GREAT HANDICAP

Then a second great handicap under which newspapers in India are labouring is shortage of paper supplies, original sources having been cut off when Norway fell into the clutches of the Nazis, and the Baltic was closed. For many years India had obtained large quantities of paper from Norway and Finland, and when newsprint from these countries could no longer be obtained India had to turn to Canada and the United States. The output there, however, was taxed almost to capacity by the demands of their own newspapers, and of those of other Allied countries. Then there was the shipping difficulty to be overcome, and the result was the imposition of control, and the natural corollary, a reduction in size and increase in price. Newspapers still carried on, but with the entry of Japan into the war, supplies from America were further threatened, and there have been further reductions in the size of all newspapers in India. I do not think it will be denied that newspapers have suffered as much as, if not more than, most other businesses in India as a result of the war, and while in most other concerns substitutes have been found, there is no alternative to paper for the printing of newspapers, and with the great demands which have been made on the limited productive capacity of India, there is none to spare for the Press.

LIAISON BETWEEN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT

In these war days there is, everywhere, a terrific hunger for factual news, and it is the duty of the newspapers to provide this news. Brief official statements do not satisfy this craving, newspapers must fill in the gaps, and their correspondents must give vivid pen pictures, not only of things that are happening on the battle fronts, but also on the home front, which, as has been emphasized time and again, is just as important to success in the final outcome of this war as the actual fighting. The morale of the people at home is as important as the morale of the fighting troops, and one of the most important duties of a newspaper is to see that this morale on the home front is not, in any way, undermined by the publication of pernicious rumour, or reproduction of careless talk. Threat of internal dissention, lack of a proper spirit to win, may have very serious repercussions on the progress of the fighting, and might even, have the effect of undermining the morale of the men facing the enemy in the battle lines. The newspapers are the liaison between the authorities and the people, and between the people and the Government, and it is their duty, as far as lies in their power, to keep each enlightened as to the needs, and reactions of the other. Newspapers still preserve their freedom of expression and criticism, but it has necessarily to be couched in such a way that no hint will be conveyed to the enemy that his purpose will be served by exploiting something to which attention has been called in the Press. It was public criticism in the Press which had so great an influence on affairs in 1916 when things were not going too well for England, and there have been instances in the present war when similar criticism has had advantageous results on the conduct of the campaign. As a British newspaper commented recently, " It will be a bad day for the public, and for the whole newspaper Press when, through some lack of courage, or some vain desire to avoid displeasure or the reproof of a section, public journals ignore their national responsibilities, and suppress frank and honest criticism, and the expression of opinion, honest and unfettered, which it can only be to the interest of the community to debate."

FACTUAL NEWS STORIES

The Press in India has been fortunate, in some respects, in that it has not been fettered to the same extent in the matter of criticism, and discussion, as have been newspapers in other lands, particularly those controlled by the enemy, where only official information can be published, and directions are given in the way in which views are to be expressed. Even in recent months there have been improvements in the factual news stories which have been released for publication. In the early days of the war there was considerable reticence on the part of those in authority to grant the facilities which the Press demanded, and which they felt it was their and the public's right to possess. It was claimed that the people wanted to know the true facts, but there were many delays in the official release of news stories, and much pettifogging red tape to be cut before news was allowed to be published. After much agitation some of the stringent rules were relaxed, news service improved, and still continue to improve, although even now the Press is still agitating for greater facilities in order that the people of the nations fighting for freedom might be better informed on important issues. History is being written in many places, and the public, through the newspapers, are sharing in the making of that history and continue to demand that they should be allowed to play their not inconsiderable part in its writing.

As I mentioned earlier, the Press endeavours to give, as far as lies in its power, and governed by the censorship rules, accurate factual news, published solely because it is of interest and importance to the general war effort, and not from any hidden motive, that it, or anyone else, has an axe to grind. It is for this reason that the majority of the great newspapers, and all the News Agencies, which circulate news to newspapers in every country, send their own correspondents to centres where important news is to be obtained. These men fill in the gaps which are left in the official communiqués, they tell of the heroism of troops, the difficulties which are cheerfully faced, and give to the reading public the stories for which they are craving. These correspondents share the dangers of the fighting fronts just as the troops, they experience the same hardships, and they often have to pay the same price. More than one newspaperman has been killed in action, and only a very short time ago the announcement was made of an Indian Observer, with the troops in Burma, who paid the supreme sacrifice in his devotion to duty, his duty being to give to the newspaper reading public of India news of the operations of the unit to which he was attached, in difficult and dangerous country, and in close contact with the enemy. Newspapermen, from the very beginning of the war have sailed the seas to tell stories of how convoys battled through air and submarine attacks to carry vital stores and supplies to the fighting men; have gone into action with the Navy and taken their chances with the men of the ships and have died. Others have flown on bombers which have carried out raids on enemy territory, have suffered privations of many kinds to tell the people at home just what dangers the men of the fighting forces encounter, and overcome, in carrying the war to the enemy. In all these newspapermen have lost their lives, but there are others who will carry on for the appetite of the public for news is insatiable.

CORRESPONDENTS AT BATTLE-FRONTS

And these men who cover the news at the battle fronts have to be specially picked, and they undergo, very often, strenuous training so that they will be physically fit to undertake the duties which are demanded of them. To give one very recent instance. Early in the present year newspaper correspondents went, for the first time, with the planes of the Royal Air Force which undertook a big raid on Berlin, and their thrilling stories of that raid have already appeared in the Press. But the men who went with the crews had to live on the air stations for a week before the raid. They underwent medical examinations, land some were rejected because of physical defects which would not enable them to stand the altitude, or the speed of the bombers. They had to undergo preliminary flights to test their reactions, and enable them to be accustomed to the aircraft. They had instruction in parachute jumping, rescue dinghy equipment,

and oxygen apparatus, and the part they would have to play in the event of any emergency. Some of those correspondents never reached Berlin, although fortunately none was lost. One representative of the Press was sitti g in the front' gun turret, in the nose of the bomber, beside the gunner, and when they were over enemy territory, the gunner was wounded and the plane damaged, and it had to turn back. It was, for him, a narrow escape. Another correspondent was in a plane which also had to turn back. When flying over Denmark one engine of the bomber was put out of action by anti-aircraft fire, and although an attempt was made to carry on, further engine trouble made it necessary for them to return to their base. Still another correspondent, who went right over Berlin, remarked that when the Captain kept the plane on the bombing course for two minutes it made his scalp crawl, and although many of the pilots who took part in the raid remarked that the flak was light it was "bad enough for him." Their experiences were illuminating, and more than one aircraft in which they were flying was damaged by shell splinters. These are the men who are with the fighting forces, telling the public the stories of the war. Newspapermen landed in North Africa with the great expeditionary force, others followed up the great advance in North Africa, and were right up in the front line; and others still have been up behind the Russians in their retreats and advances, and some have been taken prisoners of war. It is only as a result of the work of such men that the general public learns what is really happening on the many war fronts.

And at home they tell of the stupendous efforts which workers in mines and factories are making to keep the fighting forces equipped, of acts of heroism and endurance in the face of bombing and raiding. The story of the war is being written daily in the pages of the Press, but much more has to be told, and will only be told when some of the still strict censorship rules are relaxed. Until then the Press will continue to fulfil its function of stimulating the people to a still greater war efforts, giving news, and offering criticism when necessary, and generally playing its part in the common cause.

—A talk recently broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

FRUITS OF ANGLO-SOVIET TREATY

THE Anglo-Soviet treaty which throughout the year has been the sheet anchor of Anglo-Soviet relations has brought the respective Governments closer together in their attitudes towards the conduct of the war, treatment of war criminals and problems of post-war security and rehabilitation and, by timely exchange of information concerning policy in the European field, secured the avoidance of many possible misunderstandings, cables *The Times* Moscow correspondent.

Personal contacts between the Prime Ministers and the Foreign Ministers, made during the first year of the alliance, undoubtedly, have been a factor towards the creation of mutual confidence which has since matured as the result of the British Ambassador's frequent meetings with M. Molotov, whose deep and wholehearted interest in the treaty is no secret.

In Moscow as in London, the United States Government's sincere desire to see the alliance prosper has given special satisfaction.

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

A year has passed during which on the Russian front the dauntless defenders of Sebastopol fought a magnificent delaying action; the German plan to sweep behind Moscow was broken; when at the foot of the Caucasian passes Kleist's armour was scorched and destroyed and in the packing cellar of Stalingrad's Universal Stores the proud General Paulus surrendered to a 21-year-old Ukrainian Lieutenant.

It is a year that has seen the Wehrmacht rolled back beyond the periphery of its 1941 gains; its satellite armies shattered and their crippled remnants return home with tales of woe and murmurings of discontent; Leningrad is relieved and Moscow given breathing space; and new armies raised and armed for the tasks still ahead. It is a year during which the harvest has been barnered by women and children from virgin land; a year when the entire industrial system was shifted on whee's from one continent to another and attained the greatest stature; a year which has brought sorrow and with it glory to every Russian home.

Such events, overshadowed by the gradually developing friendship between the Soviet Union and her allies, have demanded the whole effort of every man, woman and youth. Russia can ill-afford a single moment for tasks which have no immediate bearing on the war's conduct.

SOUND BASIS

Yet during that year there has been laid soundly and painstakingly the foundation of Anglo-Russian understanding. Confidence without understanding there cannot be. To gain, the first, Russia's allies themselves have at least half the responsibility. Towards the second Russia has made, as far as circumstances have permitted, a noteworthy progress.

Rather than spend their efforts on spectacular demonstrations of amity, Soviet authorities have worked steadily with available material to satisfy popular desire for knowledge about the Allies. To hold a congress about British and American films, for instance, famous directors like Eisenstein and Pudovkin had to interrupt their work in Central Asia and fly to Moscow. Circulation in the Union's far-flung cities of the excellent exhibition of material, sent by the Ministry of Information, means reserving space for transport at a time when little but war material and food is moving by freight train. This dissemination of knowledge has had to seek more economical channels.

To this end the Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries has concentrated on the widest possible distribution of books and journals to specialist organizations, who, in turn, use the contents for their local needs. Professors Kapitsa and Joffe, as members of the scientific panel of the Society, have seen that all available suitable material has been effectively distributed. A number of books published in England are on sale in the Soviet Union, but in addition hundreds of copies despatched from England and America according to carefully prepared lists have been presented to the Central Library of Foreign Literature and to the Lenin Library which distribute them to branch libraries in factories, parks of provincial towns and State farms to meet the requirements of research students and specialists.

The library of the Academy of Science and the Central Medical Library are among the regular recipients of such books.

BEYOND THE WAR

With this material at hand, several Soviet organizations during the year have arranged a series of lectures by specialists covering various aspects of British life. It is significant that the subjects are by no means confined to Britain at war and that the lectures have sought to establish in the students' minds the idea that reasons other than partnership-in-arms link the two lands.

Thus Professor Durdinevsky at the Moscow University has given a course of lectures on the British Empire, past and present, as a part of the effort to promote an understanding of the British Commonwealth, which is soon to be supplemented by a publication of exhaustive study prepared by the publishers of the Soviet Encyclopaedia. Another series of lectures deals with Anglo-Russian relations during the 19th century, while Professor Nusinov has traced connexions between Pushkin and Tolstoy and England. A new history of English literature is in preparation by Professor Dzhivilegov and two recently published text books in the English language, editions of many thousands, were sold out in 30 minutes. Subjects at recent students' discussions included a detailed study of the North African operations and of the Pacific war.

Anniversaries of Walton, Newton and Wordsworth were occasions for demonstrative exhibitions. Sheet music and gramophone records have gone far afield and on the eve of the treaty's first anniversary an orchestral concert had been arranged by the State orchestra in Moscow at which a truly representative programme of modern English music was played.

It is now just over a year since the Director of the Press section of the British Embassy with two members of his staff landed without luggage and in clothes torn in battle from a small trawler on Russia's northern shores. In August the first copies of *British Ally*, a weekly paper in the Russian language, appeared from a makeshift office in Kuibyshev. It contained about 3,500 words and a fair number of photographs. Each issue took four to six weeks in preparation, and by the time the many events it recorded reached the Russian reader, they were already stale. Meanwhile, a lost library has been replaced by material brought with the greatest difficulty from England and one by one additional members of staff have arrived.

NEW DIPLOMACY

British Ally, which will in future be published in Moscow, has increased its circulation to 20,000 with a readership reckoned at 10 times that number, and what is more important has doubled the reading matter in

each issue and much reduced the preparation period. A flow of material is arriving from England and books, films, photographs and other publicity material are distributed from Kuibyshev and Moscow to suitable Soviet organizations, whose gratitude is always bounteous and sometimes touchingly so.

Long range effect of this work far surpasses its immediate effect. Here is a company of young and keen people, many Russian-speaking, all alive to the importance of their jobs, whose eventual knowledge is likely to be of supreme import for fostering Anglo-Soviet relations.

Hard work and understanding shown by both parties to the treaty in its first year have but broken the ground. Here in Russia at least there are many who know how rich a harvest it can yield.

BRITAIN IS LEASE-LENDING TOO

By OSWALD DUTCH

SEVENTEEN hours after Hitler's attack on Russia (on June 22, 1941), Churchill promised all possible British aid to the Soviet Union. Few people know that the first British deliveries to Russia were dispatched as early as the last weeks of this same June, the first consignment consisting of 500,000 pairs of boots which were urgently needed by the Russian army. Since then heavier goods have been shipped thousands of miles to Russia, among them (up to the end of 1942) no fewer than 3,080 aeroplanes, 2,974 tanks, 4,000 lorries and 70,000,000 cases of ammunition.

In addition, Britain has sent supplies of which she herself was extremely short, including 50,000 tons of her "invaluable rubber stocks" (to quote Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of Supply), enough cloth for military uniforms to stretch from the Black Sea to the Arctic Ocean (according to Oliver Stanley, Minister for the Dominions), 1,500,000 surgical instruments, 150 tons of medical supplies, 97 X-ray units, 1,000,000 tons of sugar, 2,500,000 tons of wheat and flour, 3,000,000 pairs of boots and numerous other articles such as army clothing, blankets, engines and railway trucks (for Persia), etc.

FACTORIES MAKE A JOURNEY

The public knows that Great Britain has sent large quantities of goods to Russia, for frequent accounts have appeared in the newspapers of the dangerous convoy journeys round the North Cape. Less is known of the help given by Britain to America under the lease-lend agreement.

At the end of 1941, when the United States were attacked by Japan, a number of British factories were transported to America. No fewer than 12 complete shell-making plants were shipped westwards, while over 400 machines were taken from various British factories, sent to America, and set up there in new factories. Full equipment for a huge gun-barrel factory also found its way to America and now forms the largest gun factory in the United States.

FURTHER EQUIPMENT

Six thousand British barrage balloons were shipped—not flown—to America and now protect the west coast of the United States against possible Japanese air attacks. In the winter of 1941–42 America had no protection against air and submarine attacks; under the lease-lend agreement Great Britain has sent a large number of anti-aircraft guns for the defence of the Panama Canal and of American east coast towns.

Other supplies include complete radio-location equipment, many other secret British defence inventions, large consignments of British coastal defence planes, and also destroyers, corvettes and E-boats for the fight against German and Japanese submarines.

HELP FOR U.S. WAR INDUSTRY

In September 1942, the United States Office of War Information declared that British help in the building up of the American army and fleet had been invaluable. Apart from lend-lease deliveries, Great Britain had placed orders for war materials in the United States amounting to more than 7,000,000,000 between 1939 and 1941 (cash purchases outside the lease-lend pact). These orders had enabled American industry to switch over to war production long before America's entry into the war and greatly facilitated further adaptation. Two hundred million dollars of British capital was invested in the development of those war factories.

FOOD SUPPLIES

It is interesting, too, to look at the lease-lend deliveries of food for the American troops from Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand. In the south-west Pacific alone the British Dominions have supplied 200,000,000 tons of food to the American forces. United States troops in Great Britain have received £290,000,000 worth of foodstuffs to supplement supplies sent from America, chiefly flour, sugar, potatoes, fresh vegetables and jam. These goods were delivered without payment, together with large quantities of shells and ammunition, 500,000 mines, and thousands of bombs and parachutes.

Almost all camouflage equipment for American camps and army vehicles has been supplied by Great Britain, a total area of 20,000,000 square feet has been turned over to the Americans without payment for the housing of their troops, aerodromes, workshops, etc. The total value of the British building programme undertaken on behalf of the U.S. troops in England amounts to over $600,000,000.

Apart from the performances of the British Navy, Army and Air Force, Great Britain has rendered considerable services to the Allies under the lease-lend agreements. Plainly, lease-lend is not a one-sided affair and, within the limits of her capacity, Great Britain has made a worthy contribution in return for the immense American shipments.

STORMING EUROPEAN FORTRESS BY STAGES

By LIEUT.-GEN. M. N. MARTIN

HOW is Germany to be defeated? To this question we may find a clue in Mr. Churchill's reference to North Africa in his speech to the United States Congress. Anglo-American landings faced the enemy with the dilemma that either he must relinquish valuable territory or else he must fight in conditions disadvantageous to him. He chose the latter alternative to his undoing.

How then can we hope to reproduce these conditions elsewhere? Again Mr. Churchill gives us an answer. Anglo-American air forces, already superior to those of Germany and Italy, will pursue a relentless and ever-growing offensive with the dual object of destroying the enemy war potential and finally establishing their own air supremacy in large scale air warfare to which their offensive will inevitably give rise.

When this dual object has been attained, conditions for a successful invasion of Germany itself will at last have been created. Sir Archibald Sinclair, elaborating the same theme, has declared: "There is only one hope of getting to Berlin without the slaughter which land battles of the last war entailed and, that is, paralysis of German war power by the Bomber Command . . . American daylight bombing is a complement of our night bombing. All we now require to destroy the sources of German war power is a large number of British and American bombers."

AMERICAN HEAVY BOMBERS

That we shall get these American bombers is presumably one of the decisions which will receive final approval in Washington. Roosevelt has told us that more than half the United States air effort is already allocated to the European front. We know, too, that the United States production of heavy bombers now is 500 per month and that it will reach 1,000 a month within a year. Thus our home-based air offensive grows.

Meanwhile, on the Mediterranean front, the battle for air mastery is already joined. Indeed, over Sardinia, Southern Italy and Sicily, it is well on the way to being won already. Over Greece and the Balkans, however, its winning will be harder. Before we can commit our land forces to battle in any given sector the conditions in that sector must be, if not favourable, then as Churchill put it, "tolerable" at least.

Progressively, therefore, as air battle over each new sector of a front is won, so we begin to create these tolerable conditions there. Thus an assault on the

fortress of Europe, like an assault on a mediæval castle, may best be carried out by stages. First, we establish fire superiority over a sector of the outer wall, and carry it by assault; next we use the outer wall to build up fire superiority once more over the wall within.

IF ITALY WAS WON

Meanwhile in the other sectors, the enemy may still be on the outer walls. For instance, if in this assault of ours by stages, we should come at length to Northern Italy, we should have won a base for air attack which together with that of our home-based air forces would wipe out once and for all German war potential. It would be a base too from which our land forces might strike out east into the Balkans or west into France. Moreover, we should have deracinated whatever Italian forces might still remain in the Balkans and the Dodecanese forces believed now to number no fewer than some 30 divisions.

A stage would thus be set for storming the keep itself.

As to the when and where of the opening stages of land assault, Mr. Churchill told us only that our future operations, depending as they do not only on elaboration of plans in the minutest detail but on great concentrations of shipping, troops and equipment, are still within the time schedule set for them. Thus the enemy's sacrifice of his Tunisian armies has been in vain.

The fortress of Europe has a garrison of about 100 German field divisions, besides local defence troops, from 60 to 70 Italian divisions with, perhaps, a million second-line troops and Black Shirts behind them and 17 Bulgarian divisions, not to mention the Rumanians, Hungarians and Finns. A mixed grill, no doubt, but none the less all the better for any pasting that air power can give it.

WILL THE AXIS ATTACK TURKEY?

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

THE Tunisian campaign is coming to a close. By the time this despatch reaches India, it may be over. As the end approaches, the interest of the Turkish public in the campaign increases, as does at the same time the anxiety in the Balkans.

"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. To build up an attacking force against Turkey might take at least six weeks from now, and there is no sign of it. 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, and she could not spare more for Tunisia. 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 after Tunis, 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. In May, the Grand National Assembly will have to pass the new budget. Nearly £ (T) 500,000,000 are in the ordinary budget and as much in the extraordinary expense budgets which will be voted on during the year. This means that 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.

AXIS BEING HIT ON THREE SIDES

By PETER MASEFIELD

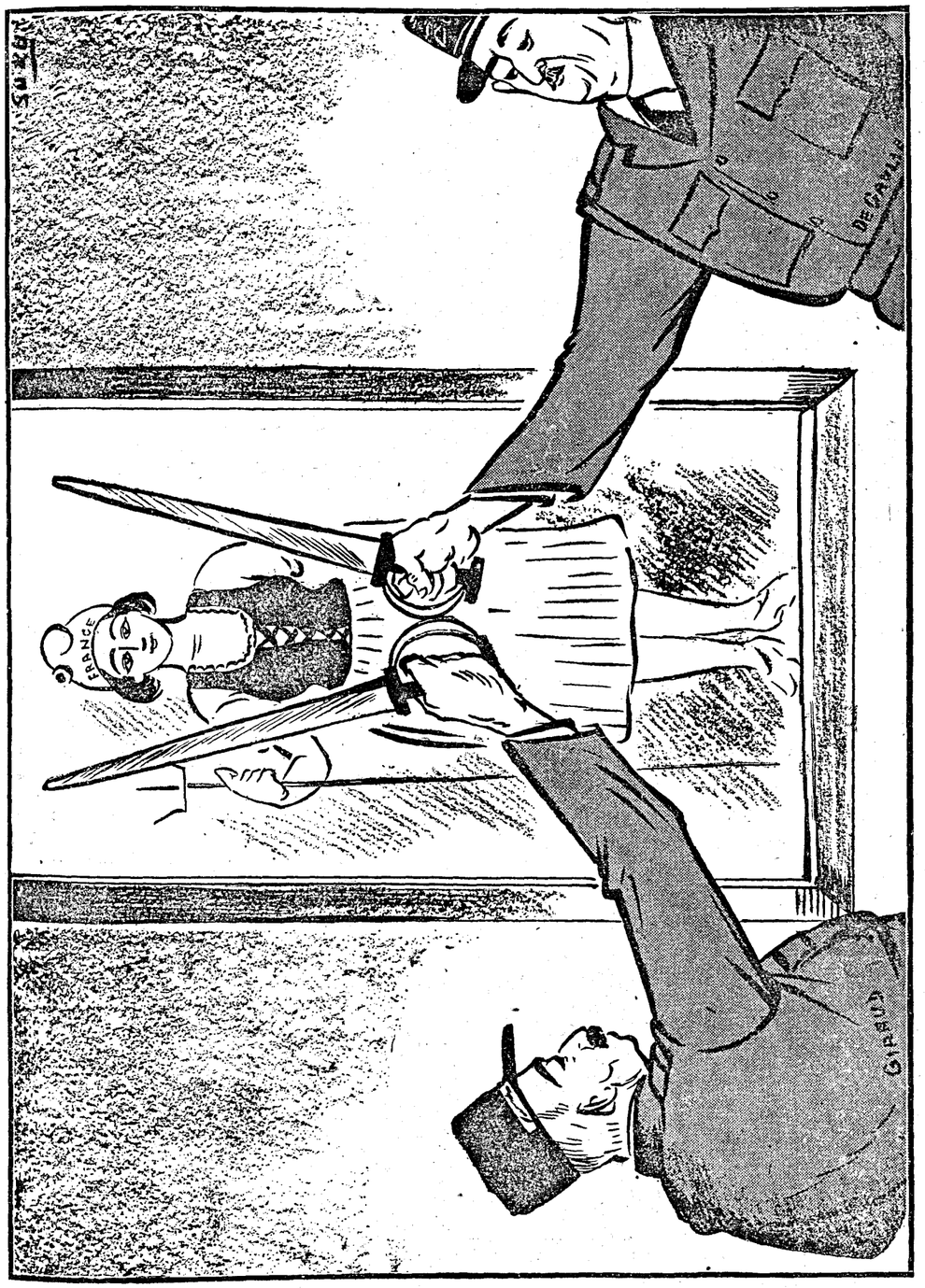
THE tide of Allied air power has begun to surge over Germany from the west. Now from Africa as well, the Axis partners are facing domination in the air. From the ruins of Carthage comes a new and mightier threat to Rome than any it has faced before.

Fast engines of destruction, 10 times bigger and 40 times faster than Hannibal's elephants, now bear down from Africa's shore heedless alike of sea, land and mountains or the valleys which may stand between them and their objectives.

In fact the tactical air force of the Mediterranean Air Command has finished its job on the Africa mainland. Now it re-forms and re-fits for new operations while the strategic air force takes up the task of preparing the way at long range for the new operations to come.

The war from Africa must be judged against the war as a whole. Very strong British and American air forces are grouped from Oran in the west to Egypt. To meet this threat the Axis is having to dispose every aircraft it can spare, some 1,500 operational aircraft of the Italian Regia Aeronautica together with nearly 1,000 German machines of which about 350 are fighters.

Germany is desperately short of fighters on the Russian front. They are badly needed in an attempt to counter the general numerical superiority in the air which the Red air fleet has built up during the winter. The 350



FRANCE: "THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN"

fighters in the Mediterranean area would be invaluable in support of the forthcoming operations in Russia. But demands for reinforcements in the Mediterranean are even more pressing to the Axis than those from its armies in Russia. Yet any further transfers from the Luftwaffe in the East will present the Red air fleet with undisputed command of the air. And it is obvious what that implies to-day.

Thus the enemy is in a quandary. He has about 4,000 operation aircraft in all with a further 1,800 Italian, 300 of them under General Romeplli in Russia. And the menace now is to be faced on three major fronts—the west, the Mediterranean and Russia. There are not enough aircraft to go round. The Allies have superiority on all fronts.

SUPPLYING OIL FOR AIR FORCE

This air superiority at present extends in a horse-shoe, from the British Isles through North Africa and through Syria to Moscow. Allied air strength is at present concentrated along three main sectors of this horse-shoe, in Great Britain, Tunisia and on the central front in Russia. Even so, all is not easy, for air concentrations can be kept effective only by constant supply. Every gallon of fuel and oil has to be brought by sea both in the British Isles and North Africa. Just what this means can be seen when one considers the amounts consumed in a single operation. For instance, in one day towards the end of the North African campaign more than 2,500 sorties were flown by the tactical air force alone. In addition, the strategic air force was making more than 400 bomber sorties daily.

If we assume that two-thirds of the sorties of the tactical air force were by single engine aircraft and the rest by 2-motor types and that each of the sorties lasted an hour, then we find that approximately 130,000 gallons of fuel would have been needed for tactical sorties in one day. And if half the aircraft of the strategic air force were 4-motor bombers and the rest 2-motor and each strategic sortie averaged four hours, then about 190,000 gallons would have been needed for one day's strategic operations—a total of 320,000 gallons for operational aircraft alone—not including transports or any of the thousands of motor vehicles used in the campaign. Aviation fuel is heavy and bulky and dangerous stuff to transport—320,000 gallons in weight is exactly 1,000 tons. A very large proportion of the total supplies, obviously, has had to be fuel. That the aircraft have hardly had to go short and the weight of attacks steadily increased and will go on increasing, is a tremendous tribute to the Allied organization for supply.

Now we may assume that African air forces are gathering themselves for the next stage. Five main targets come into view. They are shipping, air bases, land communications, ports and industry. The United Nations' air preparation gathers force for the next stage. It is certain to play a dominant part.

"UNDERMINING" AXIS SEA STRENGTH

By A. J. McWHINNIE

NOT a single British ship was sunk by mines in the whole of the Tunisian campaign. But the Axis lost nearly 40 vessels. Not only mines dropped from the air but every mining operation at sea takes on a new significance as Allied preparations for the invasion of Europe develop apace.

Much of the work, both of minelayers and minesweepers, proceeding as it does without a pause, never comes to light, but several important facts have been made known recently. For the first time, it has been possible for an official announcement to be made giving the approximate number of Axis ships whose loss or damage was directly attributable to mining during a specific campaign. The British Admiralty communiqué stated that between 30 and 40 Axis Mediterranean warships, supply ships and auxiliary vessels had been sunk or severely damaged by mines during the Tunisian campaign. Those 30 or 40 Axis shipping casualties are in addition, of course, to more than 500 Axis ships sunk or damaged since the Allied landings in November by British submarines, surface warships and Allied aircraft.

BRITAIN'S SCIENTISTS KEEP AHEAD

Within a few hours of that communiqué naval correspondents in London were able to announce that in six months of the Tunisian campaign not a single British merchant ship had been sunk by Axis mines in the same waters.

The mine and counter-mine battle of wits goes on and will go on day and night, month after month, so long as the war lasts. Brilliant scientific brains working in secret are bringing new devices to bear in the battle all the time with Britain scoring heavily all along the line. The Tunisian announcements were further proof of their success and natural sequels to their earlier triumphs in finding answers to Hitler's magnetic and acoustic mines with both remarkable speed and efficiency.

It can only be assumed, as it almost certainly is being assumed in Berlin and Rome, that British mining experts feel very confident about their future operations and because of that new confidence, are prepared to relax their former most stringent secrecy rules.

Naval observers of many nations who sailed with the Royal Navy in Britain's darker days are undoubtedly impressed now by the changed shipping situation round the British Isles. Every week not less than 70,000 tons of shipping sails safely through the English Channel in one direction alone; they sail safely under Nazi eyes.

Recent news from waters in which Axis ships might be expected to carry out vital supply operations suggests that Britain to-day is staging a full-scale mining campaign. No one in Britain, remembering the shipping losses sustained during the big German mining campaign and the anxiety those losses caused, has any doubt of the efficacy of the big scale mine plan.

Germans have been expecting the mine menace against them to be increased. At a time when every effort was being made to mass produce U-boats, prodigious efforts were also made to build up large flotillas of German minesweeping vessels. The strain on Axis minesweeping vessels is terrific.

WENT WITHOUT SLEEP FOR FOUR DAYS

SUBEDAR'S GREAT WORK WINS I.O.M.

STORIES of great courage and fine leadership in the fighting on the Etizwe front in Burma lie behind the recently announced awards of the I.O.M. (2nd class) to Subedar Jiwan Ram, and the I.D.S.M. to Havildar Phula Ram and Rifleman Mohammad Yusaf, all of the 6th Rajputana Rifles.

Commanding a company of his battalion, Subedar Jiwan Ram beat off six attacks from surrounding Japanese on March 6. He withdrew his men safely but found himself cut off. Two days later he rejoined his battalion, having made his way through the enemy positions.

By force of personal example and leadership the Subedar held the company together and in order to ensure this he went without sleep for four days.

"Throughout all the operations this V.C.O. has been tower of strength in the battalion" states the official citation.

Subedar Jiwan Ram is a Hindu Jat, and comes from Khireer village, Jhunhunu tehsil, Jaipur State.

In hand-to-hand fighting on March 7 in which his men fought to the very end, repulsing repeated enemy attacks, Havildar Phula Ram, a Hindu Jat, of Kasambi village, Didwani tehsil, Jodhpur State, was wounded in several places by sword cuts. Abrasions on the right hand were certified as having been caused by the Havildar holding and resisting a sharp weapon, probably a sword.

The safe evacuation of wounded during a battle on March 15 was entirely due to the good leadership, intelligence, and initiative of Rifleman Mohammad Yusaf.

His party came under enemy machine-gun fire whereupon he engaged the post with rapid rifle fire, and continued to give covering fire while the stretcher party under his orders moved to safety. The next day he guided out a carrier containing food and water to his company position.

Rifleman Mohammad Yusaf's home is Hala village, Kahuta tehsil in the Rawalpindi district. He is a Punjabi Mussalman of the Rajput-Mughal caste.

SOUTHERN ARMY TRAINS WITH LIVE AMMUNITION

PERCHED up on a hill overlooking a valley surrounded by hills and jungle, the press correspondents of Bangalore had an opportunity of witnessing, somewhere in South India, a most remarkable demonstration. Taking part in this demonstration was infantry, tanks, carriers, mortars, artillery and aeroplanes, all of whom used live ammunition.

The grand stand for visitors was on the slopes of a hill. Series of officers gave a running commentary over a loud speaker throughout the demonstration. Among the spectators were many a notable military commander. The audience included army officers, and other ranks, civil and police officials, and members of the press.

The first phase of the demonstration showed tanks and infantry advancing together until they were stopped by enemy fire. The tanks and infantry retaliated. A terrific battle ensued. One could hear, sitting on the hill top through a loud-speaker, various wireless messages which one tank was passing to another.

A tense atmosphere prevailed as tank after tank came, went in a hull down position, fired, advanced and fired again. Camouflage, close co-operation between infantry and tanks, men taking cover to avoid being hit (for it was all live ammunition). Very-light signals announcing success or arrival at a certain bound, were sights never to be forgotten.

A flight of planes then swooped down to carry out reconnaissance of this area and flew so low down to "spot" things that it nearly took the tree tops off. Later it dropped heavy explosives on a target which blew up to the skies.

The second phase of the demonstration showed infantry and tanks advancing under an artillery barrage. This was extremely exciting- one could hear shells from batteries lying miles behind, whistling past one's ears, and dropping with deadly accuracy ahead of the troops who were advancing under their cover. As troops captured a position so the artillery barrage lifted and went ahead. Wireless communication was maintained throughout this advance—one could hear through the loud speaker Commanders shouting out orders from their tanks.

It was also seen how communication is maintained during a battle between artillery, infantry, tanks and air.

Every now and then one saw shells bursting and then setting fire to the objects around the area where they burst.

The demonstration lasted for 2 hours. Right in front of us we had seen a battle in all its aspects, with live shells, ammunition and with the "atmosphere" which was so tense.

Troops who took part in it were tough, well-trained and keen. All arrangements in connexion with this exercise were well laid on. There was a general air of efficiency everywhere.

LALLU THE SWEEPER

LALLU'S job is to sweep out the tents of his own section, the barber's tent, the carpenters' tent and the goats' tent. He seems to give a little extra care to the goats' tent and this is his grave and friendly salute, perhaps, to those about to depart this world in order to be transformed into the unit's food.

Recently there have been certain fundamental changes in Lallu, and one cannot help wondering where they may lead him. It all started when the Sergeant-Major told him to clean his teeth—although there may be a coincidence here, and one fact may have no real bearing on the other. But ever since he changed his set of brown fangs for a couple of rows of human teeth highly creditable in their whiteness, Lallu has been taking great pride in his personal appearance, and looking about him with an air of self-confidence, of triumph—almost of impudence.

He is rather a nice-looking fellow of eighteen, and now, when he is dressed for walking out, he is as smart as any soldier in the company. Up to a few weeks ago he was quiet, unobtrusive, retiring, sought only the company of other sweepers; but recently he has been talking to sappers, and has even been out with them: for there is something compelling about the new Lallu, and sappers have been heard to imply that it is not that one cannot avoid the company of this sweeper, but that for some reason one does not really want to.

The plain fact is that Lallu is a changed man. He has even begun to talk about his home and family, and his work before he joined the Army; and about these things there appears to be some mystery.

His people are *not* sweeper class: he is very definite about this. They have a prosperous farm in a village near Delhi. When someone asked him why he was enrolled in his non-combatant capacity, he replied that it was because of misunderstanding with the havildar at the Recruiting office.

As Lallu's teeth have become whiter, his clothes cleaner and more assiduously pressed, so the farm near Delhi has become larger and more prosperous. Now his father is one of the leading men of the village, and Lallu's wife (she is a year younger than he, and they have been married seven years) is the daughter of a prominent landowner. Eventually Lallu and his family may have in their veins the blood of princes.

Accompanying this process of aggrandizement, his thoughts move towards ships, for it is not for nothing that he works, walks, and talks with soldiers whose peculiar and fascinating duty it is to work on ships, loading and discharging the supplies of war. Lallu derives a vicarious dignity from being with his friends of the Indian Engineers. He has admitted that he has never seen the sea, and that until the company moved to its present station he had never seen a ship. But now his thoughts return to ships—oh, to work on ships that come from the sea and go to sea, to work a winch, to drive a crane, to climb up and down vertical iron ladders out of and into the deep, hidden parts of a ship! To sling and tie, to lash and chain, to shout and chant, to move among and wild, all-knowing men of the sea! To be (almost) a soldier and sailor in one!

Such, at the moment, is Lallu's picture of bliss: so far have his white teeth and clean clothes, against an improving, if imaginary, social background, led him; now he plans to be remustered one day as a Sapper—and indeed such a metamorphosis is not impossible.

Meanwhile he does not forget his friends the goats; in friendliness he continues to give that little extra attention to their tent. Perhaps what principally earns his sympathy for them is the material difference between his position and theirs: by no effort on their part, by the exercise of no power on earth, can the unfortunate creatures ever be remustered.

But Lallu may not always be a sweeper.

STRANGLEHOLD OF R.A.F. MINES

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

THE Ruhr devastation had a sudden reward—but steady profit goes on growing. From the breached Mohne and Eder dams has poured spectacular proof of the effectiveness of what is possibly the least known side of the R.A.F.'s offensive.

"The Bomber Command laid mines in enemy waters," said the first communiqué on the great shrewd blow at the war industries of the Ruhr. Then a few hours later came dramatic evidence of the mighty damage that had been caused. Minelaying took on itself a new importance in the public mind.

It was known that power stations had gone, rivers were in full and uncontrolled flood, bridges had broken and 300,000,000 tons of water were bringing evergrowing destruction in the heart of Germany's highly centralized industrial area. But perhaps passed over in telling this exploit was a small announcement from a neutral country.

It said that a steamer taking nickel to Germany sank off the west coast of Sweden. It was thought to have struck a mine. Just as the dams proved sensationally the value of the R.A.F.'s minelaying strategy, the little item about the nickel ship offered quietly but conclusively, proof of the success of its more normal day to day activities. It points the importance of the operations like the one that the R.A.F. carried out on the night of April 28, when more mines were laid in enemy waters than on any previous occasion. Minelaying aircraft had also gone out in strong force the

night before. In the two operations, they laid as many mines as the R.A.F. normally dropped in a month or as were laid in the whole of 1941.

A mine may lie in a certain area for weeks, possibly for months, before its victim passes it and may be many months before we hear, if we ever do, that a ship has been sunk. A typical instance is the story of the 2,000-ton Finnish *Inga*, laden with iron ore which was sunk in the Kiel Canal in December.

At first, it was said that the *Inga* had been sunk in collision; then there was a story that its loss was the work of the saboteurs. In fact, the ship had been sunk by a mine laid six months earlier. The size and frequency of the R.A.F.'s mine-laying sorties have grown immeasurably since then, with multiplied effect on Hitler's economic and military strategy.

The Germans have devoted much labour and effort in an attempt to guard their shipping lanes from those attacks. They had to increase their fleet of minesweepers enormously. In Hitler's mercantile marine, minesweeping is now so dangerous and unpleasant that Nazis have had to increase the pay of officers and men whose morale has been steadily falling.

Then there are the fighters that have to be sent up at night to patrol the Baltic and other sea areas in a ceaseless but vain effort to stop the R.A.F.

Flak ships have to be stationed at entrances along trade routes. One pilot who went out on April 28, said afterwards that defences in the Baltic were as dangerous as on the way to Essen. And Essen is the most heavily defended city in Germany. That is how much Nazis fear British mines.

The public have rightly seen in these recent sorties another way of the Royal Air Force helping the Russians.

"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 8,000,000 miles, and since the beginning of the war the number of mines laid runs well into six figures (as 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 problems 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 lookout 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.

Only a Rehearsal!

Six parachute troops were up for their first rehearsal jump and the first five had already leapt into the air. Six was just going to jump when the C.O. queried: "Hi, where's your parachute?"

"Oh," said Six. "I thought this was just a rehearsal."

THE BALKANS: AXIS HEADACHE

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

FOR some time there has been certain activity in the Balkans indicating that the Axis is beginning to be worried. As is usual in the spring, after the long winter months, the various staffs proceed to reinforce the garrisons, change the dispositions of troops and intensify their supplies to the existing garrisons. The Balkans have always given those in charge of transport a headache, and this headache gets worse in winter. Means of communication are generally inadequate: the few railways that there are lead in the wrong direction; roads are bad; and bridges have deteriorated.

For months past the Todt organization has mobilised all the available labour in Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia and despite the difficult winter conditions has tried to improve communications by extensive repair and maintenance work and also by constructing new roads. Bulgaria herself has completed several short strategic railway links to enable her to communicate directly with the occupied Mediterranean coast of what was former Greek territory. Parallel with this activity there have been reports from time to time that the Axis were fortifying various points on the Greek and Bulgarian Mediterranean coasts and also the whole of the Black Sea coast belonging to Bulgaria and Rumania.

The somewhat prolonged fighting in Tunisia may have given Italy a few more days to prepare, but that can hardly be said for the Balkans. This holds good only if the United Nations choose to strike in the Balkans, and that we do not know yet. Neither does the Axis, which accounts for the feverish activity everywhere.

BULGARIA IN A MESS

In Bulgaria the mess seems to be greater than anywhere else. While the Germans are trying to reinforce the Greek coast and the Greek islands under their occupation, and in consequence need the Bulgarian railways and roads very badly, the Bulgarian Government is holding large-scale manoeuvres. All stations and roads are blocked, first by the Bulgarians who are moving their own troops, and next by fresh German troops being moved to their new points.

There are indications that fresh German troops have arrived in the Balkans and are heading for Greece. These reports say that they are equipped with tropical uniforms. This is quite natural if we remember that both German and Allied troops fought in tropical kit in Crete. There is no reason to believe that these new German troops will stay in Greece if nothing happens. Two years ago the Germans after training their Afrika Korps in Vienna hothouses sent them to the South of Italy to be acclimatized there. In the present circumstances, with Italian morale being what it is, it is hardly likely that the Germans would care to train their troops in the South of Italy, although it is quite possible that these troops after their training in Greece may well be wanted to help the Italians against an Allied invasion.

There are other reasons as well which necessitate the presence of fresh German troops in Greece. As the danger to the Italian mainland increases, Mussolini is eager to draw some of his men, if not all his armies abroad, back to Italy. It looks as if the Italians are beginning to withdraw some of their troops from Greece, and these will have to be replaced by German troops and perhaps by Bulgarian troops also.

PANICKY BALKANS

It takes very little now to create a panic in the Balkans. After the Adana visit there was a panic in Bulgaria and Rumania. Hardly had that settled down when the presence of General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson in Ankara was the sign for another wave of panic. This has just died down. Now we hear that the Allied troops in Cyprus have completed large-scale exercises and that these troops were ready not only for defence but also for attack. This must have created another wave of panic.

The Balkan people live under an accumulating fear of what may happen to them. Some time ago a report reached Turkey from Bucharest. It described the Russian break through at Stalingrad and in the great Don elbow last November. Panic was so great in Bucharest and in the larger towns that although hundreds of miles away, the Russians were thought to be at the gates of Bucharest and everybody who had any valuable hastened to hide them underground.

At the same time, the populations of all these countries, although they have suffered very little from air raids, have been obliged for nearly two years now to comply with the most rigorous blackout regulations. They are all awaiting an unknown terror. To complete their wretched images conjured from imagination, the German news agencies give them long accounts of R.A.F. raids on the occupied territories which they withhold from the German people. Thus the news reports which are meant to show how wretched and cruel the R.A.F. is—reports in which they do not forget to magnify the figures of alleged R.A.F. victims—in the Balkan States they do nothing but intensify the existing terror. Instead of bolstering up the morale of their allies, the Germans do nothing but diminish their staying power.

AGITATION IN BULGARIA

But to return to Bulgaria. The Rumanian newspaper *Universal* printed in Bucharest recently published a report from its correspondent in Sofia on "Communist Agitation in Bulgaria". (Of course any patriotic action in the occupied territories is "Communist" agitation.) The writer said that for some time Communist agitation in Bulgaria had increased, not only in the north but also in the south. He went on to explain how this propaganda was spread. It was spread by word of mouth and also by secretly printed leaflets. The Bulgarian people were urged to break away from the Axis and rally to Russia. Some acts of sabotage had also been committed.

The stage is set and the play is about to begin. It will be very interesting indeed and this year, who knows, it will be possible to kill the villain. Turkey constitutes a front seat. Turkey is settling down to watch the drama of this summer. It remains to be seen whether the Turkish spectators carried away in their enthusiasm will not also spring up and mount the stage to take an effective part in the kill.

SICILY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SICILY today finds itself in the spotlight owing to its important strategical position. Already exploited economically, the situation of the island forces it to bear the brunt of any attack on Italy. The location of its richest agricultural areas, its mineral resources, its few industries, its main lines of communication and a large part of its population in the coastal zone enhances its vulnerability.

From Tunisia the western angle of Sicily is about 150 miles distant, while from Tripoli the south-eastern angle of the island is just double this distance. On the east coast lies Augusta, one of the finest natural harbours in the Mediterranean and one of the principal war bases of Italy. Near the north-east angle of the island is Messina, train-ferry link with the Peninsula, while near the other extreme of the north coast lies Palermo on its panoramic gulf, capital and largest city of Sicily rivalling east-coast Catania as a business centre.

4,000,000 INHABITANTS

Over 4,000,000 people, roughly the population of Switzerland, about one-tenth of Italy's entire population, normally lives in Sicily and of these a third reside in the narrow coastal fringe that includes not only the larger towns but almost all the more fertile agricultural land. Only on the south is this belt barren and sparsely populated. Elsewhere it comprises the plantations of lemons, oranges and mandarins, vines, olives, almonds and vegetables, irrigated from wells and perennial streams, that are the island's principal agricultural wealth.

Sicily was the leading exporter of lemons, and among European exporters was second only to Spain for oranges. Its Marsala wine, exported from the western part of the island, was already renowned in Nelson's time.

In the interior wheat occupies over half the sown land and, with poor grazing, dominates the agricultural landscape. Inadequate and uncertain rainfall and poor soils, however, mean low yields and Sicily must normally import wheat while the thinness of the grazing means that it possesses fewer cattle per unit of agricultural area than any other section of Italy.

SCANTY FUEL RESOURCES

Amongst mineral resources sulphur easily takes the first place. Production of asphalt, now used as a minor source of oil to help eke out Italy's scanty fuel sources, has been stimulated by the war.

Known to many only as a tourist land, rich in picturesque landscapes and classical antiquity, Sicily suffered from a social malaise that was still far from being remedied when Italy entered the war. Over half the population was directly dependent on agriculture but less than one per cent of the agricultural holdings comprised over a third of the total area of holdings. To the dominance of the large estates, many of them held by absentee landowners, had to be added backward communications, scarcity of water, prevalence of malaria, the illiteracy of about two-fifths of the population and, until recently, the menace of gangsterism. Many Sicilians found a way of escape only by emigration, formerly for the most part to the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Tunisia.

Under Axis domination the island has proved a convenient source of sulphur and of fruit, two considerable items in the supplies provided by Italy to Germany. The island has, in short, been treated as a lemon to be squeezed.

WAR OF NERVES IN SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC

By NOEL MONKS

OF all the world's battlefronts the Pacific war zone is the hardest to understand. Few people realize what is going on there. Let me try to explain things.

The greatest "war of nerves" since pre-Munich days is being waged just now in the South-West Pacific. The latest news is that the Japs have built a great base at Wewak, on the northern coast of New Guinea, that another "threat" to Port Moresby is under way.

A fairly clear picture of what is going on and what is likely to go on in the South-West Pacific can be put together. At the moment the nearest Jap base of any magnitude to Australia is Rabaul, 1,000 miles north-east of Townsville. In the north-west the Japs have a minor base at Koepang, 510 miles from Darwin. Wewak, in New Guinea, where the Japs are said to be mustering strength, is nearly 700 miles from the Australian coast.

HIGHLY PERFECTED SYSTEM OF AIR RECONNAISSANCE

It would be impossible, therefore, for any large Japanese invasion fleet to approach the Australian coast without being seen at least 24 hours out. The highly perfected system of air reconnaissance conducted by the Royal Australian Air Force and the United States Air Corps ensures this. The nearest that a Jap invasion fleet has ever got to Australia was in the Coral Sea—800 miles out—nearly a year ago. It has never been disclosed whether it was Australia-bound or headed for Port Moresby in New Guinea. Navy and land-based American bombers accounted for it in grand style.

The Japs later tried to forge one missing link in their great strategic chains across the Pacific by an attack on Midway. The United States navy was ready—again with the aid of shore bombers—wiped out the invasion fleet. In between those two Jap invasion attempts, a strong land effort was made in New Guinea with the object of capturing Port Moresby. The situation was retrieved by Australia's General Blamey after the Japs had got to within 30 miles of their objective. With the help of some brilliant tough American junior generals and their troops, Blamey and his Australians pushed the Japs back over the mountains and into the sea at Buna. It is four months since the last Jap was flung out of Buna.

That the Japs would try to get back Buna—and the Owen Stanleys—is natural, and recent reports of big concentrations at Wewak, near Salamaua, far from being alarming must have been expected by the Allied Command. The other day General Blamey said, "The enemy have now been completely driven from Papua; in fact the main part of the force has been exterminated." Is it not natural, then, that the Japs should try to build up that force again as soon as possible? It would not necessarily constitute any new or direct threat to Australia.

PORT MORESBY: NOT ONE CHANCE IN A THOUSAND

If, on the other hand, Port Moresby were to fall to-morrow, then Australia would indeed be threatened. But there should not be one chance in a thousand of that happening. New Guinea is the only operational land "front" under General MacArthur's command, and if that cannot be regarded as "safe", then Australians would have every reason to become alarmed.

A lot of men and material have been poured into New Guinea. Two great Australian armies that went away to the Middle East three years ago ill-armed and unequipped, are now back in Australia. They were completely equipped by Britain, and they brought much of their equipment home with them though General Montgomery could ill spare it. They must number 100,000, and they have proved themselves to be as tough and gallant an army as any in the world. It might be said that 100,000 fully equipped men are a mere handful compared to the size of Australia. But not when you consider that there are only three parts of Australia that could offer any attraction to Japan as invasion points—Darwin (north-west), Freemantle (west) and Townsville (north-east).

AUSTRALIA'S SIZE, HER SALVATION

Australia's size has been her salvation. A Jap landing at Darwin would have the Nipponese still anything from 1,500 to 2,000 miles from the nearest city and industrial centre. Townsville, in Queensland, is 1,200 miles from Sydney; Freemantle, in Western Australia, is 2,000 miles from Melbourne.

American and Australian engineers and workmen have built at least 100 airfields at strategic points throughout Australia within the past year. That stands as a magnificent achievement, considering the nature of some of the country and lack of communications. I would like to see every one of those airfields packed with aircraft bombers, torpedo carriers, fighters.—*The Daily Mail.*

"NEW ORDER" AT WORK

By W. N. EWER

THE Japanese, imitative as always, are setting up quislings in countries they have overrun. In Java there is a "movement for the mobilisation of the people's strength" with an executive of four Javanese. They are to be "assisted" in their work by a board of 20 Japanese "advisers".

Similarly in the Philippines a "Government" of four Filipinos works under the strict supervision of "the office of Japanese military administration", and its chief activities are devoted to transferring control of the economic life of the island into the hands of big Japanese capitalist groups. The Philippines, Netherlands East Indies, Malaya, French Indo-China and occupied China are now all under the control of the "Greater East Asia Ministry". And so, significantly, the Japanese legations in Bangkok and Hsinking are now under the control of this new ministry instead of as formerly under the Foreign Office.

And as a further step towards the completion of Japanese domination, Korea, Formosa and Sakhalin, which used to be controlled by the "Overseas Ministry", are now placed directly under the Ministry of the Interior. They are counted as an integral part of Japan itself.

Step by step these administrative changes show the character of the "New Order" which Japan is trying to set up in East Asia and in the Pacific—a system of centralised Japanese domination politically controlled by the army junta in Tokyo and economically exploited for the benefit of big Japanese capitalists. It all began with the slogan "Asia for the Asiatics". Even those who once responded to that suave appeal are beginning to understand that the meaning was "Asia for the Japanese ruling cliques".

AMERICAN OFFENSIVE MOVES IN PACIFIC

MEMBERS of the Pacific War Council came away apparently well pleased from the meeting at which Roosevelt and Churchill reviewed the whole war in its relation to the Japanese front. The Press of the Dominions, like that of the United States, is recording general satisfaction with the Prime Minister's assurance that British forces will take their full share 'in an unceasing and relentless wagging of war against Japan.' What an American journal calls the 'present strategy of beating Hitler first' is approved by the main body of public opinion.

Concentration of a decisive force on a front where alone a vital decision can be obtained has been recognised as the right course, and it is realised that the overthrow of Nazism is an indispensable condition of deliverance of the world from Japanese savagery.

FROM SOLOMONS TO TIMOR SEA

While the main assault on Germany proceeds, the United Nations are by no means debarred from effective action on the Pacific fronts. The major part of the American forces, Mr. Churchill remarked, is now deployed there. For some time past, they have been on the offensive from the Solomon Islands and the Timor Sea in the far south across vast ocean spaces to the Aleutian Islands chain between Alaska and Kamchatka.

The offensive has not developed to more than the recapture of important air bases and harbours but the Japanese have proved unable to stop it. It has inflicted on them heavy losses in aircraft and shipping. Hitherto we have had no definite information of the extent to which the main Japanese fleet was drawn into these operations, but Tokyo's announcement that Admiral Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Navy, was killed in a plane "while directing battle operations" during April suggests naval movements on a large scale.

FORWARD MOVEMENTS

Throughout March and April, the Americans were continually attacking bases seized by Japan in the Aleutians. Kiska, which has a good harbour and on which the Japanese built a fighter airfield, was bombed nearly 300 times. This month American forces landed on Attu which is a little further west. The Japanese fleet and air force have failed to make any effective intervention. It appears that the defenders cannot hold out much longer. When Kiska also is taken, American air power will be established on the chain of bases stretching to Japan and within 2,000 miles of the nearest point. Another forward movement to the Kurile Islands would bring American bombers within range of the Japanese homeland. Then the Allies might begin the "process so necessary and desirable of laying cities and other munition centres of Japanese in ashes."

—*Daily Telegraph.*

AIR POWER'S PART IN AID TO RUSSIA

"WE must do everything in our power that is sensible and practicable to take more of the weight off Russia in 1943." In the opinion of the Prime Minister that is the major task of the moment, writes the *Sunday Times* air correspondent.

A large share in affording that relief can be taken by Allied air power in close accord with other arms. Now that lessons of air war over Tunisia can be reviewed against the background of the whole North African campaign and the bombing of Germany which supported it, a set of valuable propositions can be seen to emerge.

The bearing of air power on coming events is implicit in them. Three major points stand out.

They are: one, strategic. Concerted bombing of industry and communications directly weaken enemy at the front and isolates the battlefield.

Two, tactical. Air mastery over a battlefield can dominate armies, first, by denying the enemy air support or reconnaissance and then employing a pattern of bombing and close assault to smash supplies, troops and armour.

Three, technical. Decisive results in strategic and tactical fields can be attained only by first-class material.

ROUND THE CLOCK

Effective aid can be given to Russia by still more concentration on the closely knit British-American 24-hour air offensive against the Reich and by care in the selection of the next field for the employment of the veteran African armies and air forces. Destruction of replacements by strategic bombing fits neatly with the process of attrition which has applied on battlefields in Russia and elsewhere. In this the enemy plays into our hands through his inability to indulge in strategic bombing and his belief in binding air units to army formations.

German military theory has always been that of concentration of ground forces by one single task in an attack. So army-minded is the Luftwaffe that its units are divided up into "penny packets" and each is allocated to a particular army corps—instead of wielding the whole with all its weight and inherent power wherever it may be needed most.

The consequence is that on the Russian front there are some 2,500,000 Axis troops supported by about 2,000 aircraft of which 300 are Italian. These aircraft are outnumbered by the Red Air Fleet whose magnificent new 385 miles per hour Laag-5 fighter with 1,600 horse power engine appears to be achieving technical superiority as well.

In the Mediterranean area, the Axis has some 2,500 aircraft, 1,000 of them being German. Here again they are outnumbered and outfought. The Luftwaffe now appears to be packing Sicily's 20 odd aerodromes and is obviously expecting attack in that quarter. The more enemy aircraft we can draw off into Sicily, Sardinia and the toe of Italy, the greater chance we shall be giving to Russia to achieve and maintain the requisite air superiority in the east.

There can be no doubt that Allied air power from Africa can open Sicily for invasion if that should be a part of the Allied plan and that the Germans will be throwing good aircraft away in attempting to defend it—as they are certainly committed to do.

TWO ESSENTIALS

In these ways Allied air superiority in the west and in the Mediterranean can give powerful aid to Russia immediately in two essentials. There is, first, the air offensive over Germany by British and American forces. Estimates of the scale of devastation (not including such exceptional coups as the breaching of dams) suggest that each bomber wreaks a destruction equivalent to about ten times the effort put into its production and operation. The second essential is to draw off and destroy every German aeroplane possible. Germany can spare only some 150 bombers in the west to-day and is forced to use FW-190 fighters as night bombers.

German air power is breaking. The Mediterranean area provides a favourable site to put on the screw because enemy communications are long. Allied air supremacy is established and under its cover, sea and land forces can compel the enemy to fight and expend his substance.

If the German air support can be thinned on the Russian front, some of the millions of Axis troops operating there will be reduced to relative impotence. Air is thus the determining factor and in the Mediterranean the Allied air strength is dominant. We can look for great results.

German Production Going Down

IN a startling article on German production, the Swiss paper *Weltwoches* says:

"Planned estimates of German factories are seldom fulfilled. Often they scarcely reach 50 per cent, the average being about 70 per cent. This is despite the fact that production figures for this year are fixed considerably lower than for the last year.

"If the reasons for this fall in production are examined the transport crisis will always be seen to be the most striking factor. The development of transport was unable to keep step with the tremendous extension of Germany's 'economic space.' Air raids on important railway lines, especially junctions, create avalanches of confusion and loss of time.

"Germany is no longer conducting the war 'normally' as it was originally planned. Improvisations, interim solutions and special measures which should have been avoided at all costs are now the rule. War cannot be planned coolly any longer, but it is being conducted with a desperate defensive determination which does not even hesitate to call on dangerous forces and is prepared to sacrifice the past and the present to an uncertain future."

A HISTORIC DECLARATION

WAR AND PEACE AIMS OF THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN JOINT ROOSEVELT—CHURCHILL STATEMENT

I

Resolution of Allied Conference in London on June 5, 1941 :—

The Government of Great Britain and the Governments in Ireland and Canada, the Government of Belgium, the Provisional Czecho-Slovak Government, the Governments of Greece, Luxemberge, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia and representatives of General de Gaulle, Leader of the Free French-men, engaged together in the fight against oppression, are resolved, firstly, that they will continue the struggle against German or Italian aggression until victory is won and they will mutually assist each other in their struggle to the utmost of their respective capacities. Secondly, that there can be no settlement; peace and prosperity so long as free peoples are coerced by violence into submission to domination by Germany or her associates, or live under the threat of such coercion. Thirdly, that the only true basis of enduring peace is the willing co-operation of free peoples in a world in which, relieved of the menace of aggression, all may enjoy economic and social security and that it is their intention to work together and with other free peoples both in war and peace to this end."

II

The joint declaration runs as follows:—

The President of the United States and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being met together, deem it right to make known certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a better future for the world.

First their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other.

Second they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

Third they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.

Fourth they will endeavour, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further the enjoyment by all States, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms to trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity.

Fifth they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field, with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security.

Sixth after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries and which will afford assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want.

Seventh such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance.

Eighth they believe that all nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armament.

III

Mr. CHURCHILL'S APPEAL

The primary objects of the meeting between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill was to give the conquered countries the hope and the conviction that their sufferings and their resistances would not be in vain.

"The tunnel may be dark and long but at the end there is light." Addressing the oppressed nations Mr. Churchill said:—

"Do not despair, brave Norwegians: your land shall be cleansed not only from the invader but from the filthy Quisling who are his tools. Be sure of yourselves, Czechs: your independence shall be restored. Poles, the heroism of your people standing up to the cruel oppressors, the courage of your soldiers, sailors and airmen shall not be forgotten. Your country shall live again and resume its rightful path in the new organization of Europe. Lift up your heads, gallant Frenchmen. Not all the infamies of Darlan and Laval shall stand between you and the restoration of your birthright. The tough, stout-hearted Dutch, Belgians and Luxembourgers, the tormented, mishandled and shamefully cast-away peoples of Yugoslavia, glorious Greece now subjected to the crowning insult of the rule of the Italian jackanapes, yield not an inch. Keep your souls clean from all contact with the Nazis. Make them feel even in their fleeting hour of triumph that they are the moral outcastes of mankind.

"Help is coming. Mighty forces are arming in your behalf. Have faith. Have hope. Deliverance is sure. There is a signal which we have flashed across the waters and if it reaches the hearts of those to whom it is sent, they will endure with fortitude, and tenacity their present misfortunes in the sure faith that they too are still serving the common cause and their efforts will not be in vain. You will perhaps have noticed that the President of the United States and the British representatives in what is aptly called the Atlantic Charter have jointly pledged their countries to the final destruction of Nazi tyranny.

"That is the solemn, grave undertaking. It must be made good. It will be made good. And, of course, many practical arrangements to fulfil that purpose have been, and are being organized and set in motion."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

3RD JUNE.—It was revealed that as a result of R.A.F. raids on German industrial centres, German weapon production was down by a third.

4TH JUNE.—There were a number of casualties including some people killed when enemy aircraft raided a south-east coast town.

Another invasion warning to the people of France was broadcast by the B.B.C.

5TH JUNE.—Mr. Churchill arrived back in London. Mr. Churchill flew from the United States to Gibraltar to visit General Eisenhower at Algiers. He addressed 3,000 soldiers of the Anglo-American armies in Tunisia.

6TH JUNE.—Twelve German planes raided a town on the south-east coast of England, one of which was destroyed.

8TH JUNE.—Frank German admissions that an Allied invasion of the Channel Coast might be successful were made in what was described by the Berlin correspondent of the *Stockholm Tidningen* as the German army "blueprint."

In a statement in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill reaffirmed that complete accord had been reached in Washington during his recent talks with President Roosevelt.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

3RD JUNE.—It was announced that a German submarine was destroyed in the Atlantic and 40 members of the crew were captured.

It was revealed that a life-boat containing 19 survivors, including women and children of a Norwegian ship torpedoed in the Mid-Atlantic was rescued by a Royal Navy tender.

4TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt declared at a Press conference that understanding and accord between himself and Stalin were excellent.

America's "Beveridge Plan" Social Security Bill was introduced jointly to the House and the Senate. It was hailed by organized Labour as going a long way towards solving the United States post-war unemployment problems.

Mr. Stimson, War Secretary, announced that at least 17,083 American soldiers had been taken prisoner in the war. Of these, the Japanese held 11,307, Germany 3,312 and Itlay 2,464. He added that the figures were incomplete.

5TH JUNE.—Col. Knox, Navy Secretary, stated: "The lull in submarine merchant sinkings may be a prelude to an all-out attack in June."

6TH JUNE.—An Axis submarine was sunk in the Atlantic by United States Navy Patrol bombers.

8TH JUNE.—The United States Senate approved 23,637 million dollars, naval appropriations bill of which 4,583 million dollars was for construction of 29,142 aeroplanes. The bill also provided for 9,118 million dollars for construction of surface vessels.

President Roosevelt stated that there was evidence the Axis powers were making significant preparations to use gas.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

4TH JUNE.—It was revealed that in four recent R.A.F. attacks in the Buthidaung area, more than 100 troops were killed. Buthidaung waterfront was also bombed. River craft on the Mayu river was attacked.

5TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. bombed storage warehouses at Akyab.

6TH JUNE.—Enemy warehouses and railroad installations were attacked at Alon in Burma. Buthidaung was bombed.

7TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked enemy objectives in the Kalemyo area. Targets in Mandalay were heavily bombed by American air force.

It was revealed that the total number of civilian casualties in all Japanese air raids on India was 1,694.

8TH JUNE.—According to the *Daily Mail's* Military correspondent: "Brigadier Wingate's foray into Burma upset Japanese planes for penetrating Indian territory, while India has been left in comparative peace to train men and build up supplies for the future."

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

3RD JUNE.—Allied aircraft bombed the Italian island of St. Antioco and Pantelleria. An enemy convoy was engaged off Cape Spartivento.

The *Daily Express* correspondent wrote: "Axis prisoners are still pouring in. A long blue grey line of them is streaming westwards across North Africa—266,000 disabled defeated, tired individuals called prisoners of war."

It was officially announced that 555 abandoned Axis air craft had been found in Tunis, Bizerta and Cape Monareas. Of these, 433 were German and 125 Italian.

Mr. E. Stettinius, United States Lend-lease Administrator, said that a cheque of a further 10 million dollars was received from General Giraud as part payment for Lend-Lease supplies sent to French North Africa.

It was announced that French leaders meeting in Algiers, had settled their differences and had formed a Committee of National Liberation which when the invasion came, would take over the administration in France. It was further announced that General Catroux would take the place of M. Peyrouten. The de Gaulle-Giraud talks were resumed.

4TH JUNE.—Pantelleria was again bombed. It was announced that occupation of that island was imminent.

It was reported that Mussolini had called up civilian home guards in addition to regular troops.

5TH JUNE.—Pantelleria was again raided. Taranto, the Italian naval base in southern Italy, was bombed. Liberators attacked Grottalglie airfield in southern Italy.

6TH JUNE.—Flying Fortresses attacked Spezia in north-west Italy. Shipping was attacked at Ponte Romano and lightning attacks were made on the airfields in Sardinia.

Two enemy sailing vessels were destroyed in the harbour at Stampalia.

7TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force pounded Pantelleria. Two enemy aircraft were shot down in Eastern Mediterranean.

It was revealed that the Allies had massed five major armies along the 3,000 miles of African coast line to strike across the Mediterranean and knock Italy out of the war. British and American papers said that an invasion of Europe was imminent—"the last and bloodiest phase of the war in Europe".

8TH JUNE.—Pantelleria was again bombed by North-West African air forces.

9TH JUNE.—Scores of German fighters swept over Pantellaria, trying to stem the day and night waves of Allied aircraft.

Enemy bases in southern Sardinia were bombed. There was an Allied air attack on Cabronia.

Allied pamphlets were dropped on Pantelleria calling for surrender.

It was authoritativey stated in London that altogether 291,000 Axis prisoners were taken in Tunisia. The total number of Axis prisioners and killed was estimated to be 341,000.

Eleven Italian soldiers were assassinated by patriots in Marseilles.

Reuters military correspondent said that a new offensive had already begun in the Mediterranean. "All signs indicate the approach of zero hour."

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

3RD JUNE.—It was revealed that the German planes to strike on the Russian front in May were foiled by the terrific Russian offensive in the first two weeks of that month.

The Soviet air force raided Karacher and Krasny-Bor. Five hundred German aircraft raided Krusk. The Red Army smashed a big German thrust in the Kalinin Province.

4TH JUNE.—Fierce air battles took place on the Kuban front. Soviet aircraft raided the railway junction of Kiev and Roslavl. Five hundred German war-planes tried to wipe out Kursk, 162 of which were brought down. Twenty-three German planes were shot down in the Kuban area.

5TH JUNE.—A German thrust to recapture Velikie Luki was hurled back. Long-range Soviet aircraft raided Orel railway junction.

6TH JUNE.—German forces retreated south of Izyum. A German military train was derailed in the Ukrain by guerillas.

7TH JUNE.—Reuter's special correspondent stated that the Germans had lost 5,000 aircraft in the air war in Russia. The Red Army repulsed a new German counter-attack in Sevsk area.

8TH JUNE.—Col. Vasiliev, in a broadcast from Moscow, stated: "The whole front is in a state of tension from the Barents Sea to Novorossisk."

Fresh German attempts to force a crossing of the Donetz in the area of Balakleya were smashed. The Red air force raided the railway centre of Unecha. Munition dumps were set on fire.

9TH JUNE.—According to a report from Ankara, Hitler had massed 70 divisions (about one million men) for a new bid to capture Moscow.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

4TH JUNE.—A military revolution triumphed in Argentina and General Arturo Rawson, a cavalry officer, was Chief of a new Provisional Government. President Ramon Castillo fled to Uruguay. Revolutionary forces in the Argentine occupied Government House in Buenos Aires.

Commenting on the resolution, Col. Knox, U.S. Navy Secretary, said: "It looks as if the pro-Axis Administration there has been unhorsed."

7TH JUNE.—The President of the new Argentine Government, General Rawson, resigned andu his post was taken over by his War Minister, General Ramirez. It was suggested that the split in the new Argentine Government was on the question whether Argentine should break with the Axis or not.

It was announced that the Chilean Government had resigned.

8TH JUNE.—General Ramirez, President of the new Argentine Government, stated that Argentine would remain neutral.

A new Chilean Government was formed and sworn in before President Rios.

* * * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

3RD JUNE.—Allied aircraft made a series of small-scale operations on occupied territory, shooting up 11 locomotives in ten areas and damaging one armed trawler and damaging three others.

The French statesman, M. Edouard Herriot, was deported to Germany.

It was disclosed that villas and hotels facing the sea along the coast of Dunkirk, Ostend and other French and Belgian resorts had been made into concrete forts.

5TH JUNE.—In a broadcast, M. Laval said: "I have decided to call up the whole 1942 class without a single exception . . . A quarter million French workers have to leave for Germany between April 1 and July 1."

9TH JUNE.—Vichy Government broke off commercial relations with Chile.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

3RD JUNE.—In a statement about the Washington talks between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, Mr. John Curtin, the Australian Prime Minister, said: "The discussions of the last three months have now brought to Australia one of the greatest successes of the War."

General Blamey, Commander of the Allied land forces in the south-west Pacific, said: "While the position of Allied nations has definitely improved, the Japanese are going to make it most difficult for us."

Allied heavy bombers inflicted serious damage on Japanese airfields in the Wewak area. Sixteen Japanese planes raided Bulldog area in New Guinea. Cape Gloucester (New Britain) airfield and Hollandi (Dutch New Guinea) were raided by Allied planes.

Chinese forces captured Changyang and Chihkang. The main body of the Chinese forces swept forward towards Ichang.

4TH JUNE.—Rear-Admiral Harry Yarnell, the former Commander-in-Chief of United States Asiatic Fleet, said: "There is a possibility that the Chinese Nationalist Government may collapse unless effective aid is forthcoming soon."

Chinese forces broke into Itu, an important Yangtse town. Chinese planes sank troop-laden barges, killing about 1,500 Japanese, along the stretch of the Yangtse, between Ichang and Itu.

It was revealed that troops of the Nanking Puppet Government helped the Chinese by giving away valuable information.

5TH JUNE.—Chinese troops entered Itu on the western Hupeh front. Over 2,000 Japanese were annihilated. The Chinese occupied Kungan and launched an attack on Ichang. Ichang was in flames.

6TH JUNE.—Reuter's Far Eastern Observer wrote: "The resounding defeat suffered by the Japanese in Central China during the past weeks, marks the opening of a new phase in China's six-year struggle with Japan." For the first time, Chinese troops fought under a powerful air umbrella.

General Stilwell said: "We shall have more and more reason to be proud of our great ally, China."

American airmen sank a Japanese destroyer, set fire to a corvette and a cargo ship and shot down 15 enemy planes in the Bougainville area in the Solomons.

Five attacks were carried out against Japanese installations at Kiska.

7TH JUNE.—American aircraft attacked Japanese positions on Choiseul island, north of the New Georgia group.

The Tokyo radio reported that Japanese engineers were attempting to refloat *Repulse* which was sunk along with *Prince of Wales* off Malaya in December 1941.

The Chinese forces occupied several strategic points outside Ouchihkou. According to *New York Times*, more U.S. planes were on their way to China. Japanese remnants in Itu suffered severe casualties.

Admiral Numitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, said: "The Japanese are now on the defensive in the Pacific. . . We must do everything in our power to aid China, because we must use bases in China to attack Japan."

Allied planes raided Koepang and Penfoei airfield in Dutch Timor.

8TH JUNE.—The Japanese were defeated in their attempt to reach Chungking. Chinese units mopped up isolated Japanese detachments along the south bank of Yangtse river.

9TH JUNE.—A small Japanese convoy was attacked off Kavieng in the Bismarck Sea.

INDIRECT FERTILISERS

These are not used directly as food by plants; but they act on other substances in the soil which cannot be absorbed by plants and convert them into forms available to plants. Some of them loosen the soil, and sometimes disinfect the soil.

1. *Lime* (Calcium oxide).—This is the most common indirect fertiliser. Though it forms a constituent of plant-food, most soils contain enough of it to be used as food by plants. But it is as an indirect fertiliser that lime is usually added to the soil. In its caustic state it is one of the most powerful agents for effecting the decomposition of organic matter in the soil. It converts an acid soil into an alkaline one, and also helps to loosen heavy clay soil. 8-12 oz. can be applied per square yard.

2. *Salt* (Sodium chloride).—As an indirect fertiliser it liberates potash and other plant-food in the soil.

3. *Chalk* (Carbonate of lime) has a beneficial effect on light sandy soils, giving them the power of retaining soluble substances.

4. *Gypsum* (Calcium sulphate).—It reduces the alkalinity of soils. It also liberates potash in the soil, and makes it available for plants. It is best to apply gypsum to the soil during rainy season, at the rate of about 2-3 oz. per square yard.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

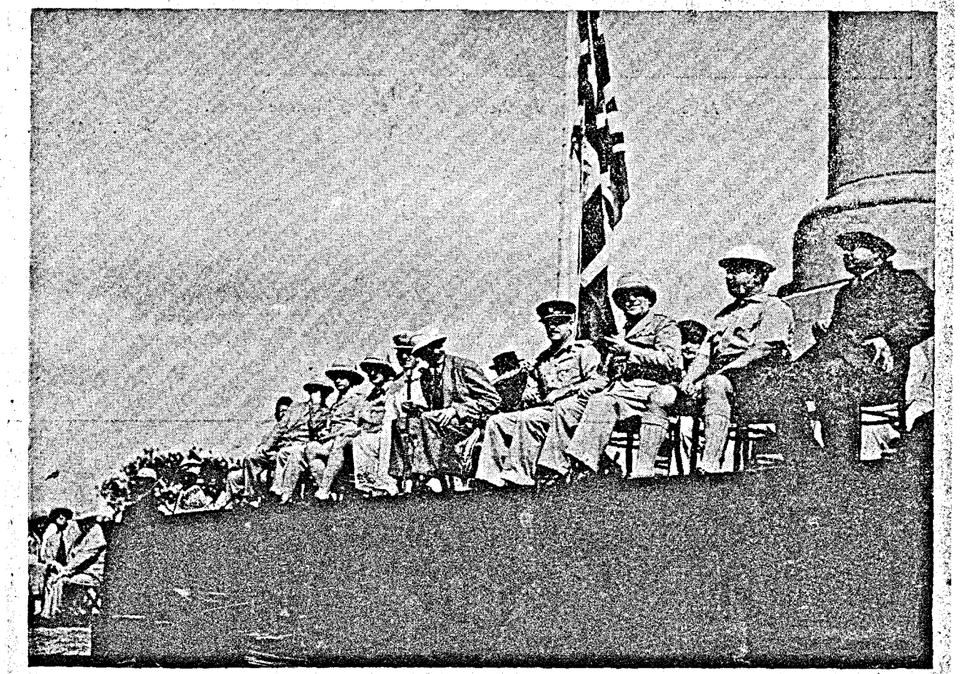
REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL IV FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1943 No. 39-A

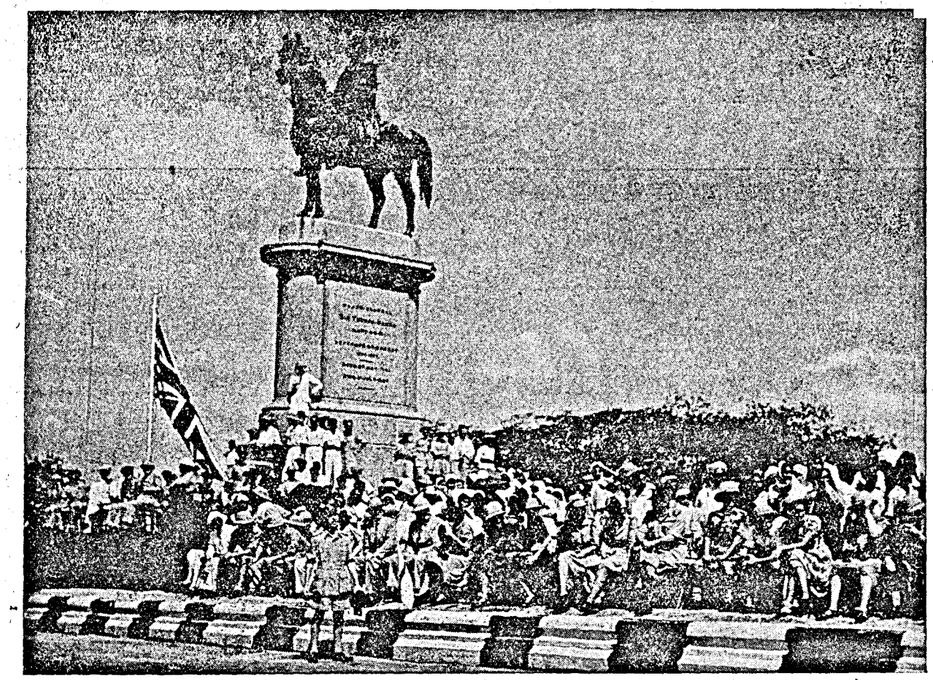
A SOUVENIR OF TUNISIA DA AND N.W.F. BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Madras: H.E. SIR ARTHUR HOPE, Governor of Madras at the Saluting Base

—*W. J. Mo*

IN MADRAS PROVINCE

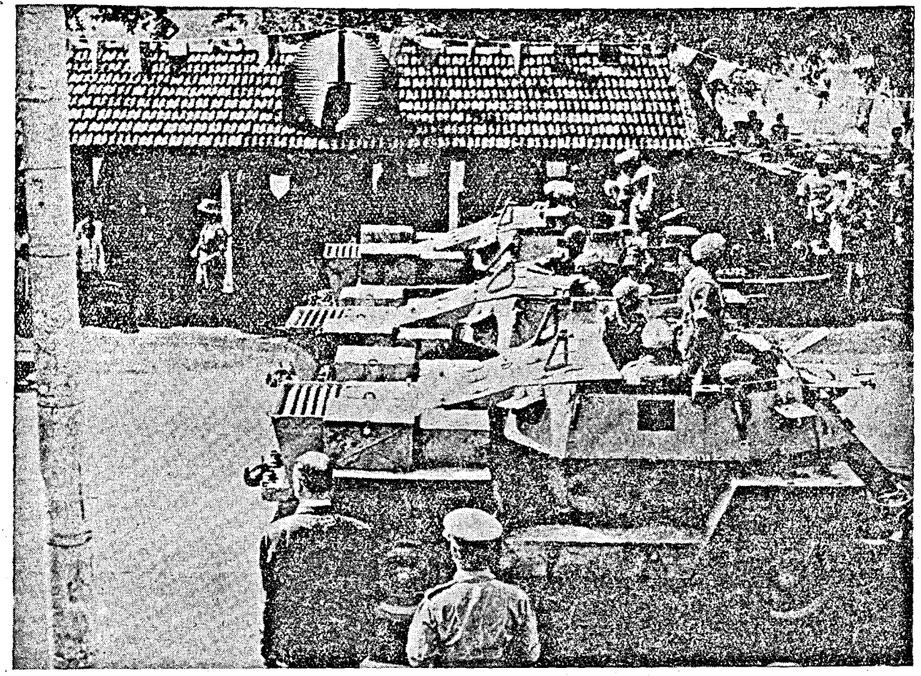


A general view of the gathering at the foot of Munroe Statue.

—*W. J. Moylan.*

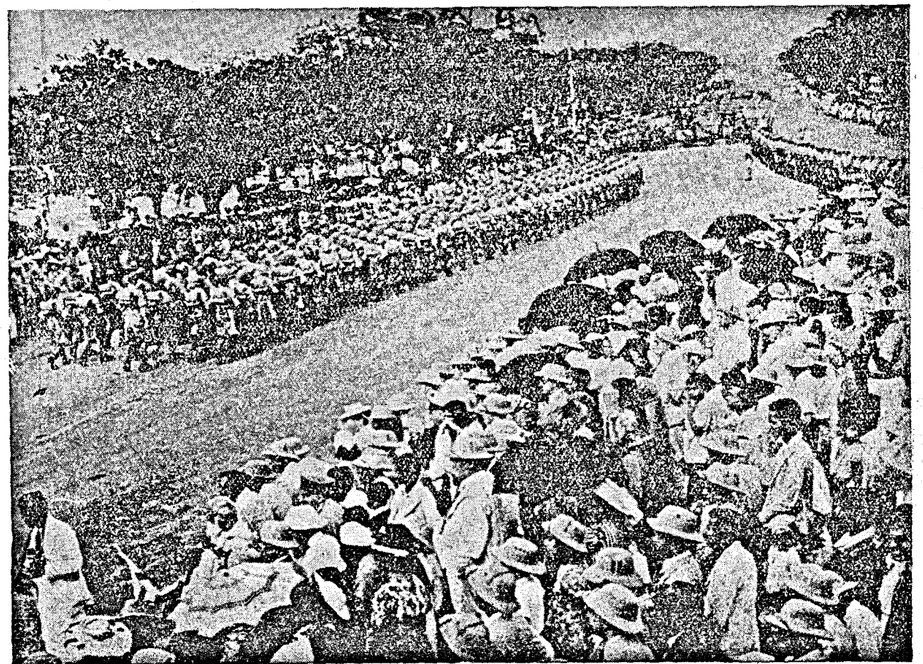
H.E. Sir Arthur Hope taking the salute as the Labour Units march past.

—*W. J. Moylan.*



Armoured cars march past His Excellency.

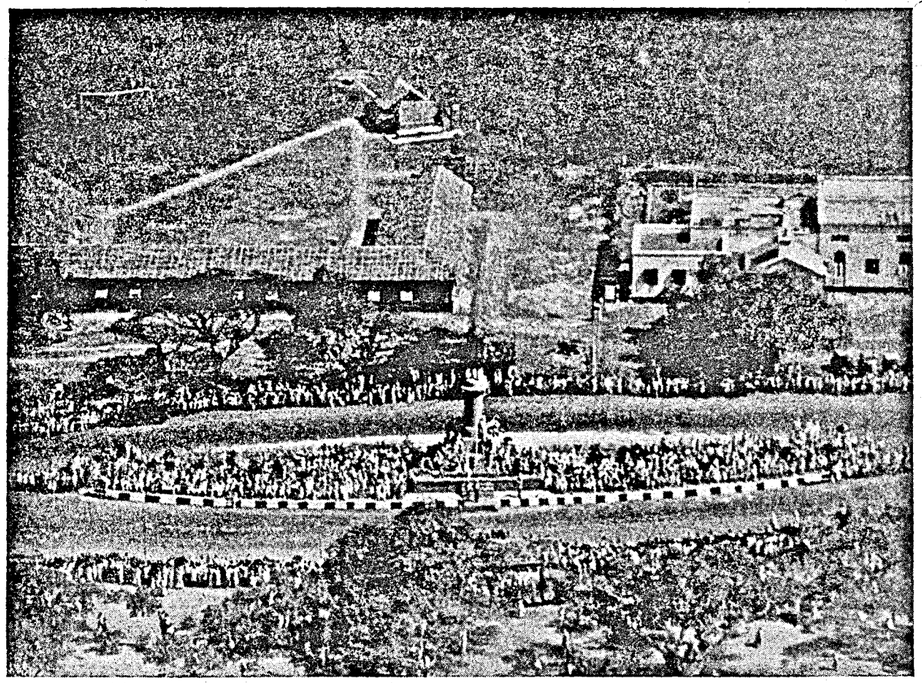
—*W. J. Moylan.*



The march-past of the Infantry.

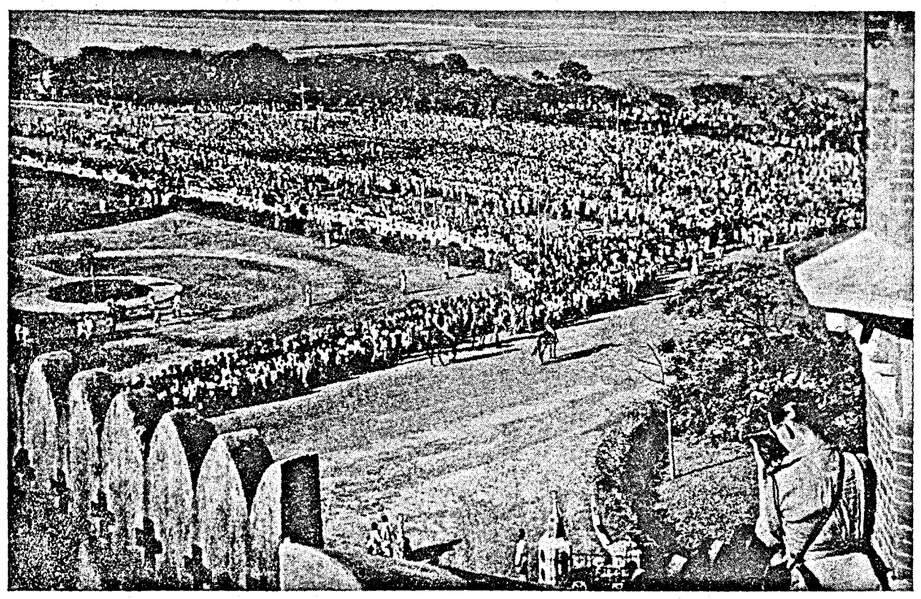
—*W. J. Moylan.*

MADRAS



An aeroplane view of the crowd at the Munroe Statue.

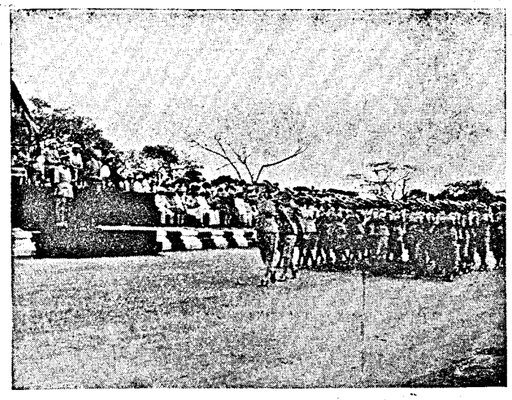
—W. J. Moylan.



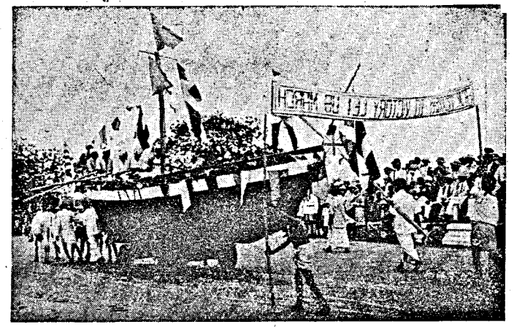
A bird's-eye-view of the huge concourse on the Marina in the afternoon.

—W. J. Moylan.

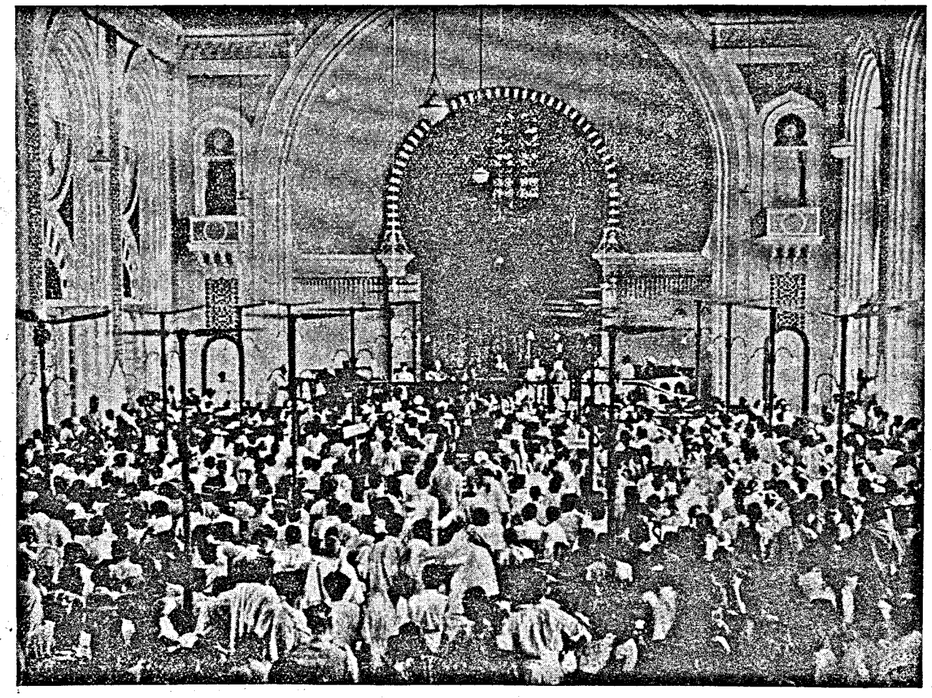
MADRAS



W.A.C.S. marching past His Excellency near Munroe Statue.



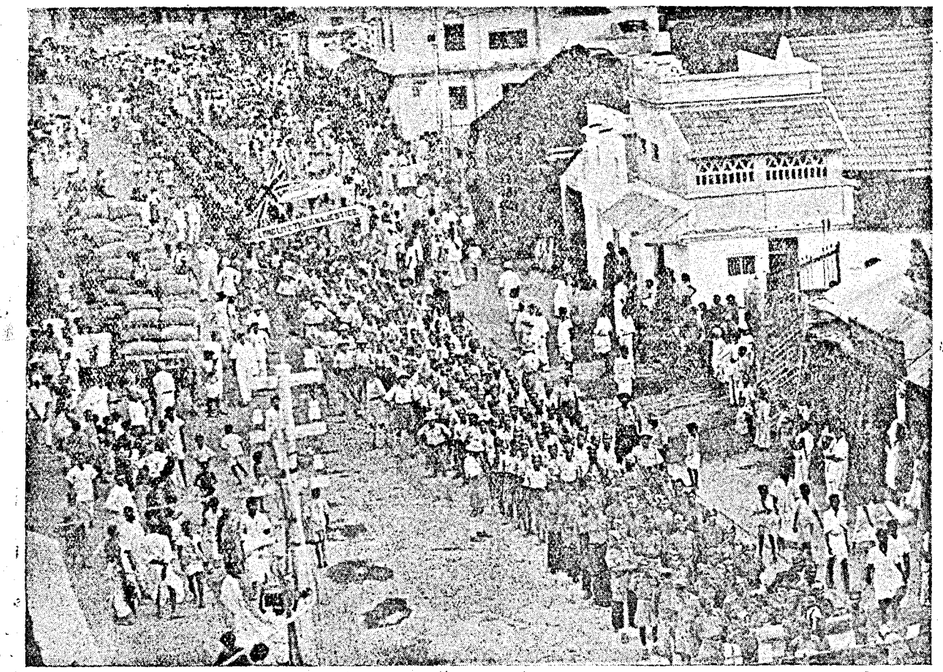
"Victory Boat" on wheels formed part of the imposing march-past in Madras City.



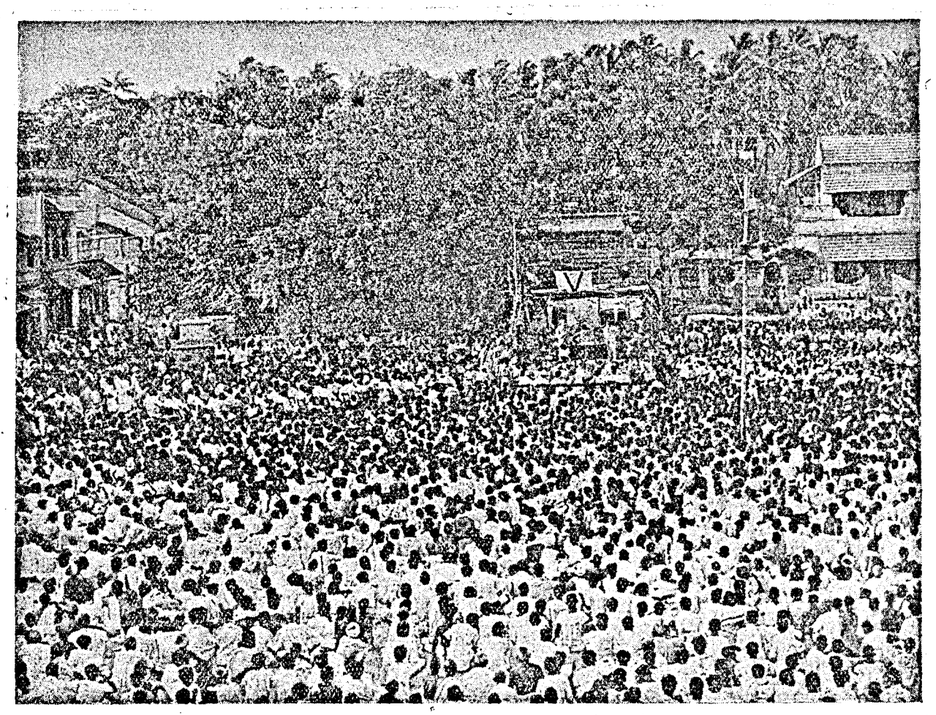
A great crowd at the Senate House, Madras, hear a stirring speech of His Excellency Sir Aurthur Hope.

—W.J.M.

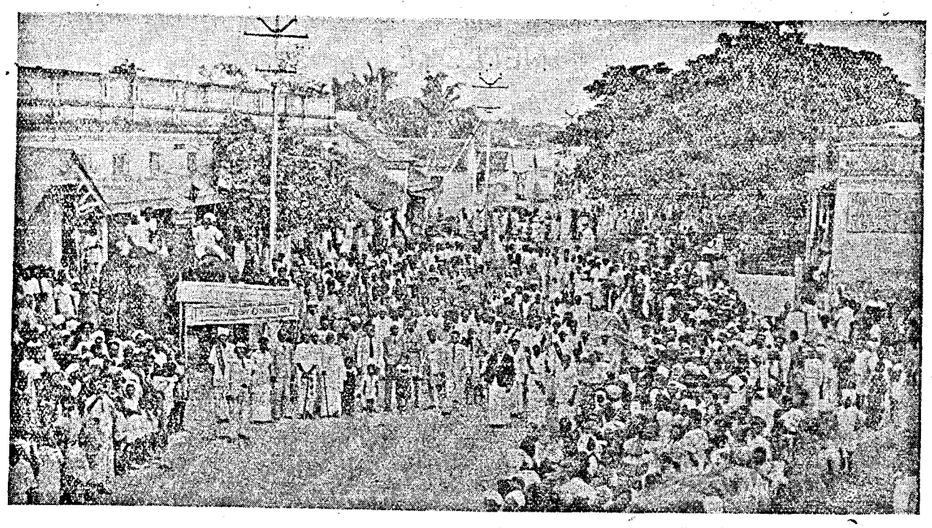
MADURA



A huge one-mile long procession of the Fighting Services and Civil Defence Units was a feature of the celebrations at Madura.

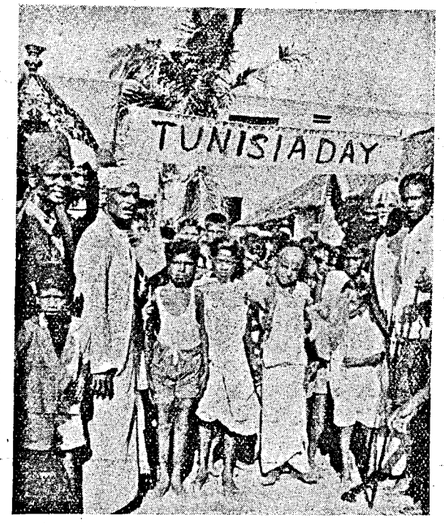


A view of the mass meeting held at Madura on Tunisia Day.



PALNI

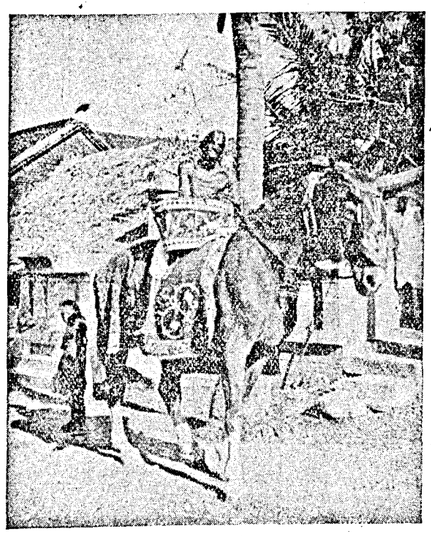
Top :—An elephant procession was taken out at Palni on Tunisia Day.

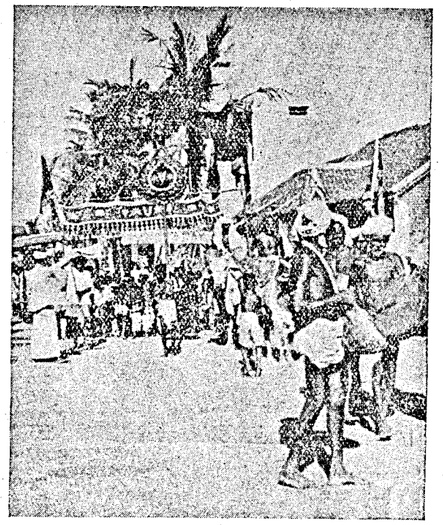


Bottom :—Two interesting snapshots taken at Sriperumbudur.

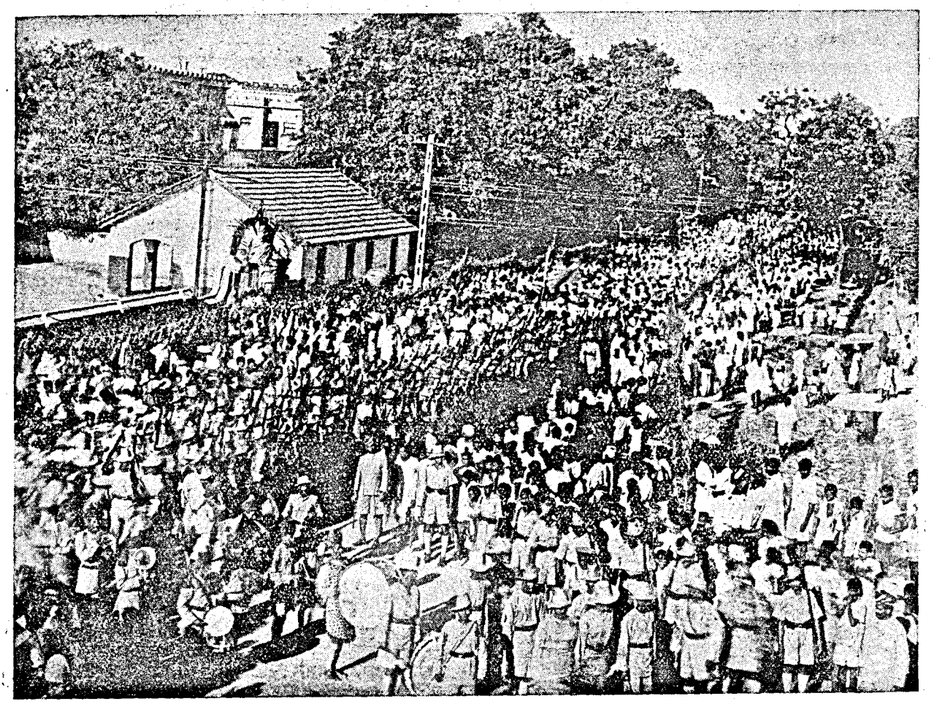
Sriperumbudur

Right :—School boys had a terrific time at Sriperumbudur celebrating the Tunisian Victory.

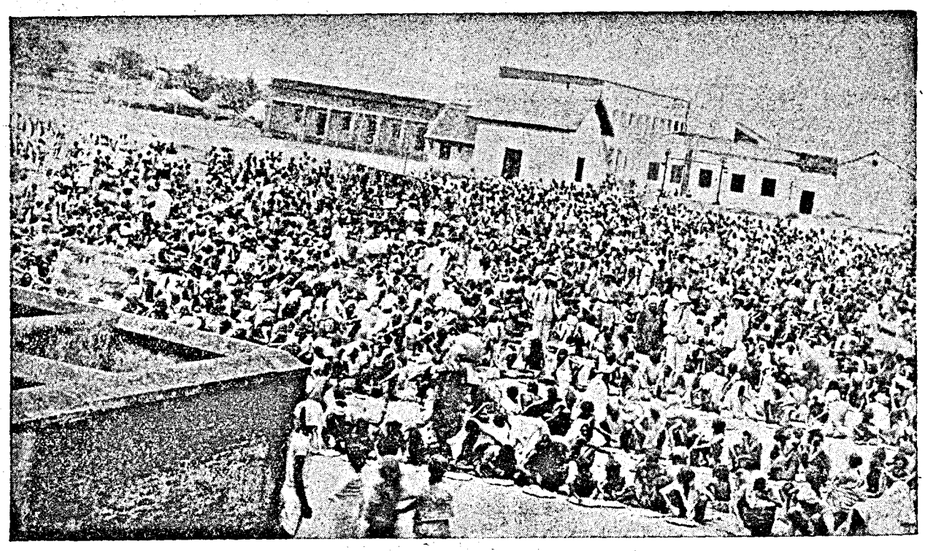




NELLORE

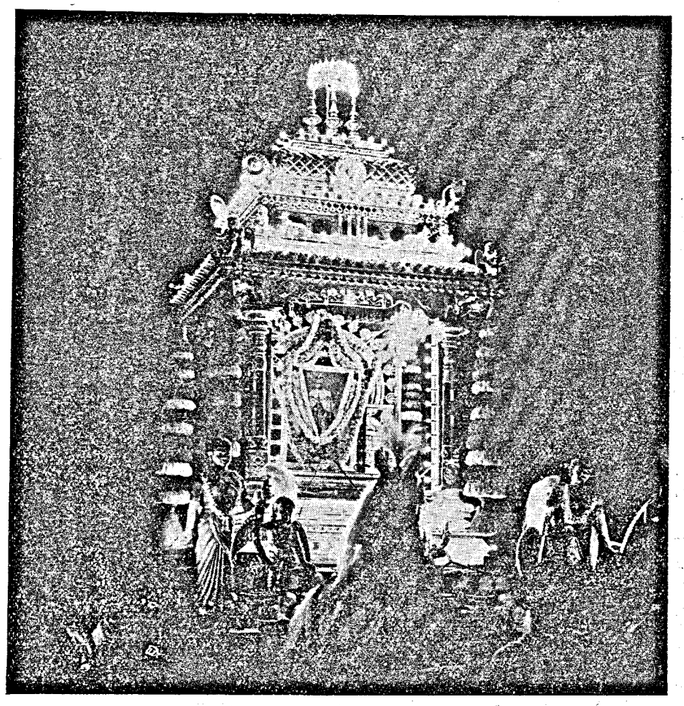


A view of the Tunisian Victory Day procession.



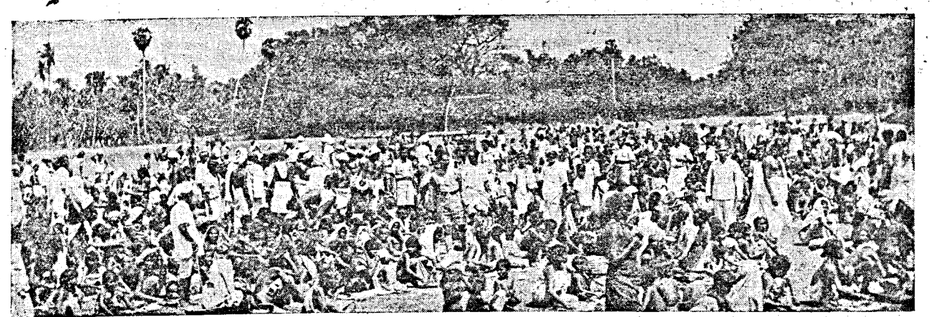
Feeding of the poor at Nellore.

MAYAVARAM



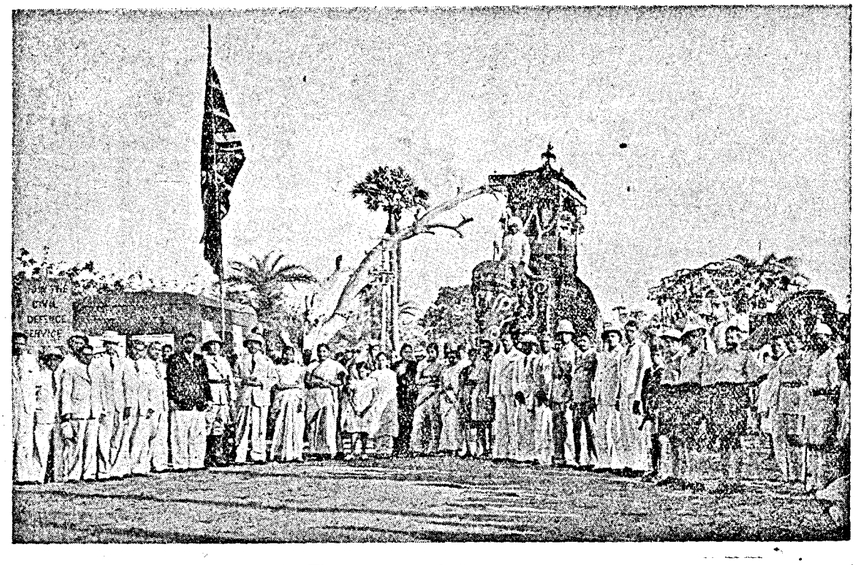
A portrait of His Majesty the King-Emperor was carried in procession in an electrically-lit silver chariot

Distribution of clothes to the families of soldiers on active service.

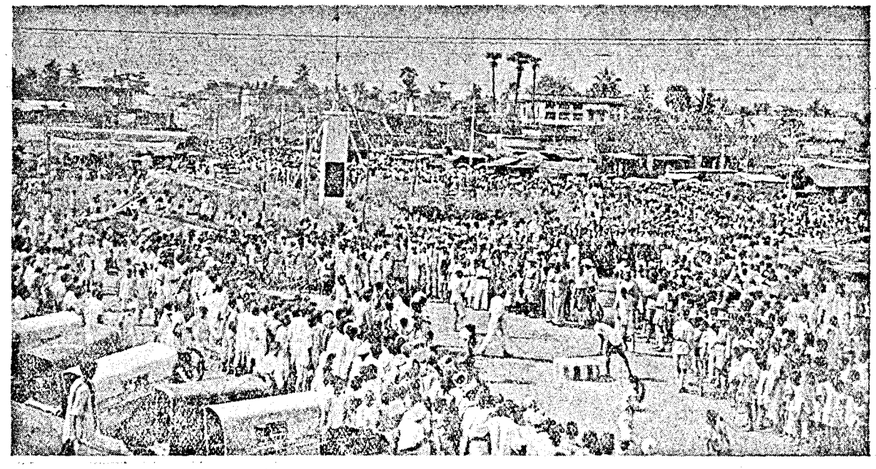


Feeding the poor at Mayavaram.

MASULIPATAM

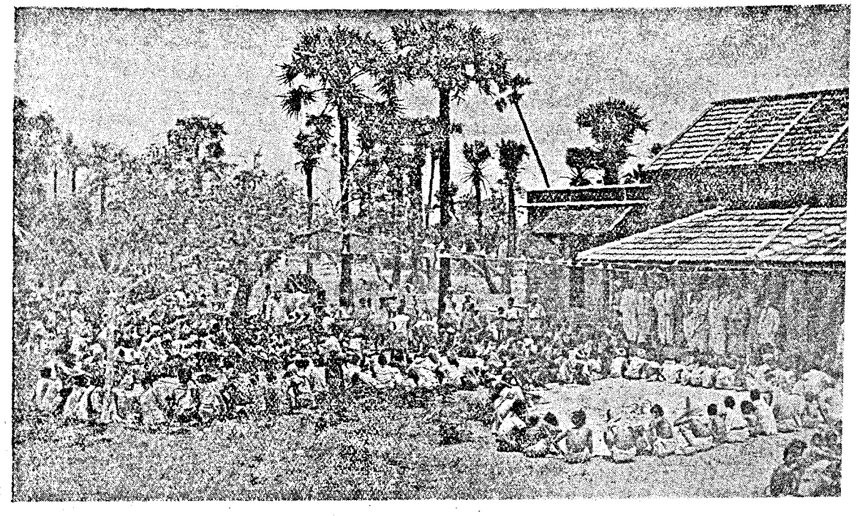


The procession before the start.



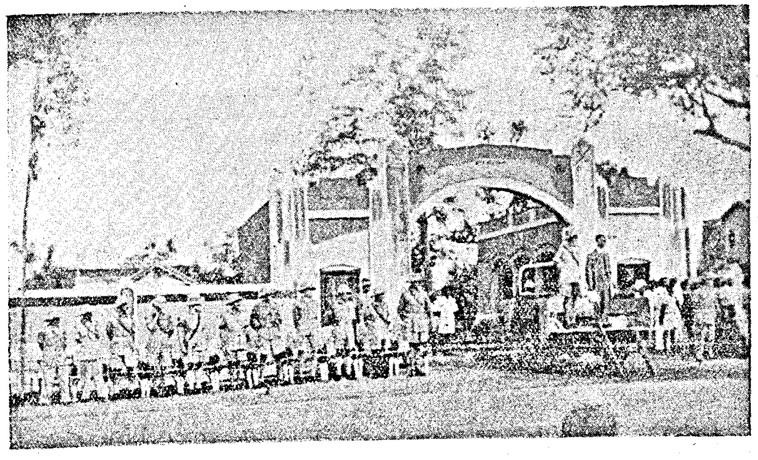
The procession as it passed through the Main Bazaar at Masulipatam.

MASULIPATAM



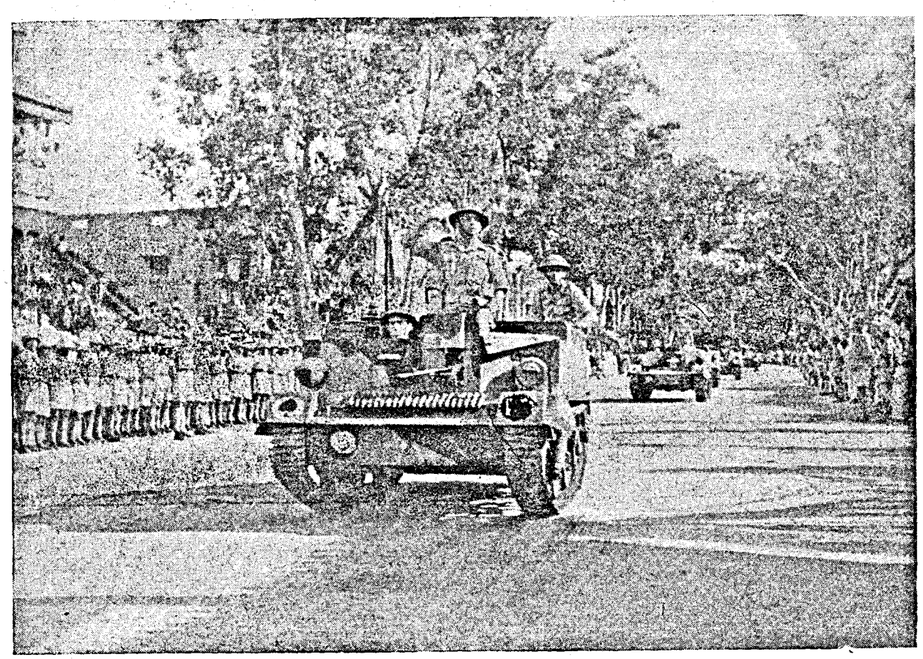
Feeding the Poor.

SALEM

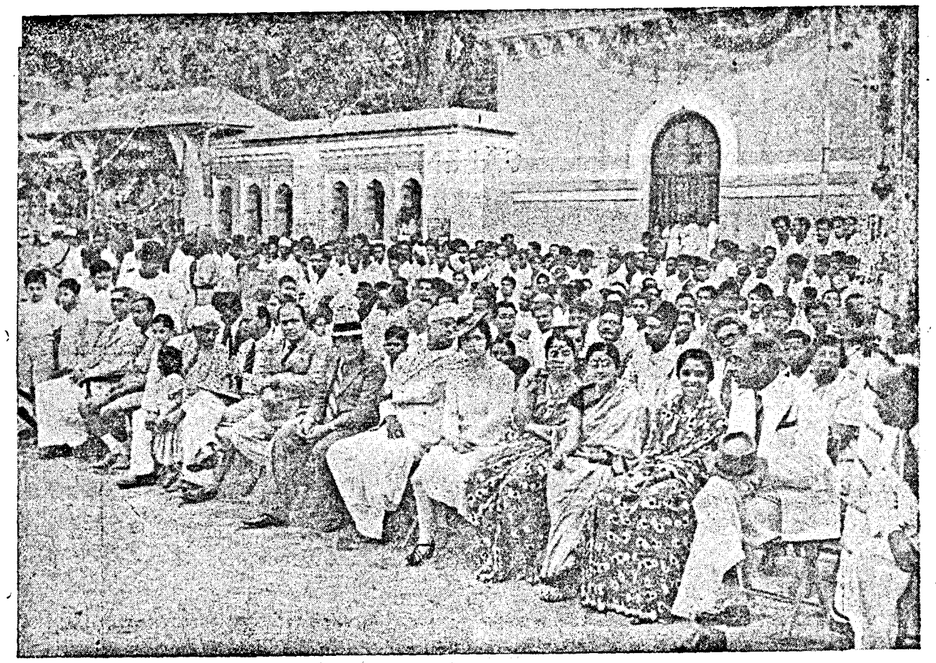


The saluting base.

TRICHINOPOLY

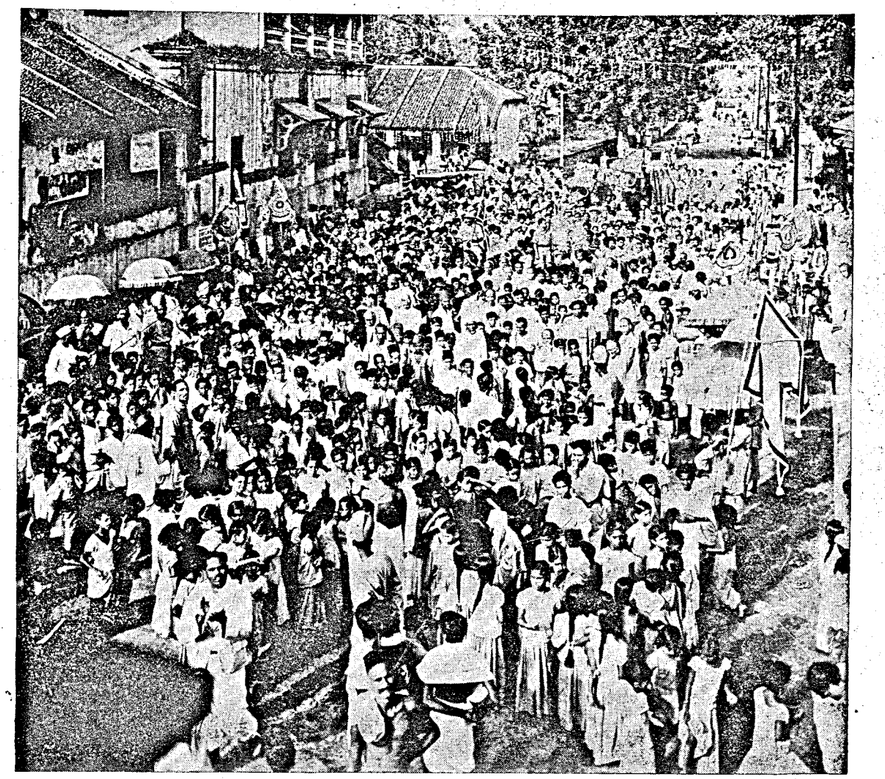


The March-past.



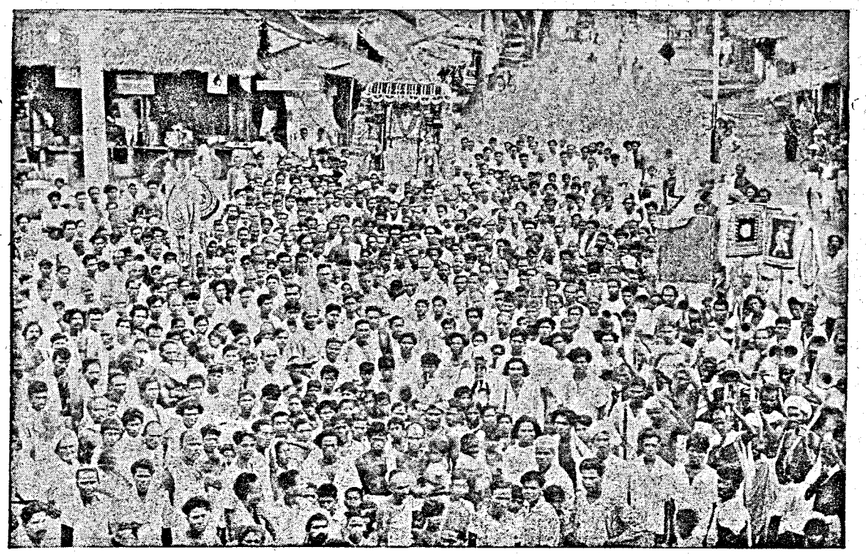
A view of the large gathering which witnessed the Victory celebrations.

KUMBAKONAM



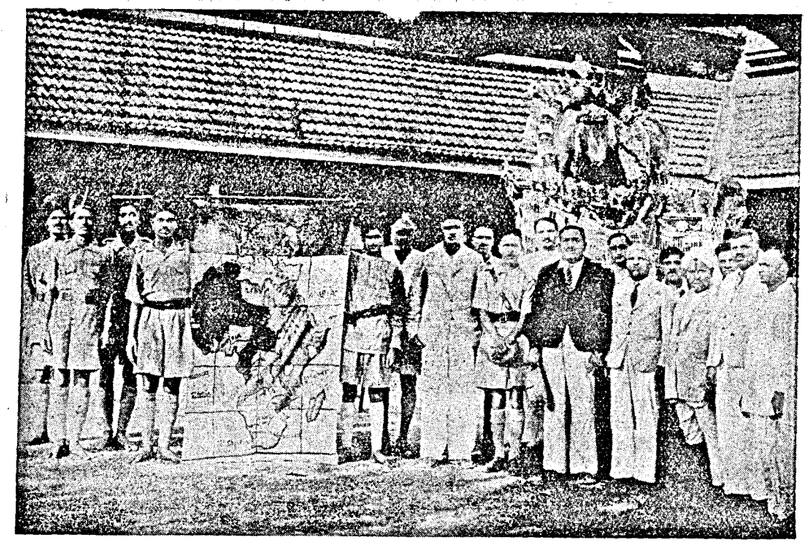
The procession.

PATTUKOTTAI

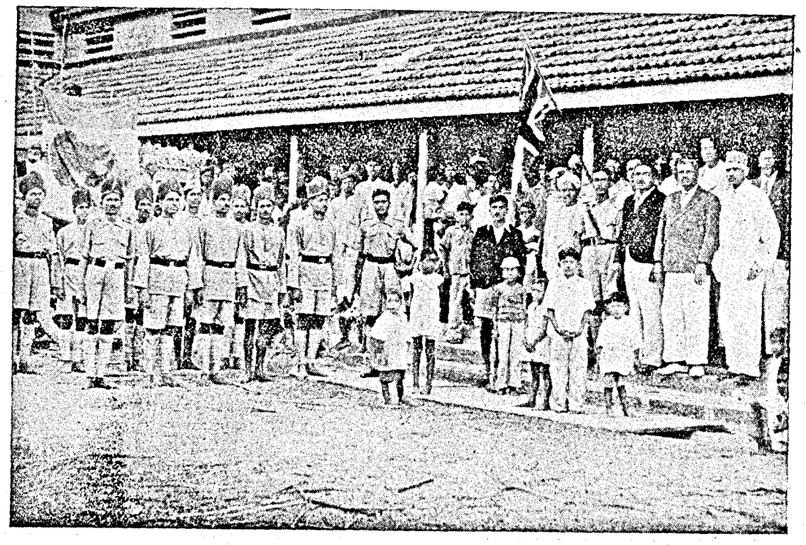


Victory Day.

TADPATRI

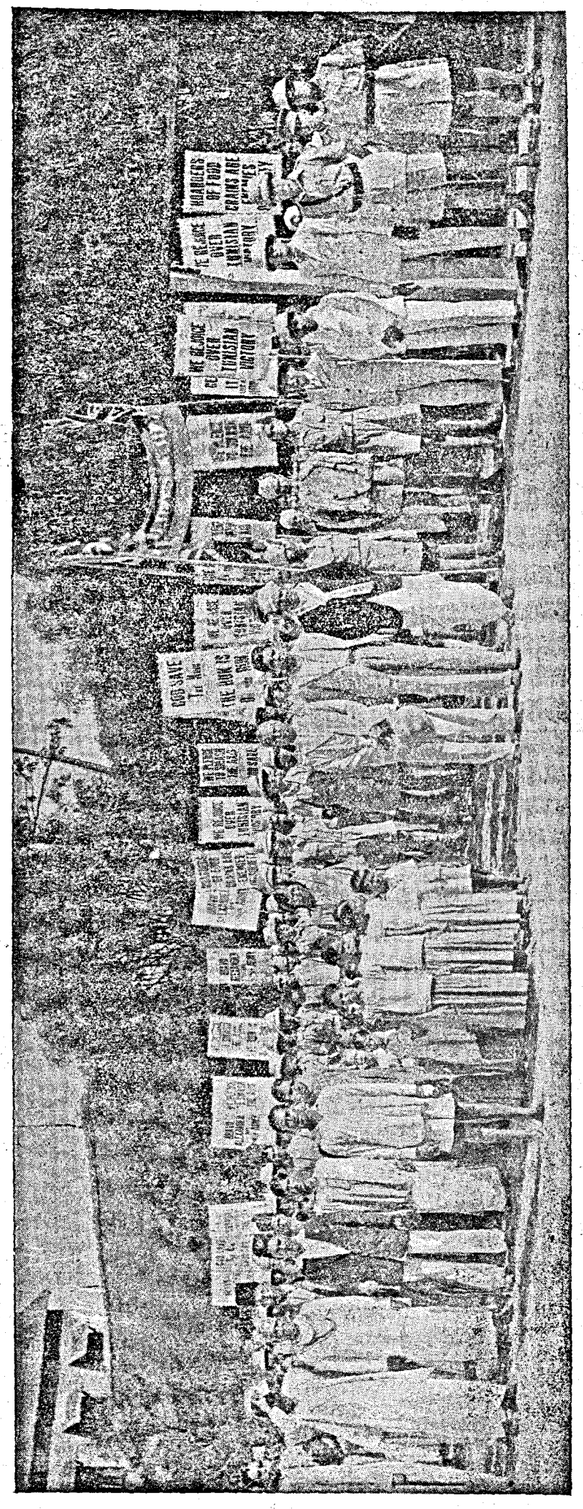


War workers at Tadpatri explained to the public the significance of the Tunisian Victory.



Tadpatri celebrated the Tunisia Day with great enthusiasm.

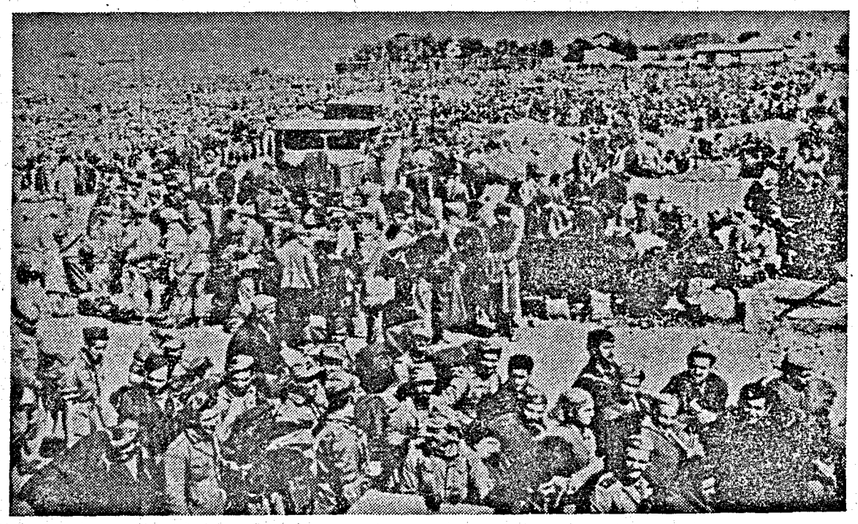
VILLUPURAM



A spectacular poster procession on Tunisia Day.

. . . And some who DON'T rejoice!

VON ARNIM after his second night in captivity leaves North Africa by plane.—Accompanied by a British Officer, General von Arnim walks across the tarmac to the plane.



Final Phase of the Tunisian Campaign.—A huge crowd of German and Italian prisoners, 20,000 strong, at the Prisoner of War Camp at Grombia.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1943 No. 40

M. STALIN, *who has helped greatly in the formation of "a single international camp for the fight against the menace of world domination by Hitlerism," and paved the way for "a future organization of a companionship of nations based upon their equality."*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	
Russia: Review of two years of war: The Second Front will bring relief	6
Dissolution of the Comintern	10
Summer Offensive: Why Germany is delaying	10
Russia's "Big Five"	11
Glory of the Red Army	14
Red Army passes world examination	16
Soviet Pilots cover themselves with glory	16
It happened near Leningrad	17
Stalin in complete harmony with Churchill and Roosevelt	18
War Diary	19

Wednesday Night is Forces Night

Tune-in at 10 p. m. to Madras or Trichy.

If you do it once, you'd do it again, and again!

Day before yesterday, we'd all the noise and fun of the canteen

The second episode of Huggins' Family was quite good—Listen-in next Wednesday

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras, or staying for a few days in the City on leave

Recreation: Ping Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

CHEAP CLOTH is available in the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Sales Emporiums

AT CONTROLLED PRICES which are clearly stamped on each article

DO NOT BUY from unauthorized dealers at **higher prices**

It is an offence under the Defence of India Rules to sell Handloom cheap cloth at higher than marked prices

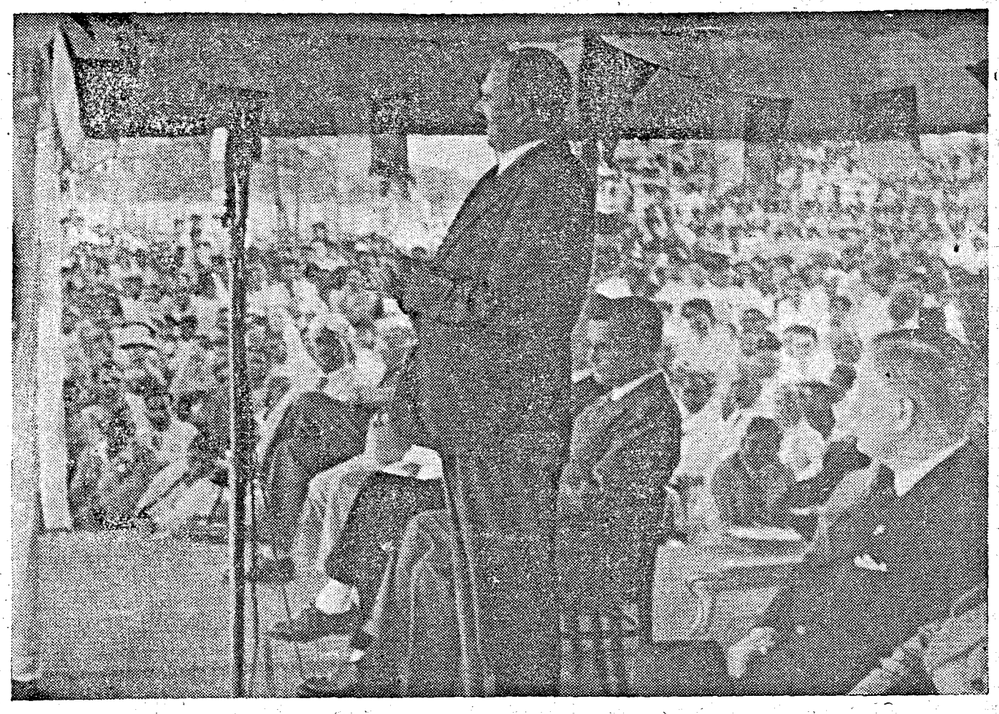
Issued by the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, 1/159, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1943 No. 40



UNITED NATIONS DAY IN MADRAS.—His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Provincial Leader of the National War Front, is seen addressing the gathering. Seated near him are representatives of American, Chinese, French and Greek Nationalities, who spoke on the occasion. —*W.J.M.*

RUNNING COMMENTARY

United Nations Day—H.E. Sir Arthur Hope on the Future.

The United Nations Day was celebrated in a fitting manner by the citizens of Madras on Monday last. Huge crowds gathered at the S.I.A.A. grounds and took part in the celebrations held under the auspices of the National War Front, with great enthusiasm. The portraits of Their Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress, Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt, M. Stalin, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, and General de Gaulle were carried in procession in carts decorated with the flags of the United Nations. Representatives of United Nations addressed a public meeting which was held under the presidency of H.E. Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras and Provincial Leader of the National War Front.

His Excellency, addressing the gathering, said that about this time last year things did not look well, even though they were naturally hopeful of the final result, but things had now changed considerably in every quarter of the world war; the Allies were no longer on the defensive, but were on the offensive in almost every part of the world. Referring to the importance of unity among the nations, His Excellency observed: "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." In conclusion, His Excellency said, "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."

The citizens of Madras, and the people of Madras Presidency as a whole, join His Excellency in hoping and praying for an early end of the war and a speedier elimination of the forces of evil.

R.A.F. Bombardment of Ruhr Valley—The Seat of German Heavy Industries. An Air Ministry Communique issued on Sunday announced that aircraft of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command attacked in great strength the Central Ruhr with Bochum as the main target. This is an important coal and iron town and is one of the main transport centres in the Ruhr. Big chemical plants and other industries, including branches of the Krupps Combine, are located in this town, which is stated to be a difficult target because of the fact that it is frequently screened by fog and smoke. The raid carried out on Bochum on Sunday was the third big raid of this year, and it is stated that over five 4,000 lb. bombs were sent down every minute. The first raid was on March 29, when it was the main target of the Royal Air Force night bombers. The second raid was on May 13 when over 1,000 tons of bombs were dropped on the town. There have also been a number of very heavy air attacks on other towns in the Ruhr Valley, such as Essen, Duisburg and Dortmund. On Dortmund alone over 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped in one hour on May 23. It was the heviest air attack ever made on Germany or any other country up to that date.

The attacks on these centres of heavy industry and transport in the Ruhr are not so much raids, as bombardments, which may be compared to an artillery barrage by massed heavy batteries. One result of such attacks was, it may be recalled, the breaching of the Ruhr dams which caused great havoc by floods. The effects of this flood havoc are bound to be more serious in the long run, because of the great damage likely to be caused by subsequent drought and because of the heavy strain on the transport system as it will not be possible to maintain water levels in the canals.

Why is it that the Ruhr is the chief target of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command ? It is because it contains a concentration of industry which is without parallel on the Continent of Europe. The Ruhr basin produces about two-thirds of the total of hard coal output of the whole of Germany and contains the finest deposit of coking coal in Europe. That is why it is the site of the greatest part of the German iron and steel industry. Contrary to what is generally believed, there has been no appreciable movement of heavy industry from the Ruhr to safer areas. Germany's principal heavy industries continue to be retained in the Ruhr-Rhineland area.

* * * * *

"City by City"—Blotting out German War Production. The policy of the Royal Air Force Bomber Command is to carry out, city by city, a methodical blotting out of German war production. But can Germany be knocked out of the war by bombing alone ? Of course, not. But the fact remains that the tremendous and sustained bombardment of German industrial centres will undermine Germany's capacity for resistance when invasions from widely separated quarters begin to impose the maximum possible strain upon a weakened war potential and a disrupted transport system.

It has now been fairly well understood that a successful attack on the ground must be preceded by an air battle, and this has been conclusively proved in the Western Desert and in Tunisia. Air battles of the kind staged over the Ruhr are a preliminary to a decisive air duel between the Anglo-American Air Force and the Luftwaffe, and this duel is a prelude to a successful invasion of Europe. The tremendous British air offensive against Germany, its growing American support, are already bringing about a progressive destruction of the enemy's war potential and establishing supremacy in the air over the Luftwaffe.

Only Way to Berlin—Paralyse German war Power. The need for the massed bombing of the kind carried out by the Royal Air Force has been clearly visualized by Sir ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR and Lord TRENCHARD. Speaking sometime ago, Britain's Secretary of State for Air said, "There is only one hope of getting to Berlin without the slaughter which land battles in the last war entailed, and that is paralysis of German war power by the Bomber Command." Air Marshal Lord TRENCHARD said, "An attack by armies on Germany can only be successful, as in the last war, with, appalling casualties, unless, through previous bombing, the whole organization behind the armies is demoralized and destroyed as it is steadily becoming in Germany."

* * * * *

United Nations' Merchant Shipping situation—More U-boat sinkings. Hitler's most trusted weapon for prolonging the war towards a stalemate is the U-boat. It is also the greatest single obstacle to concurrent Allied offensives east and west. But it is gratifying to note that there is a progressive destruction of the U-boats. Last month, May 1943, the number of U-boats sunk have probably exceeded the number brought into service in the same period. The fact that the sinkings of U-boats have increased considerably may be gathered from a statement furnished to the House of Commons on June 2 by Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the British Admiralty. He pointed out that, for every four U-boats sunk in the six months ended November 30, 1942, five had been sunk in the six months ended May 31, 1943. During the past one year, more U-boats have been destroyed than in the preceding two years and nine months. Compared with 1942 the first five months of 1943 have shown a substantial reduction in merchant shipping losses.

The great improvement in the merchant shipping situation has undoubtedly been due to the British and American air bombardment of U-boat bases and building yards. It also reflects, so far as the Battle of the Atlantic is concerned, the growing size of the Allied escort forces and the growing total of new weapons and devices. Towards the end of last month, Mr. Anthony Eden, in a speech at Portsmouth, 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.*"

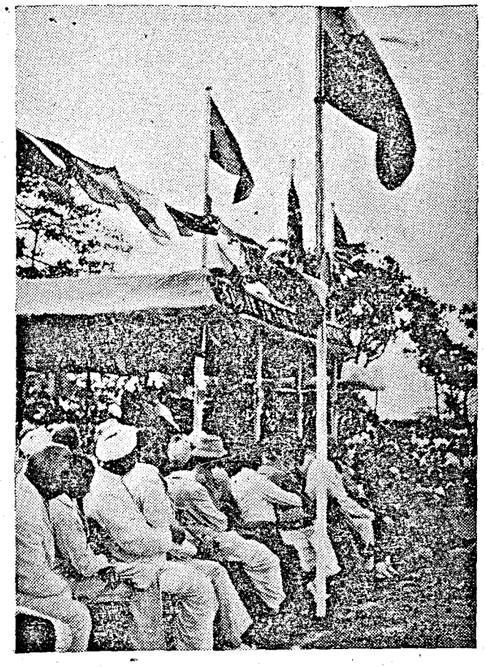
Referring to the increase in output of Allied shipping, Mr. Churchill said in his address to the American Congess in Washington on May 19, that the prodigious output of new ships from American ship-building yards during the past six months surpassed the losses of both Allies. It may be noted that, during the last two months, April and May 1943, United States shipyards contributed an addition of 2,413,600 gross tons to the United Nations' merchant fleet as compared with 748,440 gross tons for the corresponding period in 1942.

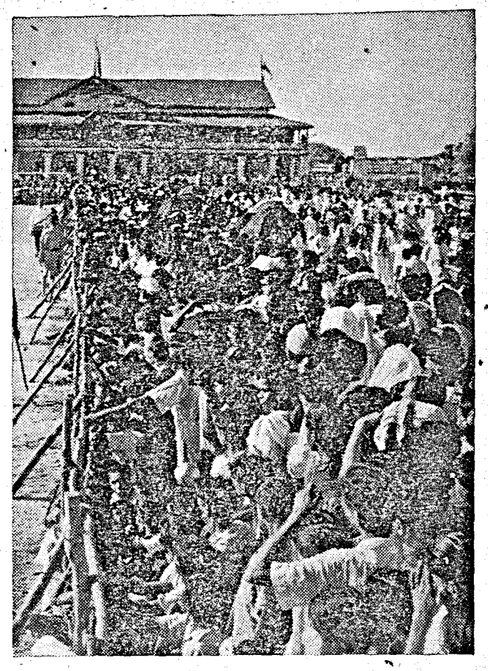
* * * * *

Berlin Radio Claims—Rise and Fall of Figures. American output has, it may be stated, increased by 222 per cent, but Berlin's fantastic claims have fallen by 44 per cent. Hitler said on April 26, last year, that the German U-boat was the "principal weapon" against Britain. He declared,

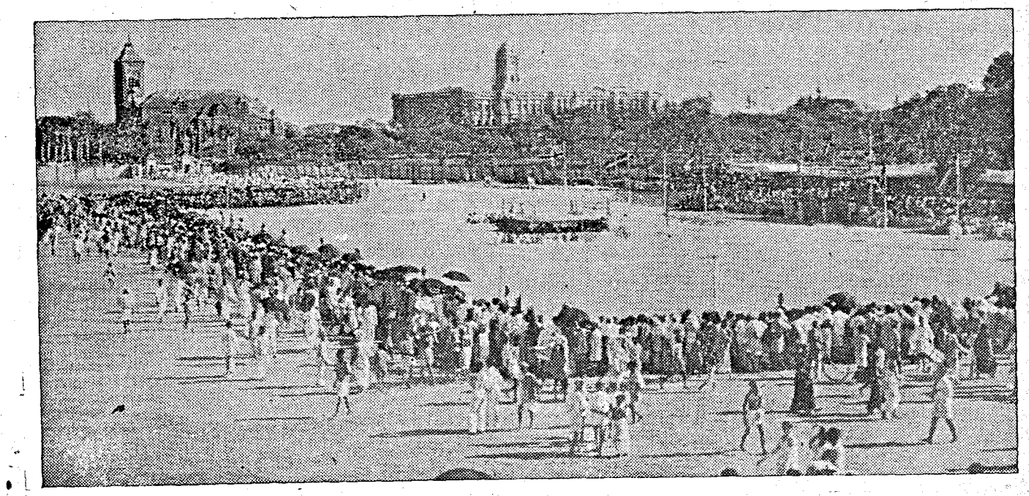
> "What our submarines are capable of accomplishing will be continually shown more clearly, month by month."

Let us see the month-by-month accomplishment. Before Hitler made this statement, the monthly claims made by Berlin radio for the first four months of 1942





The UNITED NATIONS DAY was a gala day for the citizens of Madras. Above (left) is a view of the gathering near the special shamiana, and (right) a section of the huge crowd. —W.J.M.



A general view of the crowd that witnessed the United Nations Day Celebrations. —W.J.M.

averaged 554,325 gross tons. In the remaining eight months of 1942 the average increased to 855,785 gross tons. But in the first five months of 1943 the average has fallen to 575,720 gross tons.

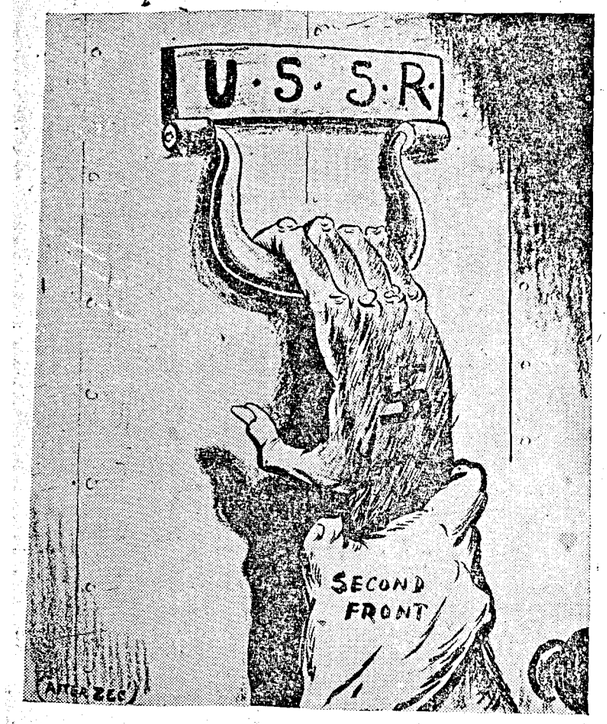
It is also of interest to compare Berlin's claim for the last two months with those of the corresponding months of 1941 and 1942. The April claim for 1941 was 1,000,000 ; for 1942, 585,000 ; for 1943, 423,000 gross tons. For May 1941 Berlin's claim was 861,460 ; for the same month in 1942 it was 924,000. In May 1943, the claim came down to 430,000. **A year ago American output was exceeded by Berlin claims by 102 per cent, but now American output exceeds the Berlin claims by 183 per cent.**

U-boat Propaganda—Marked Change in Tone and Trend of Berlin. There has also been a marked change in the tone and trend of Berlin propaganda in regard to U-boats. The usual theme had always been that the German U-boat arm was an invincible weapon which was destined to achieve ever increasing successes month by month. On November 22, 1942, Berlin said, "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." On January 1, 1943 Berlin said, "The German U-boat arm is becoming a

(*Continued on page 9*)

RUSSIA: REVIEW OF TWO YEARS OF WAR

THE SECOND FRONT WILL BRING RELIEF



When the "Second Front" opens, the pressure on Russia will be relieved.

ON Tuesday next (June 22), the war in Russia enters on its third year, perhaps the final year. Two years ago, Hitler attacked Russia without any provocation or warning. This caused a great world sensation. For Russo-German relations had become one of friendship by the non-aggression pact of 23rd August 1939 and though there were doubts of German loyalty to the Pact, few expected that Germany would go to the length of launching a great attack on Russia. When Germany invaded the Balkans, Russia signified its disapproval indirectly more than once. Germany feared Russia and Russia prepared to defend herself against Germany. Troops concentrated on both sides of the Frontier. And then Germany struck. In spite of the unexpectedness of the attack, there was no unpreparedness on the part of Russia. The resistance of the Red Army to German aggression revealed elaborate preparation and years of training.

SO far as the Allies were concerned, Mr. Churchill gave the correct lead. "This is no class war," he declared, "and if Hitler imagines that his attack on Soviet Russia will cause the slightest division of aims or slackening of effort in the great democracies who are resolved upon his doom, he is woefully mistaken." Hitler miscalculated—he never bargained for the fact that Britain and Russia would fight shoulder to shoulder against Nazism and Fascism. Let us review the course and the result of this miscalculation.

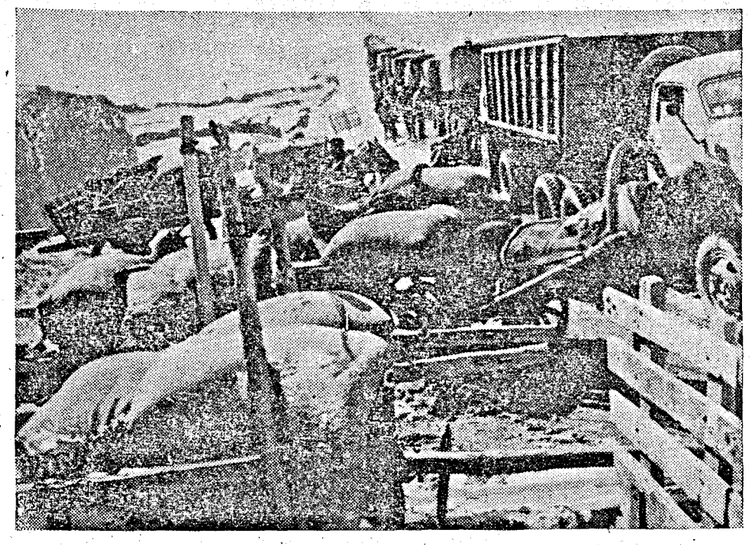
The First Offensive

IN their initial assault the Germans selected for their main thrust the White Russian front, covering Smolensk and Moscow. On the third day of the offensive, the Germans passed south of Vilna and the Russians fell back on Minsk. After nine days' fighting, capture of Minsk was announced. On reaching Borisov on the river Beresina the Germans were held for many days. By the middle of the third week, the initial impetus had been lost and the first stage of the assault had begun to weaken. The pace of the first German drive had been 20 miles a day, and Russia lost Lithuania, most of Latvia, the western half of White Russia and part of the Western Ukraine. The first German thrusts were of a threefold character. They were directed towards Leningrad via Finland and Esthonia, towards Moscow through Minsk and Smolensk, and towards Kiev, the Ukrainian capital in the south. The Russians attempted only to hold the Germans in check. In the course of a few days, Stalin perfected a system of highly flexible defences and appointed Marshal Voroshilov to the North-western, Marshal Timoshenko to the Central, and Marshal Budenny to the South-west sectors. These three generals maintained contact throughout the campaign and avoided all possibility of encirclement.

The Second Offensive

ON July 11, 1941, the Germans mounted their second offensive. Vitebsk fell after fierce fighting, and the Germans claimed that the route to Moscow was open. Five days later, their armoured units reached Smolensk. The pace of this second thrust was 12½ miles a day. But Leningrad was in great danger as Talinin and Hango had become beleagured towns, while to the south the Germans had advanced from Volynsk to Zitomir, 85 miles west of Kiev. But here Timoshenko held up the German plans for about a month at the Smolensk salient. His pressure around Smolensk pinned down German forces and stayed them in their drive against Leningrad, while it also deflected German attention from East Ukraine and the Donetz basin By the end of August, however, Kingisepp in the north had to be evacuated, and Novogorod was captured by the German army. This brought them very near the Leningrad-Moscow railway line. The Finns captured Viborg and the Germans Talinn, and Marshal Voroshilov in an Order of the Day asked the citizens of Leningrad to defend the City to the last. In the second week of September, the Germans captured the fortress of Schlusselburg and the enemy was now within 15 to 20 miles of Leningrad. From this time onwards Leningrad was in a state of siege.

IN the Centre, on account of German pressure in the Gomel area, Smolensk had to be evacuated, while in the South Kiev was in danger, and Dnepropetrovsk had to be evacuated.



ALLIED AIR TO RUSSIA.—Huge quantities of military supplies from the United States are flowing to Russia through Iran, the ancient land of Persia, under America's lend-lease programme. Unloaded from Allied freighters at ports on the Persian Gulf, the supplies are transported by railroad and by truck convoy over deserts and mountains to Soviet military centers near the Caspian Sea. Here a long truck convoy, manned by Americans, stops to put anti-skid chains on the wheels before entering a dangerous pass through snow-covered mountains somewhere on the Iranian supply route. In the foreground are horse-drawn carts, used before the arrival of American rolling equipment.

IN a vigorous drive in October, which began on the 3rd, Kalanin, Kaluga, Vyezma, Orel, and Briansk around Moscow fell before the German onslaught. In the south, the Russians evacuated Odessa, and in the Ukraine the Germans reached the shores of the Sea of Azov by taking Mariupol, Melitopol and Berdiansk. They attacked the Perikop peninsula, and after taking Kharkov and Stalino broke through to the Crimea.

The Drive towards Moscow

BY the first half of November, the Russians held the approaches to Moscow at Tula. In the South the Germans reached Kursk, captured Fedosia in the Crimea, and Rostov. On 16th November the final assault on Moscow was begun by Germans an event foreshadowed in Hitler's order of the day on 2nd October. Meanwhile by the end of November the situation in the South was very serious. The Russians lost the factories and mines in the Donetz basin, evacuated Simferopol, capital of Crimea, as well as Kerch, while the German army advanced as far as Rostov. The only place which still held out was Sebastopol. It was at this stage that Hitler turned his attention to Moscow, and it was the gallant defence of Moscow that averted a general disaster. This drive towards Moscow which Hitler wanted to take before the winter set in pinned the best German army to this place, and gave Timoshenko time to reorganize his army in the South.

BY the time winter set in Germany could boast of spectacular successes; but final victory was still eluding her grasp. The net result up to now was that Germans had reached the environs of Leningrad, had encircled Moscow on three sides, advanced beyond Yeletz in the Central Sector, overrun the Western Ukraine and the Crimea, and entered the town of Rostov. They had dislocated the industrialized areas of Leningrad, captured the Tula-Moscow industrial region with its principal centres of textile industry, the vast network of communications, the great motor works and machine-tool factories.

BUT the greatest blow of all to Russia was the loss of a major part of the Ukraine, rich in agriculture and industry. The four great Ukrainian towns of Kiev, Kharkov, Odessa and Dnepropetrovsk had been lost to the Germans and with them was lost a great industrial centre for coal and iron. On November 22, 1941 the Russian fortunes were at their lowest ebb. Rostov was in German hands in the South, and Tikhvin in the North.

"Scorched-Earth" Policy

IT was, however, impossible for the German army to regard these achievements as anything in the nature of a triumph. The Russian army followed such a ruthless policy of "scorched earth" that the Germans found, wherever they reached, nothing but devastation and despair, a sight which would gratify no conqueror. "Not a single locomotive, not a single coach, not a single kilogram of bread, not a litre of fuel must be left for the enemy," was Stalin's order; and the Dnieprostroi Dam, the pride of modern Russia, was destroyed before the invader could lay his unholy hands on it.

ANOTHER thing which struck dismay into the heart of the Germans was guerilla warfare. Ambush awaited the Germans on every road, and at every turn. A guerilla bullet would come from behind some bush or corner. This kind of warfare had only a nuisance value; but it upset many of the plans of the German High Command. A remarkable feature of the Russian programme was the transfer of industries to areas in eastern Russia, far from the reach of the invader. Wherever the Russians could save their plants and machinery, they did it and transferred them to the far flung areas of Siberia and the Urals; and where they could not save, they destroyed. The aluminium tractor and the machine-tool factories of Kiev, Odessa and Kharkov were transferred to Sverdlovsk, Khigir and Magnitogorsk, all in the Ural region beyond the Volga. The aircraft factories of Leningrad were literally packed up in boxes and removed to Kazan, while the tank factories were taken to Sverdlovsk and Teheljabinsk.

Allied Aid to Russia

THE Russians thus managed to keep up their level of production in spite of heavy losses. And their productive capacity was augmented by an uninterrupted flow of Allied aid from Britain and America. The Lease-Lend facilities were extended to Russia, and a great supply of tanks, guns and aircraft began to flow. New routes had been developed to send the goods, and the Persian and Indian supply lines as well as the Archangel route were perfected by intensive engineering works. The Lend-Lease agreement was later revised in Washington. It provided that the ultimate settlement of the Lend-Lease obligations "shall be such as not to burden commerce, but expand production, employment, exchange and consumption of goods."

The First Winter Campaign (1941 December to 1942 February)

THEN came the first Russian winter campaign. Its object was not to give the Germans time to dig in around Leningrad, Moscow and ostov. On 6th December the Russian counter attack started and the Germans began a large-scale retreat on 10th December. The first phase of the Russian counter-offensive was the removal of the two dangerous salients, north and south of Moscow, which involved the loss for the Germans of Klin, Kalinin, Yeletz, Stalinogorsk, Kaluga and Majaisk. The immediate danger to Moscow was thus removed. Tikhvin was also recaptured and Leningrad was saved from being completely cut off from Moscow, while in the south Timoshenko cleared the Germans from Rostov, the gateway of the Caucasus. It was also Russian stragety to establish salients into German lines, which resulted in large German forces being encircled at Rzhev, Vyazma and Staraya Russa.

ON June 21, 1942, M. Kalinin declared in the *Izvestia* that the Germans were not in a position to launch a wide offensive then as they did the previous year. The Germans, however, held important positions from orth to south—Schlusselburg, Novgorod, Staraya Russa, Rzhev, Vyazma, Smolensk, Briansk, Orel Kursk, Kharkov and Taganrog. But Hitler finding his previous Moscow venture a terrible waste and loss began the second summer campaign in the south on a restricted front.

Anglo-Russian Treaty

MEANTIME on May 26, 1942, the Anglo-Russian Treaty was signed as a Coping-stone to the arch of friendship and understanding. The Russian Trade Union Delegation also visited Britian and a demand became manifest in Britain for the opening of a second front.

THIS time Russia took the initiative and started the offensive in the Ukraine under General Timoshenko, and besides the threat to Kharkov which became manifest, it threatened railway communications through out the wide strip of country lying between the Dnieper and the Ukranian frontier. These railways were vital to Germany for the intended offensive further south into the Caucasus. Therefore, General Timoshenko's attack, started on the 12th May 1942, virtually forestalled the German offensive and gained for Timashenko the initiative. The Kharkov offensive was a great victoy for Timoshenko; but Hitler still had great concentrations in the Stalino area, at Kiev, behind Briansk and at Smolensk.

BY this time the Germans launched a fierce offensive against Sebastopol in the Crimea on June 8, 1942. This city was already under a siege for over seven months and a fresh attempt was made to take it. On the 30th the German army also struck at Kursk and east of Kharkov. The drive was aimed at capturing Rostov.

Fall of Sebastopol

THE siege of Sebastopol was one of the startling events in this campaign. This city was attacked now by ten of the best German divisions, besides Rumanian troops, by an air force of 1,000 planes and by some of the best German artillery. And Sebastopol fell into German hands on 2nd July 1942.

MEANTIME the battle of the Don had begun in right earnest. It was described as the toughest battle of the year and next to the seige of Sebastopol, the defence of Voronezh in the Don basin was the most thrilling event of the summer campaign. The battle of Voronezh was a battle for wheat and the magnificient stand successfully made by the Russian army is one of the historic achievements of Timoshenko.

IT is well to remember at this juncture that Hitler primarily intended by the present campaign to get hold of Russian supplies of wheat and oil. His drive against Voronezh and the Don was for the wheat; the drive against the Caucasus was for the oil. In the course of the campaign against the Caucasus, Rostov once again came into German hands on 28th July 1942, and the first phase of the present Nazi offensive ended here. In three weeks in the course of this campaign the Germans added 60,000 square miles to their conquest of Russia.

Siege of Stalingrad

THE next important event in this campaign was the seize of Stalingrad. By the first week of August, the German armies crossed the Don south-east of Kletskaya in great strength, and this armoured spearhead was met and held 30 miles north-west of Stalingrad. By the end of the month, it became clear that the battle of the Don was becoming the battle of Stalingrad itself, which was more or less assuming the form of a siege.

THROUGHOUT September, October and part of November, the Stalingrad siege continued. In the South Novorossisk was evacuated by the Red Army on the 13th September and the Black Sea fleet retired to bases at Batum and Poti.

BY the end of the Summer campaign in 1942 the Germans had finally entrenched themselves near Stalingrad and having crossed the Don had swept into northern and central Caucasia, threatened the important points of Novorossisk, Tuapse and Grozny by their advance. This offensive was in the nature of a sweep across the Donetz through the Don elbow southward into the Northern Caucasus.

German Plans upset

THE second summer offensive, just reviewed, though restricted in the extent of its front was as ambitious in its conception as the previous summer campaign against Moscow. It aimed at capturing the resources of Russia in East Ukraine, Astrakhan and the Caucasus and proceeding to the Middle East in order to join Rommel's forces which were sweeping across the Libyan Desert towards Egypt. But two things forestalled this ambitious programme of Corporal Hitler: the Russian winter set in earlier this time, and Stalingrad unexpectedly upset all German plans.

Second Winter offensive

THE Russian winter offensive began on the 19th of November 1942. The course of the campaign showed that the strategic plan of the German Command of capturing Stalingrad, cutting the Central European part of the Soviet Union from the Volga and the Ural area, and surrounding and taking Moscow, was built on sand. In sharp contrast to this plan was the Soviet High Command's strategy which was to surround and cut the German forces on the approaches to Stalingrad. This plan was carried into effect by Russian troops during November and December 1942 in three stages. The first stage was the offensive of the Russian troops northwest and southwest of Stalingrad. The second was the offensive in the area of the middle Don. The third stage of the offensive was south of Stalingrad. The German High Command, having led its troops at Stalingrad into a blind alley and having brought them to the brink of catastrophe undertook a desperate attempt to relieve its troops surrounded by the Red Army at Stalingrad. With that object in view the enemy concentrated in the area north of Kotelnikovo a considerable force, and on December 12 launched an offensive against the Russian army. Soviet troops operating south of Stalingrad routed the new enemy concentration, rolled the Germans south and deprived them of the last chance of breaking through to the German divisions surrounded at Stalingrad. The direction of the campaign was in the hands of General Zhukov.

BY 31st January 1943 the siege of Stalingrad had been lifted and an admiring world heaved a sigh of relief at the successful termination of the epic struggle of the Russian army. A huge Nazi army and booty had been captured, and sixteen German Generals were taken prisoners. History has not yet recorded a more thrilling episode than Stalingrad.

SIMULTANEOUSLY in the south the winter offensive was an unmixed success for the Russians. One hundred and two divisions of the Nazis were routed in the Caucasus and the Kuban area. Rostov, Kharkov, Veliki Luki and Mozdok fell, one by one, into Russian hands and the defeat of the Nazis was so complete that Dr. Goebbels began holding up Russia as an impending menace to European civilization. In the north a siege of sixteen months around the city of Leningrad was lifted by the middle of January 1943 by the storming of the German fortress of Schlusselburg by the Russians, and the Red army made contact with the heroic garrison of a great city beloved of its people.

THERE is a comparative calm on the Russian front. As usual, it is a prelude to a great storm. The summer offensive of 1943 will perhaps be more fierce than the previous campaigns, but the burden on Russia will be lessened. A Second Front as such will be opened in the West, and it will bring relief to Russia. Simultaneously perhaps Russia will strike, and the two great blows will merge into one, which will bring about the complete annihilation of the Axis forces.

RUNNING COMMENTARY—*Continued from page 5*

more fearful weapon, from month to month . . . It certainly does not look as if the German U-boats are going to be the first to give up the race." About two weeks afterwards, Berlin boasted: "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." On February 6, 1943, Berlin declared. "The British Empire is in danger of being annihilated by the periscopes. Allied shipping losses are increasing day by day."

Let us contrast these statements with recent Berlin broadcasts. On May 6, the Berlin radio quoted the following 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."

At the end of last month, a Berlin broadcast in German quoted the following passage from *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".

In a talk entitled "Facts and Fiction" Berlin said in an English broadcast on the first of this month:—

> "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 had resulted in a drop in U-boat successes."

It would thus be seen that the statements of Allied leaders that the war against U-boats is showing encouraging results are confirmed, in a large measure, by the Berlin radio itself. After all is said and done, the fact remains that the U-boats have so far failed to prevent the growing increase of the United Nations merchant fleet.

DISSOLUTION OF THE COMINTERN

By WICKHAM STEED

NO political event in this war has surpassed in importance the dissolution of the Communist International or the Comintern in Russia. Military events have had greater immediate significance, such as the Battle of Britain in 1940, Hitler's attack on Russia in June 1941, Japan's attack on the United States in December 1941, and destruction or capture of the Axis armies in North Africa.

These military events put final victory beyond the reach of Axis Powers. Yet there remained the danger that dislike of the international revolutionary policy attributed to the Comintern might cause disagreement among the United Nations upon the conditions of peace. It was feared that they might win victory only to loose peace. Now this danger has been dispelled. The anger and dismay, revealed by the German comment upon the dissolution of the Comintern, proceed from the recognition that the chief ideological foundation of the Axis has been shattered. This foundation was the anti-Comintern pact concluded in Berlin between Germany and Japan. Italy had already subscribed to the principles of this pact and afterwards adhered to it formally. All the accomplices and the satellites of the Axis have been required to accept it. Its object was to create an anti-Bolshevist front throughout the world as a cloak for the predatory designs of Germany, Italy and Japan.

MISGIVINGS RELIEVED.

Nor should it be forgotten that the peace proposals recently made by the Spanish leaders still echoed the doctrine that Russian Communism was the chief danger to mankind. Even in the Allied countries, particularly in the United States, the propaganda of the local Communist Parties had undeniably caused misgivings about the ultimate policy of Soviet Russia. Upon these misgivings the German propaganda played ceaselessly.

Now that the misgivings are relieved, if not dispelled, German propaganda must seek new arguments. One obvious German argument is that the dissolution of the Comintern is a mere trick, an insincere prefence which changed nothing in reality of the "Communist peril." Plausible though this argument may sound, I think it worthless.

The dissolution of the Comintern is a logical consequence of Stalin's policy. It follows from his rejection nine years ago of Trotsky's policy of world-wide revolution. Nobody who has watched with understanding the development of Stalin's policy can doubt the sincerity of his desire not to be hampered by the Comintern.

POLICY OF NON-INTERFERENCE.

An unimpeachable British Socialist authority, the late Mrs. Sidney Webb, who with her husband spent many years in careful study of Soviet Russia wrote last autumn that the foreign policy of the Soviet Government under Stalin has always favoured peace by treaties of non-aggression between the Soviet Union and all other sovereign States "without attempting to interfere with the internal organization of each other's countries."

Mrs. Webb mentioned persistent rumours that Stalin would like to see the Comintern disappear and only hesitated to suppress it because it had been founded by Lenin in 1917. Now the Comintern has decided to suppress itself after having been gradually reduced to impotence. Stalin's influence has doubtless hastened its decision.

During this war, Russian feelings have become increasingly patriotic and less disposed to favour policies of international revolution.

A GENUINE ACT.

This change strengthened the hands of Stalin and other Soviet leaders. I believe that the dissolution of the Comintern expresses this change and is, therefore, a genuine act of Russia's national policy.

The wholesome effects of this act will become more apparent in the future. Relations between the United States and Russia will improve.

SUMMER OFFENSIVE: WHY GERMANY IS DELAYING

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, writes the *Daily Telegraph*.

Yet, according to the standard of the last year, the 1943 campaign is three 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.

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, cables the *Daily Express* Istanbul correspondent.

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 Bezerta 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 bee 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.

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, writes the *Daily Express*.

It could of course be an elaborate bluff to persuade the Allies that the German army is being redisposed 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 Whrmacht, 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 it 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 Whrmacht fight sectionally on the battlefields of our choosing. The length of the war depends on our being able to bring that about.

HOW MANY MILES TO MOSCOW?

By WILLIAM OGILVIE.

[*The following poem which appeared in the* Sunday Graphic, *London, in December 1941 remains as true to-day as it was two years ago.*]

How many miles to Moscow? And still the pale towers stand—
The battlements of freedom, the bulwark of the land.
Round them, in stout resistance, the banded burghers wait—
A million fearless citizens, to guard their western gate.

How many miles to Moscow? Still pile the German dead;
Still rattle in the throbbing sky the dark planes overhead.
And now it is not mile by mile, but foot by weary foot,
While dangles on the distant tree the fair, forbidden fruit.

How many miles to Moscow? That road Napoleon knew,
Who came in guise of conqueror, then wavered and withdrew;
Whose worn and tattered army retrod the trampled snow
Along the miles from Moscow, long bitter miles to go.

How many miles to Moscow? How many, who can say?
And who can count the sle ping dead that line the fateful way?
Remember, Adolf Hitler, even though you batter through,
There broke his heart on Moscow a greater man than you.

RUSSIA'S "BIG FIVE"

SHORTLY after Germany attacked Russia Stalin recognized the necessity of concentrating all power in the State in the hands of a few men. The result of this was that to-day a committee of five, including, besides Stalin, Georgi Maximilianovitch Malenkov, Laurenti Pavlyvoith Beria, Molotov and Timoshenko, possess absolute power. The generals Voroshilov, Budyonny, Shukov, Shaposhnikov and Mertzkov play the part of advisers to this Committee of Defence. The formerly great influence of the People's Commissars has practically vanished.

The names of Molotov and Timoshenko are so well known even outside the Soviet Union that their appointment seems natural, but, on the other hand, the inclusion of Malenkov and Beria was a surprise for many people abroad. Malenkov, a man of thirty-nine, is hardly known beyond the frontiers of the U.S.S.R., although in Russia few people have been so much talked of during the last few years as this clean-shaven, full-faced Great Russian. He comes from the rank and file of the Party and owes his success mostly to his often merciless criticism of the weak points and defects of the local minor party leaders. This method got him into the "Politburo" and the Secretary's Office of the Central Committee. Some politicians succeed by flattery; Malenkov rose by attacking all and sundry. An American journalist has called Malenkov the "Savonarola of Communism." Not without a certain justification, for, like the monk of Florence who attacked the abuses of the Church of his day, Malenkov has always raged and thundered against heretics of the Communist dogma and the corrupt officials of the party machine. He was one of the first and the most violent adversaries of the slogan "A happy life," claiming that Russia had been too complacent and thoughtless and declaring that this had led to a neglect of work and production, which in turn had resulted in the fatal weakness of the Soviet Union during the Munich crisis. [The movement against the slogan of "A happy life," sponsored by Malenkov, actually began in 1936.]

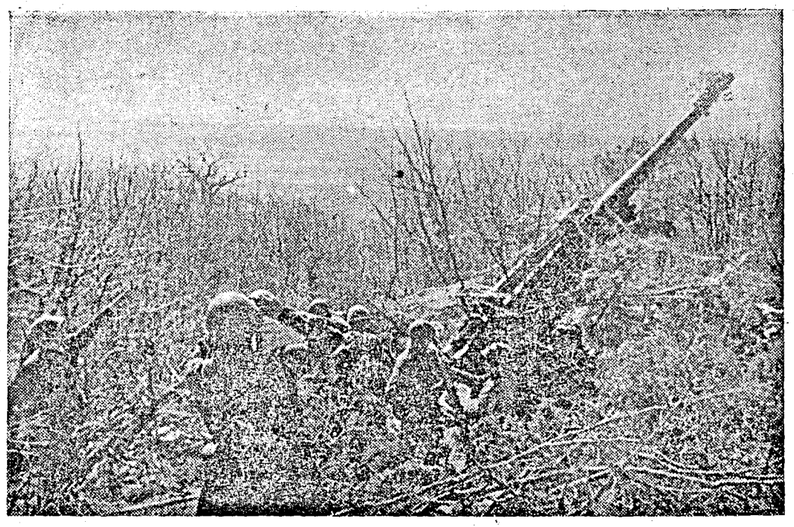
ADMIRABLE METHOD

Malenkov was entrusted with the difficult task of persuading the peasants to agree to the abolition of several important social acquisitions and of making them understand the reason for this. His method was admirable: instead of confessing that a return to old reactionary measures was necessary and trying to excuse them, he launched a violent attack against the factory workers, criticizing them in words which no one had dared to use since the beginning of the Russian revolution. In this way he forestalled antagonism between workers and peasants, and gained the approval of the peasants, who enjoyed seeing the "Avant-Garde of the Proletariat" subjected for once to rough treatment.

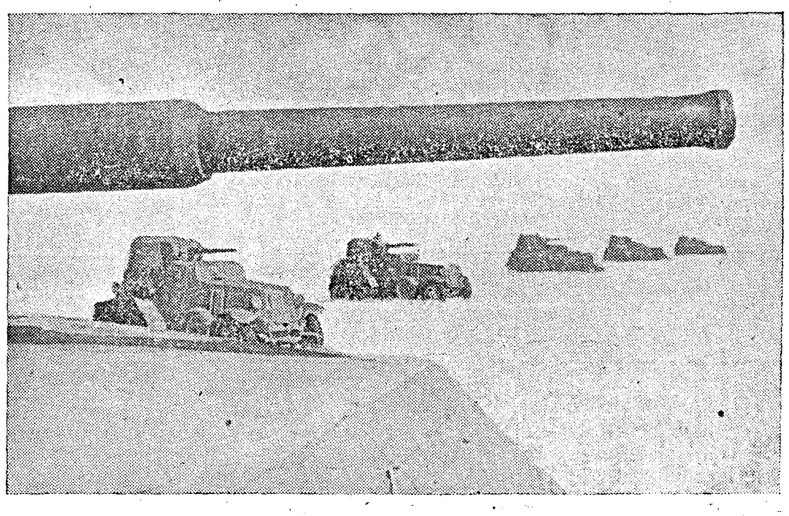
The appointment of the chief of the OGPU, Beria, was less surprising than that of Malenkov—at least to those who remember what an enormous part the police organization plays in the Soviet regime. Anti-Bolshevik propagandists have tried to depict this clever, well-educated and decidedly dangerous man as the unshaven, uncivilized scoundrel of a gangster-story. In reality, Beria, well-groomed, quiet, his eyes hidden behind pince-nez, reminds one of a successful, rather ruthless American banker. He was born in Stalin's home country, Georgia. At the age of twenty-one he was already assistant to the Chief of the Cheka in Baku. In 1938 Stalin ordered him to come to Moscow. As the successor of Jeshov, who had nearly smashed the whole party machine by his eternal "party purges," Beria showed great moderation. In his spare time this OGPU chief wrote a history of the civil war in the Caucasus. Nevertheless, this does not mean that Beria is a servile and thoughtless flatterer of the

FROM THE RUSSIAN FRONT

[The following pictures taken in April 1943 have been received from Soviet Russia.]



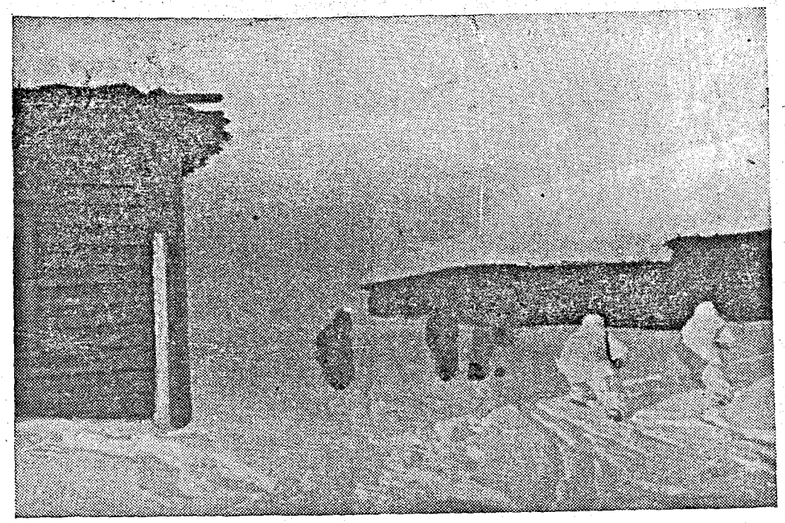
Red Army men sight an enemy plane.



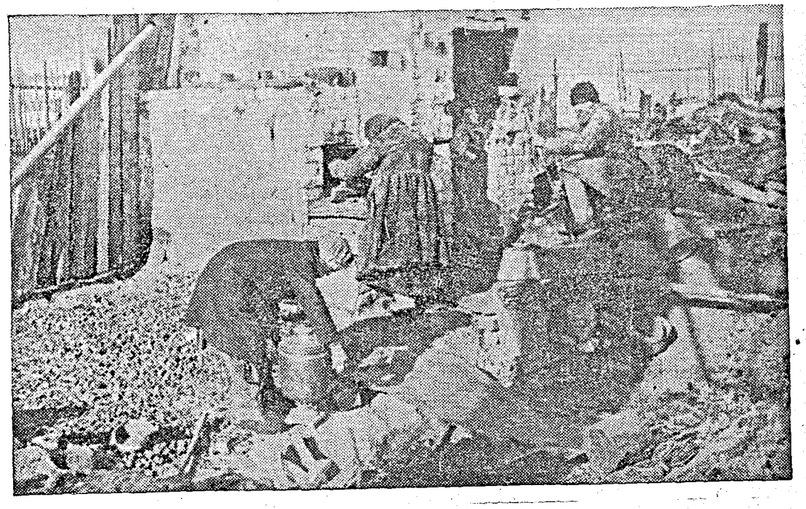
Armoured cars of the Red Army before an attack.

"Our troops have come." A scene of a Russian village liberated from the Germans.

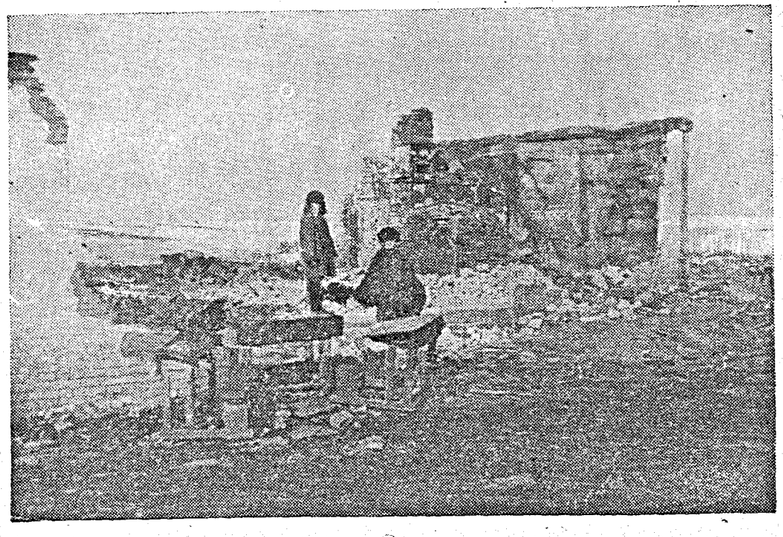
FROM THE RUSSIAN FRONT



Red Army men breaking into a village.



After the Germans' retreat: The Titov family on the site of their house in the village Molodka, Smolensk region, burned down by the Fascists.



German atrocities on the Soviet soil. A school blown up by Germans in village Mashkino, Kursk region. In this village Hitlerites shot or burned forty-three persons.

great. People who ought to know believe him to be the best educated man of those surrounding Stalin. It is unlikely that he ever wil become Stalin's successor, because his subtle and captious manner can hardly appeal to the masses. But he will probably unite all the threads of government in his hand and rule "from the wings."

RESIST THE INVADER

Since the "Big Five" took over political life has changed in the Soviet Union. The members of the Central Party Committee spend most of their time touring the country, calling upon the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union to resist the invader. But a close connexion between Party and State is formed by the "Orgburo," which passes the decisions of the Politburo on to the Party officials. In this very important organization Stalin has placed two of the men he most trusts: Andrei Andreievitch Andreiev and Andrei Alexandrovitch Shdanov.

After having been in disgrace for several months Shdanov has once more come into the pugnic eye. Before the first Soviet-Finnish war he was believed to be the most influential man in the Union except Stalin. When the Russians were forced by diplomatic complications, and partly against their will, to make war, Shdanov, who apparently advised that step, was dismissed from favour. Reinstated, this son of an Orthodox priest and one of the best orators of the Party became Party chief in Leningrad. Nowadays, when the possession of the Finnish glacis before Leningrad has become of major importance, Shdanov's authority is on the increase.

But, even after this "come-back," Shdanov is not regarded as the "Crown Prince of Bolshevism"; the second confidant of Stalin in the Orgburo—Andreiev—suits this part much better. President of the Control Committee of the Party, an institution which annually analyses the membership of the Party and examines the reliability of the members, this rather charming and good-looking man naturally possesses great influence. Although he is only forty-six he is looked upon as an "old Bolshevik." Born in Smolensk, Andreiev earned his first kopeks as a page in a St. Petersburg hotel. He was by turns munition worker, secretary of a trade union and, after the revolution, People's Commissar for Transport.

DECIDING FATE OF THE WORLD

Since the war the Committee for Control of the Army has been strengthened. Voroshilow, who had been its chief, was replaced after taking over the command of the Northern Army by Shadenko, the People's Commissar for Oil; Shadenko is assisted by Mechlis, who, by the way, is, with the exception of Kaganovitch, the only Jew in the government of the Soviet Union.

The Committee for Propaganda has been enlarged and endowed with enormous sums. The whole propaganda organization is controlled by a special body which answers solely to the Central Party Committee. Its leader, Kreissin, has organized "shock-troops for poetry," led by Jarov. During the last few months the soldier's songs of Demian Biedny, who had been in disgrace for some time, have again become very popular. Another personality who has come into the limelight since the beginning of the war is "old" Party member Lozowsky, the spokesman of the Foreign Office. He has become the mouthpiece of the Soviets and is a joy to all foreign journalists.

These are the new men who have become prominent during recent months- their names should be as well-known abroad as they are known today in the Soviet Union, for it is upon them that the fate of the world largely rests—(Condensed from DIE WELTWOCHE, Zurich.

GLORY OF THE RED ARMY

By ALEXEI TOLSTOY

THE Red Army has struck at the heart of the Donetz basin, has taken Rostov and Kharkov and reached the coast of the Sea of Azov.

Tempestuous and powerful is the offensive of the Red Army whose soldiers have taken in their stride impregnable strongholds and lines of fortifications once regarded as miracles of military engineering.

In this unparalleled battle Germans have begun to perish or surrender in whole formations. They have no time as they retreat to blow up their dumps and render their equipment useless. They have still not lost the German self-assurance or conception of racial superiority that has been hammered into their heads—soon they will lose it; they will perish desperately resisting in beleagured towns—but they, together with their divine Caesar, Adolph, are already depressed and shaken by the fact that Russia has proved stronger than Germany. Despite their magnificent organization and technical equipment, despite their exploitation of the arsenals of the whole of occupied Europe, and despite their conversion of every German into an automaton having but one idea of advancing and destroying every living thing —the German army has proved weaker than the Red Army.

SAVED THEIR SKINS

Why did Field-Marshal Von Paulus and his twenty-four German Generals not shoot themselves but, guessing that "the situation was extremely dangerous" hang dirty white napkins out of their dug-outs? In similar circumstances in 1941 it is quite possible that they would have blown out their brains. Such a gesture could result from a particularly arrogant mood—in a moment of funeral exultation to throw oneself under the wheels of the triumphant chariot of Germany. But if the cause which those generals served is lost, if there is no faith in victory, if thoughts of the maddened Fuehrer bring nothing but disgust, then why sacrifice one's life? And Field-Marshal Von Paulus with his twenty-four generals resolved to save their skins which would later be of some personal use to them.

If, however, the German Field-Marshals and Generals think and act like this, what can be the mood of the grey Germany soldiery? No so good. The Hitlerite army is held together by a government of dull stupidity and drill. These are still strong enough and the Red Army will have to deliver a number of heavy blows before the German war-machine comes to its senses.

PSYCHOLOGY OF GERMANS

Three Germans who came over to our side stated during interrogation that there had been nine soldiers in their dug-out, the tenth being a corporal. All nine of them had agreed to surrender to the Russians, but the corporal, when he went to sleep, kept his feet pressed against the door. One night the corporal went to a brothel and the soldiers said to one another, "lucky chance", and set out to crawl to the Russian lines. Their own people fired on them and only three arrived out of nine. They were asked, "how is it that nine of you were afraid of one corporal: you could have killed him and gone out whenever it was convenient." The Germans looked at each other and answered, "It never entered our heads to do that."

Many Russians are going to their death as are the Germans. The important thing in gaining victory is what they are going to death for. The moral plane of the task involved determines the soldier's tension of spirit, endurance, valour and his fury in battle. The war has entered that concluding phase when the Russian, delivering blows, becomes stronger and the German warding them off and retreating no longer remembers why he has to die.

ANGER OF REVENGE.

The Russian soldier knows the anger of revenge, the wrath and pain at the countless ash-heaps, at suffering ruin and at the deaths of millions of his compatriots. He knows the ever-growing ardour of the offensive and has an unshakable faith in the fact that after the war, when wounds are healed up, his whole native land will blossom forth as never before.

Confident of Final Victory

Shakespeare makes the great republican Brutus say of the assassination of the tyrant Cæsar: "As fire drives out fire, so pity pity."

Force can be defeated only by force. The valiant armies of my country are fighting against Hitler, the arch-fiend of humanity.

In this fateful hour we, actors of Soviet Russia, are with our Red Army heart and soul. All our energies are directed toward the achievement of victory. The fight our people are waging is no easy one, but we are confident of final victory.

And we declare, with our great poet Pushkin
"Hail the sun"
And let the darkness vanish

—V. J. KACHALOV, *a leading actor of Moscow Art Theatre.*

RUSSIA'S GREAT LEADERS

MARSHAL TIMOSHENKO

MARSHAL VOROSHILOV

M. STALIN

MARSHAL MAISKY

MARSHAL BUDENNY

RED ARMY PASSES WORLD EXAMINATION

By NIKOLAI TIKHONOV

IN December 1939, I found in a satchel of a Finnish dragoon a notebook which contained, among pictures of movie stars, a sketch, almost a caricature, of the Red Army man. It was not meant to be a caricature, however; it was the Finnish soldier's idea of what a Red Army man is like: the picture showed a horrible, bearded man with a knife stuck behind his belt, wearing an enormous great-coat with purple stripes across his chest and a strange hat. He looked more like the medieval Russian warrior from an opera possessing not a single trait in common with the real Soviet soldier. Our enemies knew little of the true nature of the Soviet soldier. The Finns came to know him a little better when the applauded Mannerheim Defence Line fell in 1940.

At the start of the robbers' campaign in the U.S.S.R., the German army periodicals indulged in cheap tricks calculated to produce effect. They carried faked photographs in which the Red Army men were depicted as ragged and fearful looking "Mujiks", not much different from the Finnish version, surrounded by spick and span Germans. The Nazis knew little about the Red Army men at the time. They still believed in the lies manufactured by Goebbels' propaganda machine. Later, during the terrible winter nights of 1941, at Moscow-Leningrad, Tikhvin and Rostov they smiled no longer. The cold twisted their smiles and the Russian artillery forced them to hide their heads.

"LIKE A PEOPLE POSSESSED."

Soon after the German generals of propaganda began to enquire in their articles what the matter was, wherein the cause of Russian resistance lay? For a long time they sought an answer to this momentous question until they found words suitable for their purpose. "The Russians resist so stubbornly because they have no faith in life after death. They fight like a people possessed".

Yes, the Red Army men are possessed by the idea of driving the German invaders off the Soviet territory, and destroying them. The source of the Red Army's strength still remains a mystery to the bandits who are after other people's property. The very foundation of the Red Army, its close unity with the people, its kinship with the soil, its selfless devotion, its heroic exploits for the sake of the homeland, all this explained nothing to the German because he could not understand a single one of these ideals.

Advancing deeper into Russia, he could only instinctively feel that he was in for a life-and-death struggle from which he could not hope to emerge alive. His only hope was based on what he had been told and retold since childhood: that the German army was an invincible army, that the skill of its generals was unsurpassed, that nobody could stand up to the German pincers. With this dull self-confidence, the German invaders marched boldly over the Don steppes, hurled themselves into the Stalingrad furnace, crawled to the depth of the Caucasian canyon; held pill-boxes on the Neva banks. They found encouragement in the names of Schlieffen, Moltke, Ludendorf, Hindenburg, Brauchitsch, Reichenau and other high priests of the German School.

TURNED THEIR HEADS.

They did not suspect what a strategic genius would deal with them under Stalingrad's walls and, although they became more cautious after the Moscow setback and unsuccessful attacks on Leningrad, the summer offensive turned their heads. All the more horrifying for them was the last vision: they died without understanding what had occurred.

And what occurred was very simple. It seems clear now that there are ways of fighting so effectively that the enormous German Shock Army, with a Field-Marshal and two dozen Generals at the head, was obliged to surrender after receiving a drubbing so terrific that surrender seemed the natural outcome of the Stalingrad battle. The much-publicized German military art is fast receding into the past. It is the victorious strategy of the Red Army that the historians of the future will study with admiration.

TORN THE LAURELS.

The Red Army has passed the world examination. The Red Army has come a long way. It has trained remarkable officers and men. It has struck terror into the heart of its most powerful foe. It is liberating its native land from the oppressor's yoke and it bears in mind the fact that its ultimate aim is the deliverance of the people groaning in fascist chains. It has broken the impudent arrogance of the German strategists. It has torn from Hitler's head, the laurels of dubious victories, and delivered a blow so terrible in force that the very backbone of fascist Germany has cracked.—(*Tass*).

SOVIET PILOTS COVER THEMSELVES WITH GLORY

By MAJOR POSTOLOVSKY

IT seems as if it were only yesterday when a plane flew over the Red Square during the celebration of the first anniversary of the November Revolution! It was an old machine, of the type of "Voisin". It was piloted by the oldest Russian flier, Boris Rosinsky, pupil of Bleriot. Lenin watched the plane during the parade with the keenest interest.

That was a quarter of a century ago. Just before the German attack on the Soviet Union, during May Day and November Parades, in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev and dozens of other towns, thousands of planes took part in the reviews.

People had to exert all their energy during the execution of Stalin's Five-Year Plans to create such a mighty airforce.

Hitler had, on numerous occasions, declared that aircraft was the weapon for the German military forces, and that the Slavs were incapable of understanding aviation.

Yet the Soviet Airforce defeated the German Airforce in air combats for Moscow, Leningrad and Stalingrad.

PATRIOTIC WAR.

The great patriotic war of the Soviet peoples against the German invaders has proved the superiority of the Soviet planes and Soviet pilots over the German aircraft and fliers. German machines are not better than Soviet planes and Soviet pilots have proved that they are better trained and possess greater courage than German pilots.

Who on the Soviet-German front applied the frontal attacks? The Russian pilots. Who repeated on a wide scale the deadly ram first applied by the Russian pilot—Nesterov—against the Austrians and Germans in the first World War? The Russian pilots.

Who followed the example set by that son of the Russian peoples—Captain Gastello—who thrust his machine into the midst of the column of German tanks sacrificing, for the sake of his homeland, his life as well as plane? The Russian pilots. Not a single German aviator dared to apply any of these methods of warfare of the Soviet pilots. But the fascist pilots specialised in destroying peaceful towns and villages, women, children and old men. They merited their name of "pirates of the air".

GERMANS FEAR SOVIET AIRMEN.

Numerous letters and statements of German pilots who have been taken prisoners show how German pilots fear the Soviet fliers. Hitler sent hundreds of transport planes to bring up supplies and ammunition to his encircled 6th Army. But the Soviet airforce frustrated their attempt. There were days when the Soviet fighters and "Stormoviks" shot down as many as 50—60 "Junkers 52".

The statement of the German pilot, Fred Sernetski, whose machine was shot down near Stalingrad, is very characteristic in this respect:

> "German losses in aircraft in the late period of operations in Stalingrad were tremendous. Every pilot who received an assignment believed that would be his last flight. Even the most skilled pilots unwillingly got into their machines. Some pilots wrote farewell letters before the take off".

The Soviet Airforce has played a very important part in the war. It helped land troops in defence operations destroying the enemy armoured machines, destroying the enemy's communications and bombed targets in the deep rear.

IT HAPPENED NEAR LENINGRAD

By CONSTANTIN PAUSTOVSKY

THE thunderstorm had raged all night in the Ala-Tau mountains. In the morning the livid sky still looked menacing, with dark thunder clouds slowly moving just above the mountain tops.

A green grasshopper, frightened perhaps by the claps of thunder, had found refuge on the lace curtain. The wild peonies in the glass on the window still formed a vivid patch of colour. We could hear the swift rush of water from the bottom of the gorge nearby.

Captain Rudnev lifted his bandaged head, and raised himself from the hospital cot on one elbow. He looked pensively at the lace curtain and the grasshopper.

"Yes, this is Asia" he said at last, "but that lace curtain reminds one of the lace they make at home in the North. And I suppose that it might have been woven by the fingers of some pretty girl like Nastia."

He smiled sadly and reminiscently. I looked at him inquiringly.

"It happened in my battery near Leningrad," he went on.

He told the story to me, and I want to retell it to you who are separated from Russia by hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles of land and sea.

In the spring of 1941, Balashov, a Leningrad artist, had left for the North to do some shooting and painting.

He got off the old river steamer at the first village that pleased his eye and rented a room in the house of the village teacher. In the same village lived Nastia, daughter of the local forest-keeper and famed in those parts for her skill in lace-making and for her good looks. She was grey-eyed and not given to words, a true daughter of the Russian North.

One day, during a hunting trip, her father's shotgun went off by accident and Balashov was wounded in the breast. He was brought to his room in the teacher's house and the forest-keeper, dejected and frightened, asked his daughter to nurse Balashov. She tended him with the greatest devotion, and, as often happens with women, pity for the sick man gave birth to love, her first real love. But she was reserved and shy, and the man was ignorant of the emotions that had arisen in that gentle heart.

He had a wife in Leningrad but as he never spoke of her, even to Nastia, all in the village thought he was an unmarried man.

When the wound healed, Balashov left for Leningrad. On the eve of his departure he came uninvited to Nastia's log cabin to thank her for her nursing. He brought her some presents as a token of his gratitude. She accepted them.

Now this was Balashov's first visit to the North and he did not know the local customs. One of them is that if a man calls uninvited on a girl and brings her presents, it means that he wishes to marry her. If the girl accepts the presents, she agrees to become his wife. Such is the language of love in the North.

Tears of joy glistened in the girl's eyes. Her dreams had come true. She timidly asked Balashov when he would return from Leningrad. Balashov jokingly replied that he would be back very soon.

Balashov left and long days of waiting came for the girl. Summer passed and the long, gloomy days of autumn came. But Balashov did not come. Nastia's joyful impatience and expectation gave way to anxiety, melancholy and a feeling of shame. It was whispered in the village that the young man had deceived her but still Nastia's faith held. She was sure that some mishap had befallen Balashov.

Spring brought Nastia new pangs. It was a late, long spring. The spring floods were heavier than usual and the rivers seemed reluctant to re-enter their banks. It was only in the beginning of June that the first steamer passed the village.

Nastia's mind was made up. She would go to Leningrad without her father's knowledge and find Balashov. One night she left her father's house and after two days of walking, reached the nearest railway. At the station she learnt that war had broken out that morning.

Joyless and dispirited, the peasant girl, who had never before seen a train, made her way through a country that was girding its loins for battle against the invader.

She eventually reached Leningrad and found Balashov's flat.

The front door was opened by Balashov's wife—florid, red-haired, pyjama-clad, with a cigarette hanging from her lips. She eyed the visitor with cold suspicion. No, Balashov was not at home. He had been called up and was at the front somewhere near Leningrad. There was derision and cutting scorn in her voice and look. Was this the pretty peasant girl who had caused the rift between her husband and herself?

For the first time Nastia realized that Balashov was a married man. So he had deceived her, mocked her love. She could say nothing in reply to this taw-dry, painted woman. She turned and fled. In her agony she walked with unseeing eyes through the streets of the majestic city which was buckling on its armour for the impending battle. She noticed neither the anti-aircraft guns stationed in the city squares, the sandbag-protected monuments, nor the gardens and the beautiful buildings that are the pride of this fair city.

She reached the Neva. Enclosed in granite embankments, its swift, dark waters raced on towards the sea. It was here, in the water, that her wounded heart would find peace and rest. She took off her shawl, her mother's present, and carefully placed it on the parapet. She swung back two heavy plaits of hair and placed a foot on the cast-iron railing.

Somebody seized her by the hand. She turned her head. A man in yellow-stained overalls, carrying the brushes of a floorpolisher, stood behind her. He shook his head in reproof.

"You've chosen the wrong time, you silly girl," he said and led her off to his house and placed her in the care of his wife, a bustling, determined woman with a hearty contempt for the stronger sex. The girl, sick in body and soul, was sheltered by the Trofimovs, who nursed her through the dangerous illness that ensued. It was from Trofimov's wife that Nastia learnt that Balashov had not been to blame, that it was hard to expect a stranger to the North to be familiar with the customs of those parts, that only "village simpletons like Nastia could fall in love at first sight."

Thus the worthy Mrs. Trofimov did not in the least spare the girl's feelings; joy welled up in Nastia's heart, joy that Balashov had not deceived her, that she might hope to see him again.

Very soon Trofimov was called up. Nastia remained with his wife.

When Nastia had regained her health, her friend arranged for the girl to join a Red Cross nurses' school. She delighted her instructors by the aptitude she showed in her studies, her skill in bandaging wounds and the dexterity of her deft and nimble fingers. "But I'm used to working with my fingers. I'm a lace maker," Nastia would reply when complimented on her work.

The Leningrad winter dragged on, with the icy grip of its freezing nights, its endless cannonade, the fortitude of the city's defenders, their confidence in ultimate victory. Nastia completed her course of training and was waiting to be drafted into the forces on active service. At night her tears would often wet her pillow when she thought of Balashov and her father. Till his dying day the old man would never understand why she had gone off into the night.

Spring came and Nastia was sent to the front near Leningrad. In the ruined gardens of the palaces that surround the city, in dug-out or battery, in thicket or meadow, in trench or charred village, she had the same question on her lips—was Balashov known to any of the fighting men?

Quite by chance, she met Trofimov in the front line during a lull in the fighting, and that talkative man lost no time in telling his comrades the story of the girl from the North and her Odyssey in search of the man she loved.

The story appealed to the imagination of the fighters, to their innate love of the romantic, their appreciation of devotion. The tale spread, travelled from unit to unit, reached the most outlying sectors of the front. It was carried by dispatch-riders, lorry drivers, Red Cross workers and signalmen.

The soldiers envied the lucky man, and, in envying him, each of them thought of his near and dear ones. As the girl's figure grew legendary, the men moulded her description to their own imagination adding and changing the details and making her a native of their own parts. The Ukrainian was ready to swear that she hailed from his own land, so did the Siberian, and the native of the Urals, and even the almond-eyed Kazakh felt almost sure that such devotion could be born only in the far-off sun-baked steppes of Kazakhstan.

The story reached the coastal battery where Balashov was serving and he too shared the general feeling for the unknown girl, her unswerving love. His thoughts often

turned to her and he even caught himself at moments experiencing something akin to envy of the lucky fellow she loved. How could he ever suspect that it was himself that he envied.

His private life was an empty husk, his marriage a miserable failure. How often he had dreamed of just this kind of love, real love. It was too late now; he was turning grey at the temples and who knew whether he would come out of the war alive?

It so happened that Nastia at last found Balashov's battery, but she was two days late. He had fallen in action and had been buried in a pine-wood not far from the shore of the gulf.

Rudnev paused here and was silent for some minutes.

"What happened then?" I asked him.

"Then?" repeated Rudnev, "Oh, Balashov's men fought like tigers. Our guns pulverised the German defences. Our men were mad with rage. They made Jerry pay for everything, for their Prussian swinishness, for the sufferings of all peoples . . ."

"And the girl?"

"Nastia is giving all her time, all her devotion, to care for the wounded. She's the finest nurse in our sector of the front."

Rudnev stopped. The dark storm clouds were clearing away and patches of bright blue sky were appearing. The grasshopper came to life, crawled up the curtain, hopped on to the wild peonies, and suddenly disappeared.

"The fellow was asleep a long time" said Rudnev. "I've had time to tell you a long, sad story."

He glanced at the mountains, their gleaming translucent snow-capped peaks, the huge disc of the sun that lit up the fringe of the rapidly disappearing clouds and turned the patches of blue sky a brilliant sapphire.

Outside the window everything in nature seemed imbued with fresh life. The shrill chirping of grasshoppers, the song of birds and the music of the torrent could reach our ears.

"India begins beyond those mountains?" Rudnev asked suddenly.

"Yes," I replied.

He was silent.

"Life will be like to-day when victory is won," said Rudnev, nodding in the direction of the window.

—(*S.U.N.*).

STALIN IN COMPLETE HARMONY WITH CHURCHILL AND ROOSEVELT

GOOD news has been coming our way these last few days: victory over the Atlantic U-boats, smashing of bases in Sicily and Sardinia, withdrawal of Italian troops from the Balkans and the announcement of agreement in Washington.

We count also as good news such straight talks as Mr. Eden gave to Italy and to any neutrals who share Mussolini's horror of bombing.

Bombs are our medicine for the bullfrog's bombast. There is no escape for the Italian people while they tolerate his sordid regime.

But the best news of all is the statement by by Joseph Davies, American President's special envoy in Moscow. Before he sets off to America with Stalin's reply to Roosevelt in a large envelope, he tells how Stalin spoke with great gratification of the meeting in Washington.

"These three know each other's mind" says Mr. Davies of Messrs. Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. The growing contact and the bond of sympathy between the three great leaders is one of the major blessings in this period of waiting. Armies are poised for battle, fleets are at the alert on the sea and in the air. It is a source of immense satisfaction to know that the men, who are really in charge of our destinies, are in complete harmony.

Outside the staffs, even the best informed do not know what was decided. "Neither do German and Japanese generals," comments the New York *Herald Tribune*. "They are now compelled to stretch their forces around the whole of the vast frontiers they have recklessly conquered and to await the blows they have so long enjoyed giving."—*Daily Express.*

The Time has Now Come

I remember Maxim Gorki, kind, yet stern and steeled in battle. One day, some four months before his death, Gorki was sitting with eyes half-closed, listening to the radio reports about the Italian invasion of Ethiopia. With every word his face grew more overcast; his brows were knit, and he kept stroking his rough moustache. Finally he got up, switched off the radio, and said in his soft voice, as though speaking to himself:

"When will those cutthroats be stopped? How much longer will they roam around footloose?"

Gorki did not live to see the present war. But he died in the firm belief that the Fascist cutthroats would in the end be curbed and securely strait-jacketed. The time has now come.

—S. MARSHAK, *popular Soviet author and translator of English poetry.*

THE STALIN FORMULA

Major Lewis Hastings seems to have found the answer to this question in Louis Fischer's book, *Men and Politics*.

'Fischer has spent many long years in Russia,' he told listeners in a recent *War Commentary*. 'He is by no means wholly sympathetic to Stalin. He is all the more a good witness. Now this is what he says about the famous six-hour interview at which he was present, between Joseph Stalin and a group of distinguished Americans some years ago. "Stalin does not wave the magic wand of a magnetic personality, but as he talked to us, hour after hour, my respect for his strength, will and faith grew. He built up this impression as he built up his political position—slowly, methodically, brick by brick. He was pedestrian, solid and simple. His statements interested professors of Economy and would have been intelligible to factory hands. His mentality lacked the witty epigram, but he ploughed long and deep. His complete composure, complete absence of nerves, and his calm voice, reflected inner power. One could see that he might be a man of iron."

'Composure, complete absence of nerves, calm voice. A contrast, that, to Hitler, isn't it? I don't mean to underestimate Hitler. There has been enough of that. He is a sort of genius—an evil genius. But his mind works in a groove. He puts his faith in surprise and terror, treachery and corruption—and they have well served his turn. These drugs are useless now for ever against the Russians. They are of the kind that can be used once with great effect. But they are no good a second time.

'Composure, absence of nerves, calm. This is the Stalin formula. I think, in the long run, it will prove the formula of victory.'

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

10TH JUNE.—Lord Selborne, Minister of Economic Warfare, said that bombing had greatly accelerated the slow rot inside German economy. It was estimated that industrial production had shown a decline of anything from 15 to 20 per cent.

The *Daily Mail's* Naval Correspondent wrote: "Hitler is already recalling his U-boats from the Atlantic to defend his European fortress from invasion."

11TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. destroyed four German planes during offensive operations over Northern France and Belgium.

12TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command delivered a highly concentrated attack on Duesseldorf. Several other targets in Munster, Ruhr and Rhineland were also attacked.

American aircraft attacked German ports and shipyards off Wilhelmshaven and Cuxhaven.

According to *The Aftonbladet*, there were concentrations of light invasion ships in the British Channel ports.

13TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked the Central Ruhr and Bochum. American planes raided Kiel and Bremen.

German planes raided south-west coast town. There was some hostile air activity over the coast of Kent. Four German aircraft were destroyed.

14TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command laid mines in enemy waters. Objectives in Rhineland and elsewhere were attacked. An enemy convoy was attacked off the Dutch coast. American aircraft attacked Flushing. German submarine and naval centres of Kiel and Bremen were also attacked.

Incendiary bombs were dropped by German aircraft on a residential part of north-east England coastal town.

Mr. Alfred Dobbs, Chairman of the Labour Party's Annual Conference, declared that nothing short of unconditional surrender by the Axis powers would ensure lasting peace.

United Nations' Day was celebrated throughout the world.

15TH JUNE.—The Ministry of Home Security revealed that 584 civilians were killed as the result of German air raids on the United Kingdom during May.

Heavy bombers attacked targets in Western Ruhr, particularly in Oberhausen.

The *New York Times* reported mass evacuations from bombed German cities.

The German controlled Paris Radio stated that it was likely Allied invasion would begin this week.

16TH JUNE.—It was revealed that Hitler had prepared two defence lines, one if Allied landings succeed and another on the frontiers of the Reich.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

10TH JUNE.—Col. Knox, Navy Secretary, said: "To-day there are eight fronts—the Western Mediterranean, Eastern Mediterranean, the Atlantic, the South Atlantic, the South Pacific, the North Pacific, Russia and China."

11TH JUNE.—Emil Ludwig, the German biographer, made the prediction in his testimony published by the United States House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee: "Hitler will be assassinated soon—and by his own men." Ludwig also predicted that German nerves would collapse under continued United Nations' aerial attack and it would not be necessary to invade Germany.

12TH JUNE.—The U.S. War Department announced the development of a 2½ tons six-wheeled amphibian lorry nicknamed "the duck" capable of moving troops, weapons and supplies over land and by water.

14TH JUNE.—Mr. Paul V. McNutt, Chief of the United States War Man Power Commission, revealed that 1,700,000 men would be added to the United States armed forces in the next six months.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

10TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. bombed objectives at Kalewa.

11TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked the jetty at Rathedaung and objectives at Buthidaung.

12TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked objectives on Akyab Island. Enemy positions at Pheizang were bombed. Enemy railroad installations at Ywataung and Thazi junction were also bombed.

13TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked the river jetty south of Buthidaung. The railroad bridge at Myitnge was damaged. Targets in Mandalay and Sagaing were also attacked.

14TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked Japanese positions in the Kale valley. The Taungu pass road was also attacked.

A column of British, Indian and Burmese troops, part of the Wingate expedition into Burma, arrived back in India from China.

15TH JUNE.—The R.A.F. attacked Akyab jetty and wireless station. Japanese troop position on the Mayu Peninsula and the Kalemyo area was machinegunned.

It was revealed that in a six day battle for Chin Hills in the last week of May, the Japanese suffered 500 casualties.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

10TH JUNE.—Commenting on the third anniversary of Italy's entry into war, Mr. Cordell Hull said: "Mussolini has been false to all his people and false to every law and rule of organized society."

The Rome Radio said: "The last defenders of Pantelleria are prepared for a possible landing attempt by the enemy . . . The enemy is at the same time encircling the small island of Lambedusa."

United States Liberators dropped over a quarter million pounds of bombs on Berbini and Catania. Twenty-four Axis aircraft were destroyed on the ground.

It was revealed that immense devatation was caused in 30 areas in Italy, Sicily and Sardinia by the continuous bombing of ports, airfields and other military objectives between May 15 and 31.

11TH JUNE.—*The island of Pantelleria surrendered and was occupied by Allied troops.*

President Roosevelt, commenting on the surrender of Pantelleria, told the Italian people that their choice of Government would be free once the Germans were driven from Italy and the Fascist regime was overthrown.

Senator Gurney of the Military Affairs Committee said that the seizure of Pantelleria would be of "inestimable value" to the Allies in improving their shipping situation in the Mediterranean.

Thirty-seven German aircraft were shot down over Pantelleria. The destruction of that island was so great that it came to be known as "Hell's Island."

British Commandos made a scouting raid on Lampedusa island.

A political crisis developed in North Africa. General de Gaulle threatened to resign unless a complete purge was effected of the pro-Vichy elements in the upper ranks of the French Army.

12TH JUNE.—*It was officially announced that Lanpedusa had surrendered.*

Col. Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said: "There are several islands yet to take before the Mediterranean is completely cleared."

The R.A.F. attacked the airfield at Reggio Di Calabria.

The French Committee of National Liberation reached an agreement regarding the discharge of high army officers with an anti-Allied Fascist or Petainist background.

13TH JUNE.—*The island of Linosa surrendered.*

Flying Fortresses attacked Castel Vetnano in Sicily—the next stepping stone to the Italian mainland. Bocca Di Falco and Milo were also attacked.

The Rome Radio predicted Allied attacks against Sardinia and Sicily.

The Moscow Radio commentator said: "What is taking place to-day in the Mediterranean is a prelude to a great offensive."

14TH JUNE.—*The Italian island of Lampione was captured.*

United States bombers attacked the aerodromes at Gerbini and Catania.

It was revealed that Signor Mussolini personally ordered the surrender of Pantelleria.

The German Overseas Radio stated that 43 British tank-landing craft had arrived at Gibraltar.

15TH JUNE.—Targets in Sicily were attacked.

The Royal Air Force attacked an enemy schooner in the Aegian Sea.

The Morocco Radio stated that 18,000 Axis prisoners were taken at Pantelleria, Lampedusa and Linosa.

16TH JUNE.—According to Reuter's Special Correspondent in Algiers, the air assault in the Mediterranean had begun in full force. Successful raids were carried out against Sicilian aerodromes.

Nazi attempts to raid Pantelleria was beaten off.

It was anticipated that Allied airborne troops would be tested against Sicily.

His Majesty the King visited the British First and Eighth Armies, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force in North Africa. [On a previous occasion, His Majesty visited the British Army in France early in 1940.]

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

10TH JUNE.—The Communists International officially came to an end.

A German attempt to attack Soviet positions was beaten off in the area of Lisichansk. Two companies of Germans were wiped out on the Leningrad front.

The Red Air Force attacked six German airfields. One hundred and fifty to 160 German planes were destroyed. Large munition and fuel dumps were blown up.

11TH JUNE.—More German trains and supply dumps were bombed in Lisichansk area. Several Germans were killed in engagements on the Central, Leningrad and Karelian front.

Soviet submarines sank two German escort vessels and one transport off the Latvian coast.

12TH JUNE.—There was a flare-up on the eastern front. Fighting occurred in the Orel sector. According to Reuter's special correspondent, in 96 hours, between 400 and 500 German planes were destroyed by the Russian air force.

13TH JUNE.—Soviet aircraft, in great force, raided German airfields and destroyed a large number of Axis aircraft.

14TH JUNE.—Soviet aircraft raided the raiway junctions of Gomel and Briansk and the railway station of Karachev.

16TH JUNE.—The Leningrad Radio said that the Red Army would launch an offensive the moment the Allies invaded the Continent.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

11TH JUNE.—The Cuban naval forces sank a German submarine in a battle off the north coast of the island.

12TH JUNE.—The United States submarines *Amberjack* and *Grampus* were lost.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

11TH JUNE.—Both United States and Paraguay decided to recognize the new Argentine Government.

The British Government decided to recognize the new Argentine Government.

The German Overseas Radio announced that the new Argentine Government had been recognized by Germany.

12TH JUNE.—Vice-Admiral Storni, the new Argentine Foreign Minister, said that Argentina's foreign relations were rightly directed towards a closer collaboration with American countries.

The Vichy Government and Honduras recognized the new Argentine Government.

15TH JUNE.—The German Radio said that British authorities had closed the Syrian frontier bordering on Turkey.

* * * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

13TH JUNE.—The Morocco Radio told the French people: "Soon French, American and British troops will land in France equipped with overwhelming war material. Do not act yet, remain calm and patient until you receive our instructions."

Yugoslav guerillas, led by General Mihailovich, were reported to be waiting for the invasion signal order to take up arms in a co-ordinated revolt against the Axis.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

10TH JUNE.—The Chinese stormed into the town of Yingcheng. There was heavy fighting on the outskirts of the town.

It was revealed that five Japanese divisions were repulsed in the Battle of Ichang.

Mr. James Forrestal, United States Under Secretary of the Navy, said: "Japan's fleet has been nailed in its own bases, while aerial bombings are beginning to soften the fortress of Europe."

Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, said: "I believe we can hold Australia as a base from where to launch both a limited and a major offensive against Japan."

11TH JUNE.—Allied heavy aircraft dropped nearly 40 tons of bombs on Japanese aircraft concentrations at Rabaul.

The Japanese counter-attacked the Chinese at Uchikow.

The *Washington Post* wrote: "Japanese offensive power has been so blunted that it is doubtful whether she could now repeat anywhere her early success."

Three Japanese aircraft were destroyed over Hengyang by American planes.

12TH JUNE.—American bombers attacked targets in Indo-China.

Chinese troops entered Kinhwa, the last Japanese airbase in the Province of Chekiang, 650 miles from Japan, one of the three great air bases from which Tokyo could be bombed.

The Chinese troops further completely recaptured Sungtze. The Chinese recovered possession of vast rice-growing districts south of the Yangtse between Hankow and Ichang—perhaps the richest in all China.

14TH JUNE.—Allied air forces raided the Vunakanu airfield at Rabaul in New Britain, Gusmata, Dilli in Dutch Timor and Koepang. Flying Fortresses attacked Japanese positions in the Kahili-Buin area.

The Chinese recaptured Kungan in Southern Hupeh Province. The Japanese fled in confusion from Sungtze. Chinese forces resumed the offensive in Central Chekiang.

15TH JUNE.—Japanese planes bombed Guadalcanar. Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said that the anti-submarine campaign was going on satisfactorily.

United States submarines sank 12 Axis ships, one probably sunk and three damaged in the Pacific and Far Eastern waters.

16TH JUNE.—General Tojo said: "Our nation will fight this war to the finish and with determination . . . There situation is tense . . . There are increasing signs of a pending British and American offensive on a large scale."

Hunting tigers—A sideline

When the Chin levies, tribesmen in the Chin Hills on the borders of Burma and India, are not hunting Japanese they quite often turn their attentions to the shooting of tiger instead.

A tiger growling round the Chins' camp in Japanese-occupied territory was shot at and wounded. Next day the Chins followed a trail of blood into the jungle and eventually kill d it.

This is not the first time the C ins have found tigers instead of Japs. Another patrol recently nearly fell over a tiger. The Chins were very angry, they could not follow it but very shortly afterwards they ran into their re l enemy— the Japs.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1943 No. 41

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Russia's Incredible Sacrifices

Two years ago, by an act of treachery in keeping with the long record of Nazi duplicity, the Nazi leaders launched their brutal attack upon the Soviet Union. These Nazi leaders had underestimated the extent to which the Soviet Government and people had developed, and strengthened their military powers to defend their country, and had utterly failed to realise the determination and valour of the Soviet people

During the past two years, **freedom-loving peoples of the world have watched with increasing admiration, the history-making exploits of the armed forces of the Soviet Union, and the almost incredible sacrifices which the Russian people are so heroically making**

The growing might of the combined Forces of all the United Nations which is being brought increasingly to bear upon our common enemy, testifies to the spirit of unity and sacrifice necessary for our ultimate victory. This same spirit will, I am sure, animate us in the approaching challenging tasks of peace which victory will present to the world

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a message to Marshal Stalin

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Germany becomes invasion-conscious	4
Churchill: Symbol of United Nations	6
The Grand Alliance	7
Co-operation among United Nations: Each paddles his own canoe in convoy	8
Two awards in same action: 15th Punjabi N.C.Os. win I.O.M.	8
One for all and all for one: Guiding principle of United Nations	10
Reflections on Allied strength	11
Forcing peace after war	12
Soviet interest in reconstruction	12
Global air strategy	12
R.A.F.'s saturation technique	12
Tide has turned against Axis	14
The Algiers Agreement	14
Jungle generosity: Chins' war effort	14
Pathan Snipers do not worry these troops	14
The Cossacks	15
Tough Chin Subedar is rough on Japs	17
Red Cavalry doing its bit	18
Russia's Fields go to War	18
Pennies for 'Smokes'	18
War Diary	19

INDIA, A VITAL SUPPLY BASE

"It is obvious that India's progress must depend on the successful prosecution of the war and that complete fulfilment of her aspirations requires the removal of the Japanese menace. India is a vital supply base for the strategy of the United Nations in the East, and the more fully and rapidly India can develop and extend the great war effort she is already making, the sooner will the shadow of war pass from her and the earlier can she achieve her aim of full self-government."

—FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL, *Viceroy-designate of India, in a speech in London, on June 22.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

TRIBUTE TO INDIA'S FIGHTING MEN

"I shall soon be sending a message to all ranks of the defence forces on laying down the office of the Commander-in-Chief. I should like to take this opportunity of again paying a tribute to the valour and loyalty of the Indian forces in this war. It is to the troops from India that I am largely indebted for such military successes as I have been able to win, and I shall always have a very warm spot in my heart for India's fighting men."

—FIELD MARSHAL WAVELL, *Viceroy-designate of India, in a speech in London, on June 22.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Wednesday Night is Forces Night

Ten O'clock tune-time brings you thirty minutes of

MUSIC, MELODY AND SONG

DID YOU LISTEN IN ON WEDNESDAY?

You must have heard—and enjoyed—"PASSING OF THE REGIMENT" by the Madras Guards

How did you like the lovely Irish ballad—and "MOONBEAMS DOWN"?

Of course, you liked Gilbert and Sullivan?

Well, tune-in next Wednesday

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1943 No. 41

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Allied Air Offensive in the Mediterranean—Three Islands captured in Three Days.

Royal Air Force bombers from North Africa have attacked this week important targets in Italy and Sicily. The docks and port installations at Syracuse in south-east Sicily were bombed. American Fighting Fortresses have attacked Messina, the northern tip of Sicily. Other American heavy bombers made daylight attacks on the Italian terminus of the ferry service linking Sicily with the mainland. They scored hits on the harbour and near the railway station and sidings. Aircraft based on Malta have raided targets in Western Sicily, and attacked shipping off the coast. Excellent results were obtained. Allied operations here show that a concentration of air power is creeping northwards across the Mediterranean. The capture of Pantellaria, Lampedusa and Linosa islands has completely changed the strategic situation in the Central Mediterranean. These islands form a triangle, as it were, controlling the Sicilian Sea. These three island bases of the Axis were surrendered to the Allies on three successive days. The result of it all is that Axis air power has been pushed back to Sicily.

Referring to Pantellaria, Rome radio said six months ago, "The obstacles of Pantellaria and of the Sicilian coast *cannot* be overcome." But the boast turned out to be an empty one. The strategic importance of the capture of Pantellaria was well pointed out by the Ankara radio on June 12 in a single statement. "Pantellaria," it said, "is not like an overseas possession, it is part and parcel of the mainland." It may be pointed out that it is only 50 miles from the eastern tip of the Cape Bon Peninsula (Tunisia), 65 miles from the coast of Sicily and 150 miles from Malta. Another island, Lampedusa, is 90 miles from the east Tunisian coast, 110 miles from Malta, and within 100 miles of Pantellaria itself. It was with the help of these island bases and air and sea command of the central narrow seas that the Luftwaffe attempted to make Sicily a powerful air fortress last winter. But the occupation of these islands has frustrated Axis plans and dealt a heavy blow to the Axis air power in this region.

His Majesty the King's Visit to Malta—Tribute to its Great Resistance.

The early surrender of Pantellaria stands in marked contrast to the stubborn resistance of Malta. "Malta must be knocked out," said a German commentator from the Paris radio on October 18 last year, "It is preventing the German and Italian domination of the Mediterranean." In spite of the most powerful mobilisation of the Axis air forces against Malta, it has continued not only to resist the enemy, but also to strike back. It used to be said that Malta had bombs for breakfast, bombs for lunch, bombs for tea, and bombs for dinner. But its stubborn and implacable resistance beat the Axis. Malta still stands but Pantellaria collapsed in three weeks of concentrated attack, and surrendered exactly three years after the first Italian bomb was dropped on Malta.

* * * *

Now His Majesty the King has bestowed a unique honour on the George Cross Island by a special personal visit to it. This has coincided with Malta's celebrations on Sunday (June 20) of the fall of Pantellaria and other Italian islands. In a message to the King on His Majesty's departure, Viscount Gort said:—

"Malta still stands in the van of the forces of the United Nations in the Central Mediterranean."

In his reply, His Majesty has paid a tribute to Malta which has withstood "the fiercest blows that the cruel enemy could inflict upon her," and sent to the people of Malta his best wishes "for the happier times that surely lie ahead."

* * * *

The position now is that the Central Mediterranean areas which provided air cover for Axis shipping between Sicily and North Africa and added greatly to the striking power of the Axis air forces against the Allies both on land and sea, are all now well within the range of Allied fighter aircraft. Before the capture of Pantellaria, Allied fighter aircraft from North African bases could operate some 35 miles north of Palermo (Sicily). Now after the capture of the island base, Allied fighters can operate still further afield in the Tyrrhenian Sea. Sicily stands now in the unenviable position of being the target of concentrated air attacks from many sides—from Tunisia, Pantellaria, Lampedusa and Malta.

In Southern Tunisia, where Rommel launched a strong attack against our positions on March 5, a battery of an anti-tank regiment destroyed five of the new type MK. 3's which the enemy was using.

GERMANY BECOMES INVASION-CONSCIOUS

THE German Overseas Radio described on Monday the state of "high nervous tension" in Germany, which was the result of the Allied air-raids. The announcer said, "Most people have a suit-case packed ready for emergencies. Great hardships and hard problems to everyone are caused by the increasing Anglo-American raids on Germany." In other words, Germany has become thoroughly invasion-conscious. There is a "war of nerves" in the press. The German uncertainty on the Russian Front and the mystery of Allied plans and preparations in the Mediterranean have heightened the tension.

WITH a view to allay the fears of the German public, Berlin spokesmen have been, for some weeks, harping on the strong defences of Europe. This is a revival of the old reassurance argument used before. It may be recalled that during the Second Front scare in Europe last year, Dr. Goebbels' propaganda agencies laid stress on the impregnability of coastal defences in Western Europe and portrayed commando raids on St. Nazaire, Boulogne and Dieppe as attempted invasions which were frustrated by the strength of the fortifications along the northern and west coast of France. After the "invasion season" ended, this line of propaganda was given up.

The Maginot Mind

IT was again revived two months ago. The Radio Zeesen said on April 13, "Let the enemy come, 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 twentieth century's deadliest weapons . . . The result is that even the hardest and bitterest enemy attack is doomed to failure." In another broadcast, Zeesen said, "All the extensive fortifications erected here, during the last few years, form part of a complete defensive fortification based on the experiences of the Western Wall and the Maginot Line, as well as those of the campaign in the east, while 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." "Two hundred kilometers longer than the Great Wall of China"; "much more strongly fortified than the Maginot Line"—such and similar was the bombastic language used by the Germans in reassuring their people about the strength of their defences.

Tunisia and after

AFTER their Tunisian defeat, they pitched their bravado in a still higher key. They said, "Now we are really safe. During the six months of the Tunisian campaign, the defences of the whole of Europe, including the coast of Italy, have been brought to such a pitch that to-day there can no longer be any talk of invasion anywhere. The nations of Europe know that they are secure behind this wall of steel, iron, concrete and firepower." Referring to the defences of France, a pro-Nazi writer says, "Their strength is greater than that of the pyramids. The heaviest pounding will not even be noticed by the people who will sit inside these fortifications."

Change of Propaganda Perspective

NOW the line of propaganda has been changed. The German propagandists feel that harping on the impregnable defences of Europe has gone too far and is having undesirable effects. They now admit that the Mediterranean defences are mostly mobile and should not be compared with the Atlantic coast defences; they say, "Europe has no south wall." The European 'fortress' idea with its implications of passive defence seems to be now given up. General Dietmar, the German military commentator, has refuted the suggestion that Germany is giving a new lease of life to the defunct idea of the Maginot Line. He says apologetically, "We did not reject the Maginot Line as such, but the spirit from which it had sprung."

THE German people have become soaked in the conception of a European 'fortress' with strong outlying bastions of defence. Their defensive psychology can well be illustrated by a quotation from a leading article in a German paper. "Europe has become a concrete fortress," says the journal, "an invasion would not require thousands, but millions of tons of shipping which they have not got. The near future will show where the road has led us. We face the future with superior calm. The scales are still very heavily

weighted in our favour." But there seems to be a widespread feeling of "dull uneasiness" at the prospects of Allied invasion. Continuous references are made to the intentions of Turkey and a number of reasons are given why Turkey is not likely to enter the war against Germany.

Two-fold Purpose

IT would thus be seen that the general policy of German broadcasts during the past few weeks seems to be based on a two-fold purpose. It wants to stimulate the Germans against fears of invasion on the one side, and deter the Allies from launching a Second Front in Europe on the other. The German home front is sought to be strengthened by periodic announcements of German armaments production figures, Europe's impregnable defences, Axis man-power superiority, the U-boats' inevitable successes, and so on. But the Allied air bombardment of military objectives in Germany and occupied Europe is likely to have an unwholesome effect. Therefore, Goebbels has come out with a new theory which knocks the bottom out of his previous propaganda about R.A.F. raids. He says, "The object of the British air raids is *undoubtedly* the dislocation of the German war-machine, apart from the intention to terrorise civilians. But Germany's war potential can never be crippled. It has always been the policy of the German armaments industry not to concentrate the production of munitions in a few gigantic plants, but to decentralise it to such an extent that should one factory be *damaged* or *destroyed*, this loss of production is immediately made up for by another factory elsewhere." What he wants to impress on the German public is that if the German strength is intact, the chances of an Allied invasion are fairly remote.

Conjuring up Visions of Loss

HE also wants to frighten the Allies by a picture of the losses that would be incurred by their launching an invasion on Europe. He has taken special pains to calculate the losses. He says, "Each batch of invasion troops will have to reckon with a loss of at least two-thirds of its total number. If 1,500,000 men were to be employed, it might well be expected that 1,000,000 of them would be lost before any decisive battle was fought on the mainland." But all these tactics are not going to be of much avail. Tunisia has upset all Axis plans. The German High Command banked on holding Tunis at least until August. They thought that if they had a quiet summer they could comb out factories, shops and offices and get a large number of recruits to be trained for the front and that Germany would then be in a stronger position to meet the Russian offensive and the Allied invasion next spring. But this did not go according to plan.

The Trojan Horse in Germany

ANOTHER important fact that has to be borne in mind is that the Germans have 5 million potential enemies within their gates, for there has been an enormous influx of conscripted foreign labour into Germany, which is likely to act in the same way as the wooden horse filled with men, which the Greeks introduced into the beleagured Troy. The Germans are taking elaborate precautions to keep down discontent or trouble from these foreign workers. A Swedish traveller has written an article in the Swedish journal *Arbetet* on the first of this month, in which he refers to the large number of foreigners who are to be seen in Berlin even more than in Leipzig and Dresden. He says, "One feels as if one were visiting the tower of Babel; prisoners of war are to be seen everywhere, mostly Frenchmen in uniform or workers doing forced labour with the Polish 'P' or the Ukranian 'O.S.T.' on their chests." He then refers to the rapid growth of sabotage and says, "From the German point of view, it is considered far more dangerous that there are many political germ-carriers among the 5 million foreigners in Germany."

German Morale

ALL these are factors which will play their own part when the time comes, but so far as German morale is concerned, it must be stated that it is still firm. There are persons, however, who feel that the mood of fatalism which suddenly swept over the German army in Tunisia, might overtake the German people when they are in imminent peril, when all their hopes get blasted by the terrific force of Allied invasion. But still we should not blind ourselves to the fact that German resistance will be powerful when it is desperate Before the Axis is finally overthrown, there will have to be terrific fighting in Europe.

CHURCHILL: SYMBOL OF UNITED NATIONS

By C. E. GAYTON

IN the life or death struggle against Hitler's Germany in particular and the Axis as a whole, Mr. Wniston Churchill, Prime Minister, exemplifies all that is dour, dogged, and unrelenting in the British race. More, he is the symbol of the United Nations.

He is a universally acknowledged leader, and an inspiration to all the democratic nations.

The sum of his political experience embraces almost every major office of State, and goes back before the War of 1914–18.

Before that he had seen military service in various parts of the world; with the Spanish forces in Cuba in 1895, the Malakand Field Force in 1897, the Tirah Expeditionary Force in 1898, the Nile Expeditionary Force in the same year, and in the South African War which followed a year later, when he escaped after capture by the Boers, and in France in 1916.

STATESMAN, PROPHET, CHAMPION OF FREEDOM

A man of war? A fire-eater? Far from it. But most certainly a statesman of varied genius, as his political record shows; an uncannily exact prophet, as his warning utterances in recent years prove; and an unquenchable champion of freedom, of democratic institutions, and above all of justice, as his leadership of the British Empire has demonstrated.

He inspires the United Nations policy of refusing ever to compromise with, or to truckle to a system which has destroyed material and spiritual liberty over most of Europe, and seeks to destroy it over most of the world outside.

He has said that come what may Britain will fight to the last for the precious things of liberty; that she will never surrender. He said it when Britain was alone, when the odds were heavily against her, when the rest of the world thought that for Britain defeat and disaster were inescapable. Now nearly all the free nations are with Britain and they number 32.

There are few such examples of towering endurance and resolution of indestructible faith. These qualities lighten the whole sombre scene of the world, reviving hope long beaten down, renewing resolve weakened by disaster, creating a prospect, well and truly founded; of a peace with victory, a peace without chains, a peace with a new and stronger liberty because the evil of dictatorship by, and serfdom to, the German "master" race has been overcome.

FORESIGHT IN THE LAST WAR

If all this creates in your mind an impression of a man not made at all in the ordinary human mould you will misunderstand him.

Mr. Churchill is one of the most human men who ever stepped into British public life, or into the British House of Commons. He enjoys life, normally. He finds it vastly entertaining. That is self-evident in his manifold activities.

His political work has occupied the major part of his life. Yet such is the diversity of talent of Britain's Prime Minister, that his literary work alone, as one of the greatest living masters of English prose, would have secured him lasting fame.

He has served his country as Secretary for the Colonies, President of the Board of Trade, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, First Lord of the Admiralty, Minister of Munitions, Secretary of State for War, Secretary of State for Air, Chancellor of the Exchequer; and now he serves as Prime Minister.

It was he, as First Lord of the Admiralty, who took a great part in building up the strength of the British Navy before the last war. It was he alone who saw that it was mobilized and ready on the instant that war broke out in 1914. What that foresight meant to Europe we shall probably never know precisely. It was he who took a great hand in organizing Britain's munitions output in the later stages of the last war. To vary his own famous phrase, seldom have so many owed so much to one.

"LIVE DANGEROUSLY, DREAD NAUGHT"

The key to his character, to the indomitable spirit that sustained him in Britain's darkest hour in 1940, is contained in these revealing words that he once wrote:

"Nature is merciful, and does not try her children, man or beast, beyond their compass. Live dangerously, dread naught, and all will be well."

A message of hope now, as when it was written.

MR. CHURCHILL.

Mr. Churchill is human because he likes good living, and good humour—his own sallies are stimulating and witty in the House of Commons and outside—and because he is impatient, occasionally unpunctual, sometimes untidy, a considerable smoker (of cigars), an accomplished dabbler in cooking in normal times, an artist of parts (he has painted scores of excellent pictures), likes a drink, takes forty winks when he can (he can cat-nap at any time and almost anywhere), loves and responds to good talk, reads voraciously in bed, can disconcert people occasionally with the vigour of his reactions, and has a prodigious scowl as well as an infectious grin.

ORATOR WHO STIRS THE WORLD

As all the world knows now, of course, he is also one of the greatest orators of all time, though he never talks for the sake of talking. This last is all the more remarkable because he has a very slight, only faintly discernible lisp, a most disabling thing for a man embarked upon a political career. He overcame the impediment by sheer assiduity, as he has overcome most other difficulties in his life.

His memory is encyclopædic, his energy almost inexhaustible (thanks partly to that capacity to sleep at will and thus recruit vitality at odd times).

He has often been depicted as an impatient, erratic, impulsive genius. Intellectually, he *is* a genius, but he is also an orderly worker of tremendous intensity, giving incredible attention to detail. He is impulsive only in the sense that when seized of an idea he must investigate it without delay, even in the middle of the night.

His working day now is really unending. He is always on call, and demands to be called at any time when important developments are afoot. He left a tremendous tradition of activity all round the clock at the Admiralty.

KEEPING THE BROAD OUTLOOK

He begins work round about 7-30 a.m. in the ordinary way, at 10, Downing Street, which is the official residence of the British Prime Minister in peace time. He presides over Cabinet meetings, keeps in constant touch with the departments of the fighting services for which he has an overriding responsibility, and with other major Ministries, reads innumerable despatches and reports, and generally maintains an unremitting survey of the broad horizon of events, actual and potential.

He seems always to canter rather than walk. Physically as well as mentally he is continually on the spring.

Altogether a rare man. A man of destiny. A man to lead and achieve, who will assuredly transmute hope into Victory.

U.S. ARMY'S LATEST WEAPON.—This is the first picture of the U.S. Army's new two-man anti-tank rifle, which enables foot soldiers to combat tanks, pill boxes and armoured cars. It has already been used by American soldiers in the Tunisian campaign. One soldier loads it and another is able to fire it alone from the shoulder.

THE GRAND ALLIANCE

WITH the launching of Japan's treacherous attack on the United States of America and the British Commonwealth of Nations the present war assumed truly global proportions and the conception of the United Nations was crystallized.

We have had, however, the hard core of the United Nations in Britain ever since Germany's attack on Poland and her subsequent assault on the other countries of Europe. Britain is, and has been, the rallying point of the United Nations, housing as she does all the dispossessed European Governments.

The first thing that strikes one about this resolute band of nations who, with all their differences and diversities, are yet determined upon the complete elimination of Nazism and Fascism wherever found, is that this union was not in response to a formal compact.

The grand alliance was born under the stress of war; and resolved though it is on winning the war, it looks beyond the "cease fire" signal.

PEACE AND THE FOUR FREEDOMS

All the United Nations have subscribed to the Atlantic Charter of August 14, 1941, whose provisions include President Roosevelt's four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from fear and freedom from want—and have been stated by the President himself (October 28, 1942), to apply to "all humanity."

The United Nations, as President Roosevelt explained on February 23, 1942, "constitute one association of independent peoples of equal dignity and importance. They are dedicated to a common cause and, in the partnership of common enterprise, must play their several parts, each being equally indispensable and dependent on the other."

It is also clear that preservation of peace after the overthrow of the aggressor powers is amongst the most cherished aims of the United Nations.

"Their aim," says Madame Chiang Kai-sheik, "is the complete overthrow of those who harboured dreams of world domination and the positive prevention of any revival of that dream." And the meaning of the United Nations Flag Day (June 14) is underlined by President Roosevelt's message of May 5 which reads:—

"They are emblems of the gathering offensive that shall liberate the world. Made strong by our common bonds, we shall face the future with resolution and rededicate ourselves to the achievement of prominent collaboration among nations and security for all men."

SPECIFIC UNDERTAKINGS

Among other pledges of co-operation we have (1) the resolution of the Allied Governments (U.K., the Dominions, the eight European Allied Governments in London and the Free French) at St. James's Palace, London, on June 12, 1941, to "continue the struggle until victory, to assist each other mutually to the utmost of their respective capacities and to work together, and with other free peoples, both in peace and war";

(2) the resolutions of the same Allied Governments and Russia (September 24, 1941), adhering to the Atlantic Charter and planning of post-war relief; and

(3) the Anglo-Russian Treaty (May 26, 1942), which is to last for 20 years, and stipulates "close and friendly collaboration for the organization of security and economic prosperity in Europe, all possible mutual economic assistance, and mutual aid against any renewal of aggression."

MILITARY CO-ORDINATION

The complete success of Allied operations in North Africa is a tribute to the smooth functioning of the joint war machinery that has been set up bit by bit. The Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Pacific War Council, the Combined Munitions Assignments Board and the Combined Shipping, Adjustment, Food and Raw Materials Boards are among the bodies which share credit for our successes up to date.

"The recent conference of combined staffs in Washington has ended in complete agreement on future operations in all theatres of war," said an official statement issued on May 27, 1943, on the results of the talks between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill. Remembering the success of Allied operations in Africa, the Axis leaders will not derive any satisfaction from this statement.

An early and striking instance of military co-operation among the United Nations is the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, which came into being as a result of agreement signed at Ottawa on December 17, 1939, by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. To-day some 140 air force establishments are operating in Canada, including 93 training schools.

British Troops' Pride in the "Fighting Fourth"

The British element in the fourth Indian Division are just as proud of the red hawk, the divisional sign on their battle-dress, as the Indian troops, writes an Indian Army Observer.

On arrival in the First Army area in Tunisia men of the Royal Sussex and Essex Regiments and the gunners were overheard referring with becoming modesty to their past achievements with such sentences as "Well, we in the Fourth don't do it that way," "Yes, we have Koren," "The Akarit show wasn't too bad."

Men of the First Army were not jealous of the Fourth Division who had been brought up for the fighting in the hills. They conceded the Division's superiority in mountain warfare and gave the Fourth every help.

CO-OPERATION AMONG UNITED NATIONS

EACH PADDLES HIS OWN CANOE IN CONVOY

By E. CHISHOLM THOMSON

[*E. Chisholm Thomson is a well-known British journalist and commentator; has for 20 years contributed to leading journals in Britain and the U.S.A.; was associated with broadcasting in its early days in Britain and did much as a B.B.C. executive to popularise television.*]

THE United Nations Day celebrations will give expression to the co-operation of the world's biggest brotherhood-in-arms that grows ever firmer. Their armies are working as one.

Flags will be flown and drums banged from China to Mexico on June 14, the day of the United Nations. This is the day on which 32 countries and all those Frenchmen, who true to the national spirit are antagonistic to Vichy, will reaffirm the biggest brotherhood-in-arms since history came to be written. And at the geographical and spiritual centre of all these high festivals will stand the British Isles, the hard core on which the Axis forces break their teeth.

"THAT WIDER UNDERSTANDING"

It is because the United Nations stand for freedom and toleration that boys and girls of the British Commonwealth will be waving their flags shoulder to shoulder with children from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Holland, France, Norway and Belgium; that the American folk will stand four square with the people of Canada, Bolivia and Brazil; that the Russians, Chinese, Indians, South Africans, Australians and New Zealanders will give each other a brotherly handshake in the spirit of the Atlantic Charter.

As Churchill, Britain's Prime Minister, said on the United Nations Day a year ago, "We pledge each other not merely support and succour till victory comes, but that wider understanding, that quickened sense of human sympathy—without which the suffering and the striving of the United Nations would not achieve its full reward."

And as the American President put it, "The United Nations stand for the four freedoms—the freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear." One day, let us hope, these freedoms will come to all peoples, but just now there must be less and less "freedom from fear" for the guilty Axis Powers. Hitler and Hirohito may well quake in their beds at night, when they contemplate the growing strength of the military machine now created within the United Nations.

Let us see how this machine is working. The Allied strategy rests mainly on two huge wheels—the combined Chiefs of Staff Committees in Washington and London, together working like brothers. There is besides the Pacific War Council, which consists of Britain, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, India, China and the Netherlands. There are Russian Missions in London and Washington and the British Mission in Moscow.

COMMON GOAL

All these join up like the tracks of a huge war tank. In surmounting obstacles, each section and each track belongs to the whole and this is very important—they all travel in the same direction. Thus every soldier from the whole of the British Commonwealth, every American, every Pole, Russian, Chinese and Norwegian—every soldier belonging to the United Nations—fights on an equal footing following signposts which point either to Berlin or Tokyo or to both, and thence to freedom.

How well this spirit of brotherhood was expressed by the Chinese General Lo Cho-ying! "The Chinese troops now in India," he said a year ago, "will resist any invaders that may set foot on Indian soil in pursuance of our decision to fight the enemies of the United Nations wherever they may be found."

COMRADELY SPIRIT

This comradely spirit has shone out again and again in the past few years. On many fronts the United Nations forces are fighting or have fought under a single command. In the triumphant North African campaign just ended, Britain's troops shared their task with—among others—South Africans, Indians, Australians and New Zealanders, French, Poles Belgians and Czechoslovaks.

In the final "kill" when the German General von Arnim was cornered on the bleak Tunisian peninsula, he gave up his baton to a British commander serving under the orders of the American General Eisenhower. And it was right and proper that his final surrender should have been to the Fourth Indian Division—that tough, disciplined, war-tested body of men who captured the Italian Duke of Aosta way back in the Abyssinian campaign.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE

Friendship can break prison bars, but the North African war showed that it could also blow up minefields. Just before the great Allied attack at El Alamein, which paved the way for the victory in Tunisia, the enemy had plastered his front with a honey-comb of mines—a nasty obstacle which threatened to break the force of the first onslaught. But two young Polish officers came forward with a brilliant invention. It was a mine-detector. At once it was adopted and used with immediate success. Just another example of practical co-operation among the Allies.

Since their own soil was invaded, the forces of the European United Nations have fought against the Axis on many fronts: the Belgians in France and in the African fighting; the French in Africa and Syria; and the Dutch in the Pacific. Norwegians have actually raided their own shore to kill the Germans there.

That is not the whole story by any means. Every one of the United Nations can point to personal instances of co-operation. This co-operation has reached a new peak in the dispatch of military equipment to Russia to help her in her great stand against the German invader. Britain alone has sent more than 2,000 tanks to the Russian front, as well as armoured vehicles, guns, wireless equipment and 3,000,000 pairs of army boots.

Meanwhile, the fighting men of the European Nations overrun by the Axis have found a "home from home" in Britain and this Island has become an arsenal. Its garrison includes troops from Norway, Holland, Belgium and Poland who, with the fighting French, are organized under their own officers and wear army uniforms of their own countries.

FREE AND INDEPENDENT

In Britain, too, stand the mighty Canadian forces and Newfoundlanders. Thus their barracks and camps are for the time being little bits of their own beloved countries; for it is one of the principles of the United Nations that the men should retain their own national traditions and customs whether exiled or not.

There is for instance, the French Military Cadet School for boys under fighting age who managed to escape from France to join the Allied forces. In a big country school these lads are trained under French officers in all branches of modern warfare and they brush up their mathematics and grammar at the same time. The Polish Army, too, has a school for its soldiers in Scotland, the teachers being Polish professionals who have either been invalided out of the army or are now too old to fight. And the Polish Military Bureau in Edinburgh trains officers in Home Guard duties and military law.

These institutions are free and independent as if they stood on their own liberated soil. For it is the wise axiom of the United Nations that while the war lasts every member shall paddle his own canoe so long as he paddles in convoy.

TWO AWARDS IN SAME ACTION

15th PUNJABI N.C.Os. WIN I.O.M.

TWO N.C.Os. of the 15th Punjab Regiment were awarded the I.O.M. (Second Class) for gallantry in an action in which both were concerned in the Rathedaung area on February 3, as recently announced.

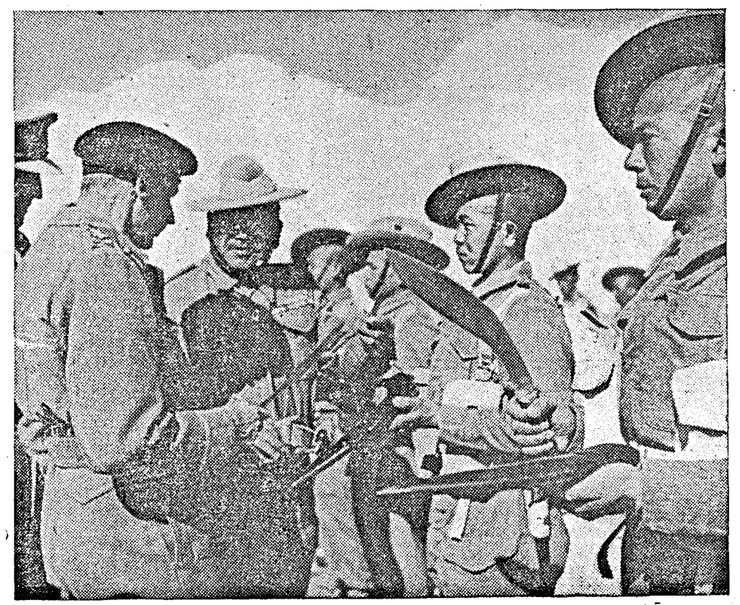
Havildar Mahomed Akram, a Punjabi Mussalman, of Malhal village, Bamla, Jhelum district, in the second of two assaults on a Japanese-held hill led his platoon right on to the enemy position where he was killed and the few remaining men with him wounded. "By his devotion to duty," states the citation, "Havildar Mahomed Akram enabled his men to make the final effort and to reach their objective in spite of the heaviest opposition."

Naik Wazir Badshah, a Khattak Barak, of Dagarnai village, Kohat, in spite of heavy machine-gun fire and a shower of grenades went forward alone and single-handed attacked a Japanese L.M.G. position with grenades, killing or wounding the entire crew. Swinging his tommy-gun into position he opened fire on nearby enemy posts until twice wounded.

GURKHAS IN ACTION

Men of the famous Gurkha regiments have helped the Eighth Army to pierce the Mareth Line. These troops have completely fulfilled their fine reputation and their methods have proved very effective in the mountainous country. The dreaded Khukri, their special weapon, has played a striking part in the attacks. Picture shows Gurkhas advancing over rock-strewn ground in their attack on an enemy strong-point.

Picture shows: Field Ambulance of the Indian Medical Service in action during the Eighth Army's attack on the Mareth Line. The casualty is a member of a Gurkha Battalion, which was attacking an enemy position in the Tunisian hills.



Recently General Montgomery visited a battalion of Gurkhas which helped the Eighth Army to pierce the Mareth Line. The Battalion has also seen active service on the North-West Frontier, in Persia and in the Battle of Alamein. Picture shows General Montgomery displaying a keen interest in the Khukris of the Gurkha Troops. The men have used these weapons with deadly effect in the Tunisian hills.

ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE

GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF UNITED NATIONS

By E. CHISHOLM THOMSON

[*E. Chisholm Thomson is a well-known British journalist and commentator; has for twenty years contributsd to leading journals in Britain and the United States of America; was associated with broadcasting in its early days in Britain and did much as a B.B.C. executive to popularise television.*]

IN a very vital sense we are each other's keepers, so help me God.

So said Field Marshal Smuts, the great South African soldier and statesman, speaking about the United Nations a year ago. The truth in his words again flashes around the world as we hold the grand family birthday party of the Allied Nations on June 14, the day of the United Nations.

THE SLOGAN

The slogan is "one for all and all for one," and it is in this spirit that the 32 United Nations give each other mutual support. It finds its most practical outlet—in the economic field at least—in the "Lend-Lease" and the "reverse Lend-Lease," two terms which stand for the greatest share-out of the world's resources since history began.

The story begins away back in the summer of 1940, when the British Commonwealth facing Germany alone after the fall of France won the first token of America's practical sympathy in the shape of 50 destroyers, old but seaworthy, in return for a long lease of sea bases belonging to Britain.

A NEW PLAN

The principle was established that money was not everything; Britain might be short of dollars through her extensive war purchases, but she could offer goods and services in exchange for the things she so desparately needed. A new plan was evolved and it worked.

By the beginning of 1941, the United States had passed a Bill enabling the President to sell under Lease-Lend "any defence article to any country whose defence he deems vital to the defence of the United States."

FAR-REACHING STATESMANSHIP

Not only the original 26 United Nations but several others have since been brought under the scope of this far-reaching piece of statesmanship. The defence of countries covering two-thirds of the earth's surface is deemed vital for the safety of America, and Hitlers and Hirohitos may well tremble when they consider its implications.

For the truth of the matter is that in fighting mad dogs we do not haggle about which stick we shall use or who paid for it. And so in this war for freedom against tyranny money problems are not allowed to intervene. Every nation pours goods and services into the common pool with which a common war is being waged.

SUPPLIES FOR RUSSIA

Let us see how this works in practice. Take the case of Russia which has stood up so valiantly against the German onslaught. British and American supplies flow there unceasingly through Persia and by the Arctic route to Murmansk and Archangel. Britain's contribution alone includes tanks, aircraft, guns, metal, oil, rubber, as well as medical supplies, clothing and comforts.

The delivery of supplies to China since the loss of the Burma Road has been difficult, but Britain and America are constantly alive to her needs, and army instructors have been sent to train their troops in modern methods of warfare. Medical centres have been established for the prevention of malaria.

INDIA'S ROLE

India plays her own special part in the eastern supply group which has transformed British territories east and south of Suez into a vast system of supply for the Allied forces from North Africa to the South-West Pacific.

The United Nations of continental Europe have also established a pool for mutual aid. Holland through Dutch Guiana supplies America with bauxite (for aluminium), as well as oil; the Fighting French provide gold, copper, tin and palm oil from Equatorial Africa for British use; and large supplies also come from Belgian Congo. Now with the victory in North Africa other French sources of supply come into reckoning.

LEND-LEASE IN REVERSE

By means of the reverse Lend-Lease, the Allies provide the United States with many vital services without money payments. These include airfields, repair depots, machine-tools, gun factory equipment, shipping repairs to ships in foreign ports and invaluable war materials which go back to America in the holds of returning ships.

Great though they are, the resources of the United Nations are not unlimited, and if everyone dipped into the pool as and when he liked no one would be more pleased than Hitler to see the chaos that resulted. Very wisely the Allies have created powerful Control Boards which decide how all these resources can be used and shared in the best possible way. They deal with production of munitions, raw materials, shipping and food.

COMBINED BOARDS

Like the war staffs, they have their main bases in Washington and London, and the combined boards discuss their problems with the representatives of Russia, China and the other United Nations.

The war is a total one and it takes all our time, but even so, the United Nations are looking ahead. Britain and her allies see the day when, in the words of the Atlantic Charter. "All States, great or small, victor or vanquished, will enjoy access on equal terms to the trade and raw materials of the world." They see the peace to come "which will afford the assurance that all men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want."

POST-WAR PROBLEMS

This is not an empty hope. Plans have already advanced far since that autumn day in 1941, when at St. James's Palace in London, representatives of Britain, the Dominions, Russia and other allies resolved to work together for the relief and reconstruction of occupied countries.

Food will be the first necessity, and already four of the United Nations—Britain, the United States, Australia and Canada—have arranged with Argentine for a relief pool of at least 100,000,000 bushels of wheat.

FORMULATING PLANS

Meanwhile the International Labour Office and the various Allied committees are hammering out plans to beat post-war unemployment and to improve distribution of food and to build up countries torn by war.

Britain stood firm with only 21 miles of sea between her and the Continental bully. But history repeated itself. The bully did his worst and failed, and now men and women of the British Commonwealth, with the longed-for victory at last in sight, join hands with their brother nations of the free world—"*one for all and all for one.*"

Brigadier put in the Bag

No one was more surprised than Lieutenant *X* when, during a training exercise in Southern India, he found himself on top of the enemy Bde. H.Q.; crawling in semi-darkness, he gave orders to his platoon to encircle this enemy stronghold. Himself he made a mad rush towards the Brigadier who was buried in a map with his staff officers.

On seeing enemy colours on the subaltern's hat, the Brigadier knew the game was up, but tried his last straw by shouting wildly at the youthful captor.

After a few minutes, a small crowd was being led away in the prisoners cage. In the dim light from a distance could be seen the irate Brigadier who had lost his face by exposing his H.Q. and was now watching the battle from the cage.

REFLECTIONS ON ALLIED STRENGTH

By HAROLD NICOLSON

I have spent practically the whole of this war in London. When I look back along the vista of years which separate us from that strange day in September, 1939, when Chamberlain announced that once again we were at war with Germany, I am conscious of many memories.

I remember nights when the whole of London seemed to be on fire and when the crash of anti-aircraft guns was interspersed with the rising shriek of falling bombs. I remember mornings when the streets of the great city smelt of dust and ashes, when roads were blocked by fallen buildings, when the glass of shattered windows lay deep upon pavements, when the hoses of fire brigades were strung from road to road. I remember those anxious days in 1940 when we knew that France was beaten and when we feared that the whole of the British Army might be forced to surrender.

I remember the time when the British Commonwealth stood alone against a triumphant enemy and when between us and surrender there stood only the faith of a great people personified in the will power and courage of a tremendous leader. I can remember loss, anxiety and disaster. I can remember weeks when every day the news seemed to be worse and worse; and I can remember how the people of this small island were never discouraged, never divided, never dismayed. And I can recall how step by step and month by month, we began to recover and prepare our strength, how great and powerful nations, unassailable in their own countries, irresistible in their might, came one by one to our assistance. And I remember all these long and anxious years.

I realise that to-day our victory is certain and that in the next few months, though many trials and many disappointments may await us, the great power of the United Nations will build itself up until the moment when a crashing blow will be dealt to the Axis structure and while the edifice of their schemes, their ambitions and their power falls in dust and rubble to the ground. As I think back on all these glorious and tragic events, I am aware that having witnessed all these things from London itself, it seems to me that Britain has always been the centre of strength, has always been the fortress of resistance around which the might and majesty of the United Nations has slowly gathered.

CENTRE OF ALLIANCE

I sometimes wonder whether, had I spent these years at Aden or Isphahan, I should have seen the whole terrible picture from a different angle and therefore in different proportions. Looking up towards the north-west, above the vast spaces of Asia, Africa and Europe, I should have seen this little island anchored off the peninsula of Europe, and I should have said to myself. "But can it really be true that this tiny spot of land upon the world's surface can really have been the core and centre of resistance against the greatest military power that the world has ever known? Can it really be true that the people of Britain who number only half the population of Germany, who were peaceable people, civilian people and untrained in the arts of war can it really be true that these people in the moment of world danger, were able first to take on themselves this enormous burden and thereafter become the centre of so vast an alliance?"

Why are they true? I don't pretend for one moment that the British people are stronger or cleverer than other peoples of the world. I am well aware that without the heroic strength of China, without the massive brilliance of Russia's military achievement, without the generous aid and overwhelming force of the United States, this little island, even with the wholehearted support of the Dominions and Colonies, could not have withstood for many years longer the organized fury of the Axis and could never have hoped, as we can now hope with certainty, to bring down the twin monster of German and Japanese militarism to their knees. But although I don't claim that we as a people have such a genius for battle that we can conquer all the nations of the world. I do believe that we possess certain great virtues which in time of danger fit us to become the champions of world freedom and the centre of resistance against the enemies of mankind.

During that dark year between June, 1940, and June, 1941, Britain stood virtually alone, but not entirely alone. For; Britain had become, as never before, the focus and rallying point for the forces of freedom. Here, battered but undefeated remnants of Continental armed forces—French, Polish, Belgian, Dutch, Norwegian, Czech—regathered their strength.

STREAM OF BRAVE MEN

Swollen by the steady stream of the brave men who made their way across narrow seas, these forces became once again disciplined, skilled and well qualified armies, navies and air forces. Already these arms of the United Nations have fought side by side with their British and American comrades in Africa and elsewhere. Their navies and air forces have been waging offensive war from British bases; their main armies stand ready for the great advance into to-morrow's liberated Europe. Britain has supplied arms, food, barracks and camps, even uniforms for these Allied soldiers; she and America have handed over hundreds of the latest fighter and bomber aircraft. She has replaced Allied warships sunk in service with the latest vessels from her own yards. These Allied forces in Britain fight under their own officers. Their barracks and camps are regarded as pieces of their own countries. Several maintain their own military cadet and other training schools. The men wear their own national uniform.

But independence and co-operation go together, for all Allied armed forces are welded into a single strategic unity by the plans of Combined Staff Committees in London and Washington. Seven Allied fleets operating from British waters—Fighting French, Greek, Netherlands, Norwegian, Polish and Yugoslav—have added no fewer than 220 fighting ships and 27,000 officers and men to United Nations' sea strength. A great Allied merchant navy of not less than 6,750,000 gross tonnage sails in United Nations convoys; each ship is an independent entity under its own officers, but each fitted into its place in the common effort by combined shipping adjustment board.

To-day, for the first time, eight governments operate freely from British soil—those of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luzembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Yugoslavia and Poland together with the Fighting French National Committee. These are completely autonomous bodies with their own laws, some with their own civil courts, most with their own financial resources. Here is autonomy and co-operation combined.

Cultural life of the United Nations in Britain is served in many ways—by clubs and social centres, societies, libraries, schools and even universities. Each government has drawn up plans for the education of its young people along the traditional lines of their national culture, setting up its own schools with aid and co-operation of the British Council. English schools and universities too are open to Allies of Britain. Technical schools are preparing citizens of liberated Europe for their vital tasks. The Belgian Ministry of Education for instance, has with the help of British authorities, established 17 elementary schools, three secondary schools, a technical school and arranged some 200 correspondence courses. National and British teachers work side by side in many of these schools. The Polish Government has several elementary and secondary schools, a college for young soldiers, and even a Polish medical school attached to the Edinburgh University's Faculty of Medicine and staffed by Polish and British professors. A Polish school of architecture is now operating in Liverpool.

So it is that while the British Commonwealth, Russia and U.S.A. contain the main strength of the enemy, other Allied nations are fighting and preparing to fight, working in British war factories and in civil defence and preparing for the liberation of their own countries. They have not lost their national freedom, culture or laws during their temporary exile. But they have gained and Britain too has gained enormously by new knowledge of and friendship with one another. The Axis are faced to-day by the alliance of the United Nations whose purpose is unflinching, whose unity is unassailable, whose might will before long be overwhelming.

I do not write in terms of national vanity, since our suffering may have rendered us proud but has not rendered us conceited. I write with the conviction that Britain must hold the central place in this great alliance and that if we hesitate to place our wisdom, our experience and virtue at the service of all peoples, we will fail to fulfil the great responsibility which destiny has placed on our shoulders.

Sweeper to Rescue

Sweeper Kharku of the 16th Punjab Regiment, is held in affection by officers and men of his battalion, says an Indian Army Observer.

Two officers of the regiment were hit by shell splinters simultaneously during the attack on Jobol Garei. One was badly hurt and the other called out for help.

The first man to reach them and give assistance was Battalion sweeper Kharku although he was wounded in the ankle by a piece of shell.

FORGING PEACE AFTER WAR

THE United Nations—an instrument forged in wartime primarily to win the war—have already proved the value of co-operation and co-ordinated planning in the task of defeating the Axis.

But the future is more important; and the problems of the peace to come will be no less difficult than those of war. The United Nations' record of co-operation in war and their plans for the post-war world do at least indicate that the problems are being tackled in a more realistic way than ever before.

The leaders have made no wholesale promises of paradise for all, but there is the unmistakable urge to establish conditions of peace and security, of law and order.

There is the further realisation that after the Axis has been broken, the United Nations have to wage a nobler war against inflation, unemployment and world economic depression; that, as against the ideal of Axis domination, based on the myth of racial superiority, the United Nations have to draw up and implement the Charter of the Economic Rights of Man.

Nothing, however, is being taken for granted. As Sir Stafford Cripps, the then Lord Privy Seal, emphasised on November 15, 1942, when the war is over and the aggressors have been destroyed, the peoples of the world will be ready for a great forward movement.

But, warned Sir Stafford Cripps, "by that time the Governments of the United Nations must concert sound, business-like plans which ensure that our advance is not merely a leap into the dark . . . Without personal sacrifice we can never gain peace, justice and equality within our country; without national self-sacrifice we shall never build peace, justice and equality in the world. We must not be inspired by what we gain but by what we give."

Equally significant is the language of Winston Churchill's message on the United Nations Day, June 14, 1942: "We pledge to each other", he declared, "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 sufferings and strivings of the United Nations would not achieve their full reward."

SOVIET INTEREST IN RECONSTRUCTION

PRAVDA of June 14 brings before the public the full text of the United Nations' post-war aid and recovery administration proposals, and, in so doing, has deliberately directed public attention, for the first time since the war began, to the consideration of post-war problems. It is another earnest of Russia's good faith that the Washington project should be held up for the scrutiny of a people always eager to discuss forward-looking plans, observes *The Times* Moscow correspondent. The Hot Springs conference proceedings were carefully recorded in Soviet periodicals, but the publication of the Washington project brings home to every Soviet newspaper reader the fact that a bold and realistic plan exists, even though as yet only in outline, for spreading the post-war burden over the United Nations according to their ability to bear it. There is little doubt that this knowledge will help the Russian people through the grave days ahead.

Interest in reconstruction has been growing lately. An architectural commission left recently for Stalingrad to collect information for a long-range restoration plan. Another commission is also working in Voronezh. A design for rebuilding wrecked Istra as a health resort for Moscow has been published. In solving problems concerning the construction of one or two-storey industrial settlement buildings—the type likely to be extensively used during the restoration period—the Soviet housing authorities are anxious to make a thorough study of American and British experience. A number of special publications in which this experience is summarised are being prepared. The field of town-planning is one in which, if existing transport conditions can be further improved, Allied architects can usefully co-operate even at this stage of the war.

GLOBAL AIR STRATEGY

THE very heavy R.A.F. raid on Dusseldorf and other Rhineland targets marked a new stage of air offensive in the west. This and the equally impressive daylight attack on U-boat bases by a great fleet of Flying Fortresses is swift proof to the enemy that an operation like the battering of Pantellaria is only one of a world-wide series of air attacks, writes the *Star*.

In the Pacific, the tables have been turned so completely that the extremely cautious Mr. Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia, considers his country no longer under threat of invasion. Allied air forces are steadily pounding Rabaul in New Britain, the most powerful Japanese operational outpost, while the American fleet isolates it by blockade. This Pantellaria of the South Pacific—one of many of its kind—has to be destroyed before the main Allied attack can be developed.

A remorseless air offensive is also being carried out by Russians. They, too, have apparently undermined the confidence of the Axis air fleet. Great raids on enemy airfields that have led to the destruction of 160 Axis planes within 12 hours are a forcible comment on the idea that the Eastern Front is quiescent. Despite the world scope of these vast air operations, they have yet to rise to their climax. In the United States of America alone the record number of 7,000 planes were built in May; this foretells bigger and more terrific raids by the United Nations. The Axis can see the unfolding of a world strategy in which these air blows are but the prelude to inevitable military attacks.

R.A.F.'S SATURATION TECHNIQUE

THE plan now being followed by Sir Arthur Harris, Chief of the Bomber Command, is the development of the saturation technique whereby a large number of bombers raid a target in a short time causing the greatest devastation while exposing the planes only to a brief spell of vulnerability. This technique has proved successful, observes the *Daily Express* aeronautical correspondent. It has kept down the ratio of our losses to the figures of last year, when the Bomber Command was operating less than half the total force usually employed on a big raid now.

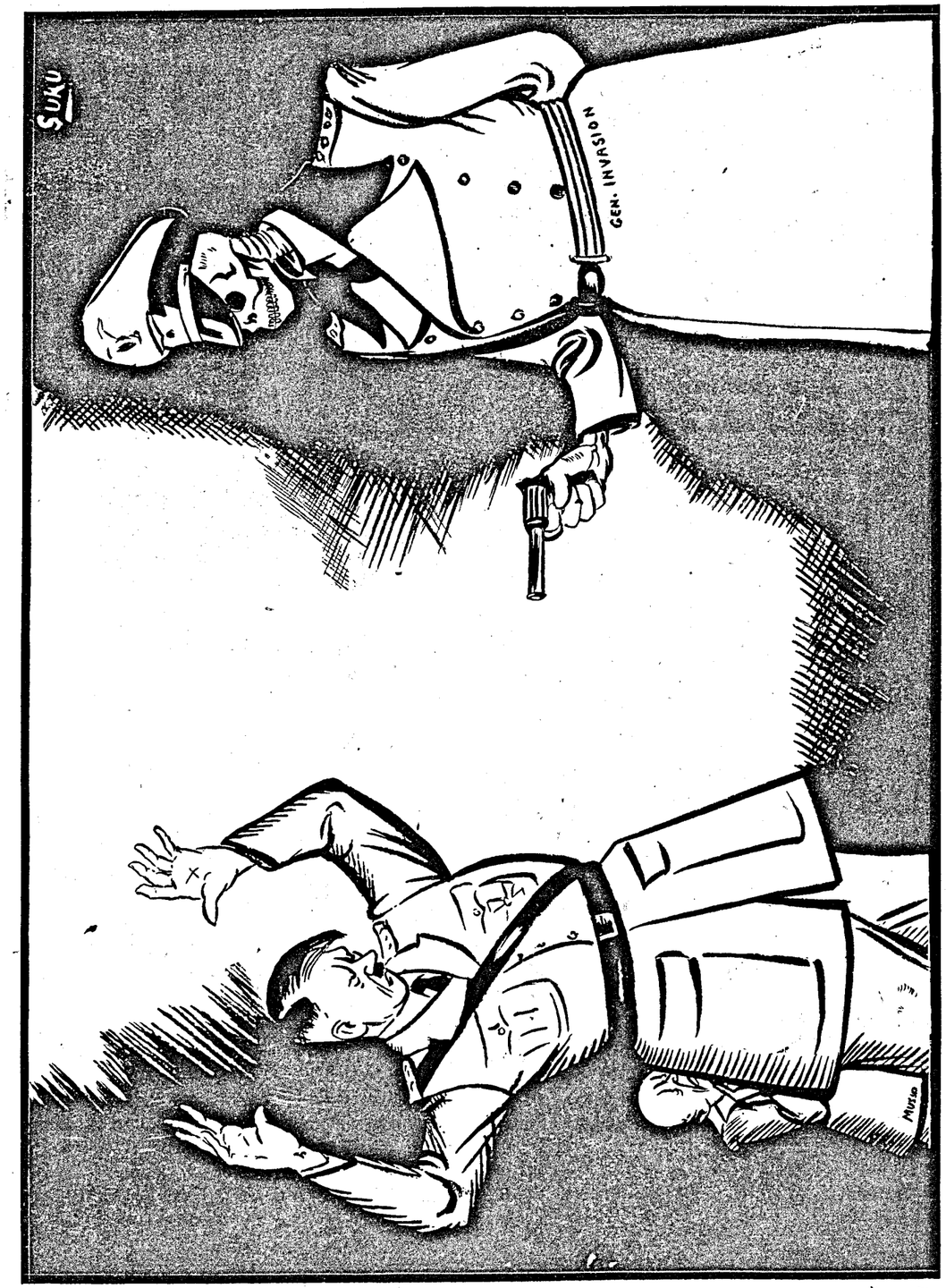
Here is a development. It has been reasoned from more than three years' experience that each raid should be a battle launched with the maximum possible number of planes. There cannot be a battle every night, for no air force in the world has sufficient planes for that. Instead, a few nights each month are selected—there are always enough good weather nights—when the Bomber Command drops its quota of bombs for the month. Last month it was 12,500 tons; this month it may be 15,000 or more.

No other factor seriously influences the Bomber Command's strategic plan, which is to knock the heart out of the enemy countries.

RED AIR FORCE'S STRENGTH

Tribute to the effectiveness of Red Air Force raids on enemy airfields and communications is paid by the commander of a French fighter squadron whose men have taken part in many raids recently, cables *The Times* Moscow correspondent. Probably no factor is more important in the Red Air Force's greater relative strength this summer than the mastery that it has won of the high skies. Analysing the Kuban air campaign, Colonel Vasiliev writes that not only have Russian fighters secured the initiative but they appear to have broken the Luftwaffe's confidence. "He who is master of the heights is master of the battle" is an axiom often heard in the Red Air Force, and, the writer states, Russian patrols have driven the Germans from high levels.

BITER BIT



TIDE HAS TURNED AGAINST AXIS

THE Ulus believes that the submarine war is developing in favour of the Allies. It writes:—

"The Axis which have entered an impasse on land and appear to have lost mastery of the air, are more than ever relying on the issue of the submarine war. Their efforts to speed up submarine activities are increasing in *direct proportion to the reverses on the other* fronts but the Allies have taken measures to increase their ship construction and to decrease their shipping losses.

Their losses in April were 50 per cent less than those in March and in May their losses were even smaller. The Germans explain this decrease by saying that there were fewer Allied convoys crossing the Atlantic. Such an explanation does not carry conviction.

There has not been the slightest breakdown in British activities connected with sea transport. In these circumstances, it is more reasonable to listen to the Allies who attribute this decrease to greater naval and aircraft protection and progressive anti-submarine methods."

The *Ulus* writes on Germany's difficulties in occupied Europe: "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 four 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 Germans who used the Fifth Column to their great advantage know better than anyone else when and how it begins to operate. With the exception of the Axis Powers, the peoples of Europe do not believe that the defence of Europe against the Allies is defence of their liberty or existence."

The *Vatan* believes that the tide has turned against the Axis.

"The war has turned to the advantage of the Allies. This is not a vain illusion. It is the truth based on *most realistic observations*.

One should remember that once the people spoke of Soviet collapse and Britain being expelled from Europe and of the Germans establishing liaison with the Japanese at Basra. A magic change has taken place.

The greatest change which has taken place is in the language used by Berlin. The tragic point for the Germans is that there is no hope of regaining their previous strength and repeating the extraordinary military victories of 1940 and 1941. The war is definitely lost for Germany."

THE ALGIERS AGREEMENT

NOTHING can detract from the momentous significance of the agreement reached in Algiers by the two sections of the French resistance movement, writes *The Times*.

Frenchmen everywhere have had a long and painful path to travel since June 1940. But none of their friends ever doubted that sooner or later her sons would achieve unity in action and find forgetfulness in the humiliating defeat and in a rededication to the overriding cause of national deliverance.

The agreement reached by Generals de Gaulle and Giraud prescribes a form—and it may be confidently hoped, proclaims the essential spirit—of indissoluble union now and until victory. The joint statement issued strikes the needed note.

The Committee of National Liberation now set up speaks and acts for a France sustained by the loyalty of all free Frenchmen and soon to be liberated by their sacrifices. It is in the words of the official statement a servant of the French people. Its aim is reconstitution of the French Republic.

The decision of Algiers brings encouragement to the people of France. The defeat and the German extortions have brought physical impoverishment and distress of mind and soul. There is a grievous undernourishment particularly among women and children. A great mass of prisoners of war are still in German hands—a dark shadow of that close family life which means so much in France. Under the latest pact between Vichy and Berlin 225,000 more workers must leave for the Reich before the end of this month—young men whom France needs to-day and may need more to-morrow.

The decision of Algiers means that the palsied France of June three years ago is no more. France stands again as a single unit of war and in the councils of the Allies. It is a consummation towards which British and American policy has been steadily directed helped on by the constructive work of among others Mr. Harold Macmillan, the British Resident Minister.

GENERAL DE GAULLE.

JUNGLE GENEROSITY CHINS' WAR EFFORT

THERE recently walked into the office of the Officer Commanding of the Chin Levies the headman of a tiny Chin village in the Burmese border country. In his hand he held a brightly coloured Burmese bag. In it was Rs. 370 in one rupee notes and small silver coins.

He was the leader of a small platoon formed by all the available manpower in the village, and had walked several days through the jungle to deliver the gift.

After several months of duty at a lonely out-post, the platoon had been relieved and allowed two months' leave. The first thing the headman did when they reached their village was to collect money for the war effort.

PATHAN SNIPERS DO NOT WORRY THESE TROOPS

ON the top of a hill in the rocky wilds of the North-West Frontier is a little patch of open ground trodden down to granite hardness by the feet of many troops.

It lies between the walls of a Frontier piquet and the outer barbed wire perimeter and overlooks many villages dotted on the surrounding slopes which harbour hostile tribesmen.

Despite constant danger from these Pathan marksmen, it is on this little piece of ground that the troops of this piquet daily indulge in their favourite recreation.

For this ground is a volley ball pitch built by the men and they won't miss their sport for anything. They are now planning to raise the ends of the pitch to render it less open to sniping.

THE COSSACKS

By NICHOLAS RUSKIN

THE Cossacks of Russia have for many years enjoyed a romantic and almost heroic reputation, although few people have any clear idea regarding their origin or significance. They have principally been associated with dashing cavalry charges, displays of horsemanship, and more recently, with a special type of unaccompanied choir singing. Such an impression of the Cossacks falls very far short of a proper appreciation of their significance in Russian history.

The derivation of the word "Cossack" is not fully established. In Russian they are called "Kazak" and this name seems first to have been applied to them in the middle of the 15th century by the Tartars during whose period of domination the Cossacks first made their appearance. The word is clearly of Tartar or Turkish origin, and seems to be derived from the word "kazmak", 'to seize'. It is important not to confuse this word "kazak" with the inhabitants of Kazakhstan, who are largely Kirghiz in origin and are nomads having no racial connexion with Cossacks.

LEAGUE OF FRONTIERSMEN

In the middle of the 15th century, when the Turko-Mongol power in Russian lands was beginning to wane, the intervening region between the Russian state and the "Golden Horde" was occupied by both Russian and Tartar settlers who were anxious to break away from the restrictions imposed upon individuals by both the Russian and Mongol states. On the Russian side a kind of league of independent frontiersmen was created who on the one hand preserved their independent state by marauding expeditions into Tartar lands, and on the other, constituted a kind of irregular frontier police which protected Russian lands against the inroads of the Tartars. The fact that the Cossacks were for a long period the only Russians in constant contact with the Tartars has given rise to the theory that the Cossacks are the only considerable element among Russian peoples who have any considerable quantity of Tartar blood in their veins.

Historians usually reckon that in the pre-Mongolian period of Russian history, three principles underlay the organization of Russian political authority: the monarchical, the aristocratic and the democratic. The last principle flourished in north-western Russia in Novgorod and Pskov, but the independence of these two regions disappeared in the 15th and 16th centuries. The democratic principle, however, reappeared in south Russia among the Cossacks, whose unit of organization was the Voisko, usually known in English as the Host. The first two Hosts to be formed were those of the Don in south-eastern Russia, and of the Zaporog in south-western Russia. These Hosts were pure republics under an elected president known as the Ataman. The Ataman had no independent power, but was merely the executive of the Cossack council known as the Circle. It was only during campaigns that the Ataman was given dictatorial power, and at the close of the campaign, he was obliged to give an account of his dictatorship to the Circle. In the early Cossack republics there were no class differences and no system of private ownership of land. The land belonged to the Host as a whole, and individual Cossacks were only considered as having the temporary use of the land which they occupied.

ABSENCE OF CLASS DIFFERENCE

The absence of class difference attracted a number of adherents to the Cossack Hosts from outside. This was particularly noticeable in the latter half of the 16th century when the institution of seridom caused large numbers of settlers to emigrate from Moscow. At first, agriculture played little part in the life of Cossacks whose principal occupations were hunting and fishing. In the 17th century, however, classes began to form in the Cossack Hosts, the older settlers on the Don being called "house-owning" Cossacks while the newer arrivals having no property were called "*golytba*" or "shelterless" (literally, "naked"). The *golytba* frequently played an important part in political affairs in Moscow, as, for instance, during the "Time of Troubles" from 1605 to 1613, and during the revolt of Stenka Razin in 1670. Stenka Razin was the Ataman of the *golytba* of the Don Host who, with a large force of Cossacks forced his way down the Volga to the Caspian Sea. After occupying an island near the Persian shore, Stenka Razin managed to collect an enormous quantity of booty with which he returned to the Don. In 1870 he considered himself sufficiently strong to attack Moscow and captured the towns of Tsaritsyn (now Stalingrad), Astrakhan, Saratov and Samara. The Cossacks were joined by peasants and non-Russian tribes of these regions, but eventually, after suffering a defeat by Government troops, Stenka Razin fled to the Don where he was seized by the "house-owning" Cossacks, handed over to Moscow and eventually executed.

A study of a fine type of Cossack of the Red Army. He is Cossack Samodurov, a veteran of battles of 1918 against the German occupationists in the Ukraine, and is now a volunteer in the Kuban Cossack formation, aiding in Soviet Russia's present fight for freedom.

Another famous revolt in which the Cossacks took part was that of Mazeppa, the Ataman of the Ukraine Cossacks, who had secretly allied himself with Charles XII of Sweden.

EASTERN EXPANSION OF RUSSIA

Perhaps the greatest importance of the Cossacks lies in the part played by them in the eastern expansion of Russia. As this expansion proceeded, new Hosts were formed along the constantly changing border, and this policy was pursued by Russian Governments right up to the 20th century. The names of the Hosts tell the tale of Russian expansion: Don, Kuban, Terek, Astrakhan, Ural, Orenburg, Siberian, Semirechensk, Trans-Baikal, Amur, Ussuri. Being of a roving and restless disposition, the Cossacks were always ready to take part in new expeditions which gave promises of gain. Thus, when the Government in 1558 granted a trading concession to the Stroganov family for the development of the banks of the Kama river, the Tsar advised Gregory Stroganov to enrol a number of Don Cossacks. The concession was ultimately extended across the Urals to the Tobol river and the strength of the Cossacks force increased in response to the offer of the Stroganoys. A body of 640 Cossacks, headed by Yermak and Koltzo made their way north.

The name of Yermak has passed down as one of the most picturesque figures in history and he was moreover a great empire builder. Beginning life as a Volga boatman, he joined the Don Cossacks, eventually becoming an Ataman, in which capacity he headed a large band of pirates operating on the Volga. It was largely with the object of escaping the wrath of the Government at his brigandish operations that Yermak joined the Stroganov expedition. He can justly be regarded as the first conqueror of Siberia, inflicting as he did a signal defeat on the Tartar leader Kuchun. From the stronghold which

he built up in the town of Sibir. Yermak was able to open up negotiations as far south as Bokhara, and in addition to his military skill, displayed great ability as a diplomat. His services were ultimately recognized by the Tsar, an example thus being afforded of a characteristic attitude of Russian Governments of all ages. Some of the most important stages of Russian expansion have been brought about by military leaders without any orders from the central Government. But in spite of the embarrassment which these operations frequently caused the Government, they have always backed up their over-zealous servants and consolidated the gains thus acquired.

LIFE-LONG MILITARY SERVICE

For a long period, even up to the beginning of the last war, the Cossacks retained some semblance of independence in exchange for life-long military service. Under the previous regime, they were often employed to put down civil disturbances and thus became an object of fear and hatred among urban populations. During the last war, the terms of their military service were placed more in line with those of the regular army, and after the Revolution, by the decree of June 1st, 1918, the Cossack community was levelled with that of the rest of the population. During the Civil War, a considerable number of Cossacks left Russian territory, but large numbers remained and it is noteworthy that they found their age-long system of land tenure not unlike that introduced by the Soviet regime.

It is unlikely that the Cossacks will again achieve any distinct autonomy or independence, though they are still organized in special units in the Red army and have much distinguished themselves in guerilla fighting in the Kuban. It is difficult to obtain details of their present distribution and, on the whole, they may be regarded as having been merged in the general Russian population. In their day, however, the Cossacks have played an important and romantic part in the history of Russia.

—(*Soviet Union News*).

Letter to Editor.

Home Guard, Olympics and Hockey

O

Sir,

May I relate a little story which links the Home Guard, the Olympic Games and the All-India Hockey Team ?

In those fateful days, the Home Guard had few firearms except shot-guns and sporting rifles. In my own village near London, some thirty of us had only one service rifle with five rounds of ammunition, two D.B. shot-guns, a small-bore match rifle and a poacher's contraption, wired together, which could rarely have seen the light of day. A handful of bayonets, relics of the last war, knives and axes, completed the armament. Such revolvers as could be mustered were badly needed by the Army and were willingly given up.

At the Olympic Games of 1932 in Los Angeles and of 1936 in Berlin, there were very close and friendly relationships between the All-India Hockey Team, with which I had the honour to be associated, and the United States team, and in the intervening years I had kept up periodical correspondence with Mr. Henry Kirk Greer, Chairman of the United States Field Hockey Association, and himself a member of those two Olympic teams.

America was not then in the war, though many of her citizens were with us in spirit, but I felt that an appeal to Mr. Kirk Greer and his Olympic associates would not go unanswered. So I wrote and asked for the loan of two revolvers with ammunition and two pairs of binoculars, which were worth their weight in platinum at that time. In due course, he replied that he would do his best but that it would not be too easy.

Weeks and months passed and eventually I left England for the Far East. Not until the last winter did I receive letters and copies of letters which enabled the story to be pieced together. Mr. Kirk Greer not only did his best but succeeded, and in due course two revolvers with two boxes of ammunition, and two pairs of binoculars, duly arrived in England and are now being used by two of my Home Guard colleagues, who hold them in trust until peace returns when I shall hope to return them personally in New York.

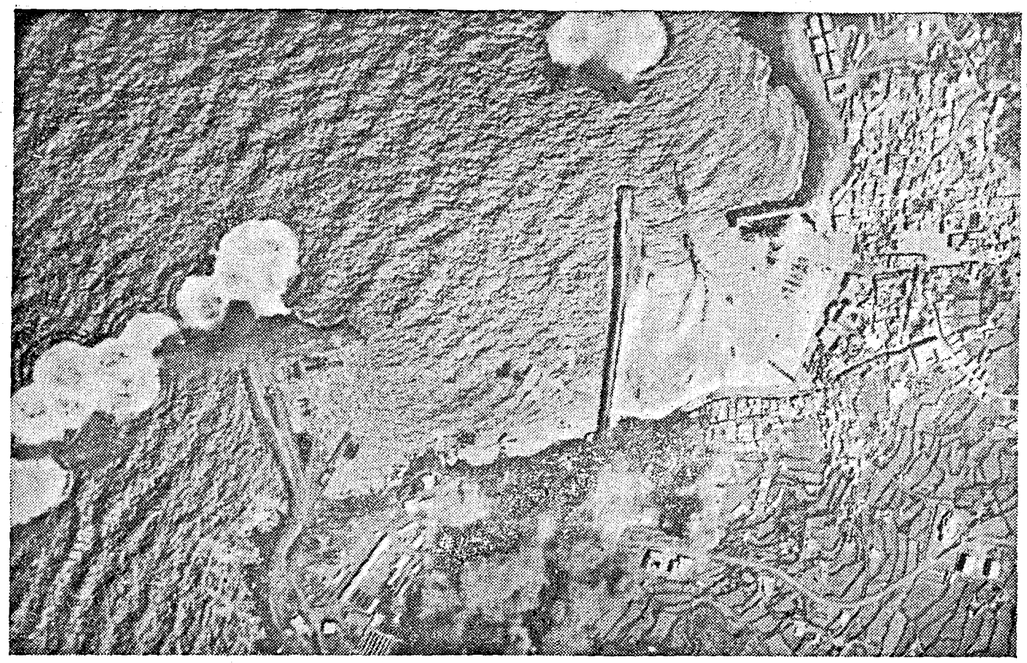
The story of how Mr. Kirk Greer overcame all difficulties need not be related. It will perphaps suffice to say that it could not have been done without the co-operation of the American Committee for the Defence of British Homes and of Mr. Karl T. Frederick, a member of that committee and also Chairman of the Revolver Shooting Section of the American Olympic Committee.

To cover the expenses entailed, and they could not have been small, some of our Olympic and hockey friends made a donation to the American Committee for the Defence of British Homes. In addition to Mr. Kirk Greer and his wife (a well-known Welsh county player), they were Alexis Thompson, a member of the American Olympic team of '936; Robert D. Shea, an Oxford graduate and a member of that team; and Frank Leslie-Jones, a Cambridge man who coached the American team both in 1932 and 1936. The last-named used to play in India and is a cousin of Brewin, our own All-India player of 1932.

I have greatly encroached upon your limited space, Sir, but I hope you will agree that it is worth-while. It has been the fashion in recent years to decry the Olympic Games as futile and worse. That is not my opinion nor is it justified by my experience of all of them since the last war. It is indeed my hope that they will quickly be revived and that they may even be held in India in 1948.

Here, at all events, is practical proof that the Olympic Games can and do foster international understanding and friendship, which moreover endures and finds material expression in time of distress. Our American friends who did something tangible to help the Home Guards, will certainly not expect a public acknowledgment. Nevertheless it is richly merited, and it is well that our many American friends now stationed in India should know that this small example of ready response, small only among so many greater ones, has been warmly appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Simla. C. E. NEWHAM.



ALLIED PLANES RAID PANTELLERIA.—Marauders, Mitchells and Lightnings of the North-West African Air Force recently attacked the harbour installations at Pantelleria, damaging the oil storage depot and the barracks. This picture made on the raid shows the smoke rising from the burning oil dump.

Comparisons are Odorous

Soldiers sweltering in the sun
  Or fighting when the frost was keen
Their glorious victories have won ;
  And sailors struggling in the green
Devouring ocean many a one
  Have brought to port their shattered ship
  And sailed next week another trip

For us. And we, what have we done ?
  What do those distant sufferings mean,
Those dangers that some others run
  While we consume ourselves in spleen
(Far from the roar of plane and gun)
  At having taken from our lips
  Half of our daily dozen nips ?

Past mine and net a submarine
  Has crawled beyond a harbour bar
To speed at battleships unseen
  Torpedoes, lighted by a star.
Those men have danced with death and been
  Unmoved to hear the hunters pass
  Above them in a sea like glass.

Destroying the destroyer lean,
  Harryi g the foeman near and far,
They take apart the dread machine
  That keeps a whole wide world at war.
And we behind the steely screen
  In easy chairs on shaven grass
  Complain the gin is not first class.

Riddled with bullets in a scrap
  An airman baling out has found
No better landing, it may hap,
  Than noisome jungle. Miles around
The jungle stretches like a trap,
  And through its perils he must find
  A foodless way to human kind.

While in the club a chubby chap
  Whose feet have never left the ground
Talks breezily of Hun and Jap
  And orders yet another round,
His belly snuggling in his lap.
  His frame for combat's not designed,
  But does he keep the war in mind ?

Ten thousand men by land and sea
  A singl: hour will sweep away,
As merry and as good as we,
  Or rather better, shall we say ?
To die their duty, it may be;
  But have we too our word fulfilled
  And wrought as bravely as we willed ?

Condemn me, England, if my plea
  Is "I will do some other day
My duty; now excuse it me."
  Many have gone and I who stay
No less must labour to be free,
  Though none will note it nor be thrilled
  That my drop kept the bucket filled.

—*R.G.*

TOUGH CHIN SUBEDAR IS ROUGH ON JAPS

OLD but tough, a grizzled little Chin Subedar, pensioned from the Army after 32 years service, is once again in action with all the zest and cunning of the experienced campaigner. This time his foe is the Jap who is having a very unpleasant time indeed for the Subedar on the warpath always spells serious trouble.

Proud of his five medals, the old Subedar leads patrols into the plains below the Chin Hills. He is the hero of many daring attacks on the enemy. Japs sitting at a meal round a camp-fire in a village were surprised one day when the Subedar and a small party of Chin tribesmen crept up to them and opened fire. The survivors dropped their rice bowls and cooking pots and ran for their lives. The Japs began using mortars and the Subedar was obliged to withdraw his men.

RED CAVALRY DOING ITS BIT

By S. PERSOV

RUSSIAN cavalry has always enjoyed a well-deserved fame. In all former wars the Russian Cossacks and cavalry units displayed great courage and determination. During the Civil War, Budenny's cavalry corps covered itself with glory at Tsaritsyn (now Stalingrad) and other battles.

The present war differs radically from all the past wars: it is a war of motors. "What can a trooper with sabre do against steel armour?" is a question often asked. "How can a horseman attack a tank?" Twenty months of large-scale fighting on the Soviet-German front has proved that the Soviet troops can attack and defeat armoured fascist hordes.

STRUCK A FLANK BLOW

The action of the N. Cavalry Corps near the town of B may be taken as an example. It happened during the first months of the war. Mobile enemy units were threatening Soviet communications. The N Cavalry Corps was ordered to approach the town of B by a forced march, and strike a flank blow at this enemy formation which had advanced too far ahead of the main body. In two days the corps negotiated a hundred kilometres over rough roads. By a surprise blow the 293rd and 297th infantry, and the 19th motorized division of the enemy were routed, and the town of B was captured and communications were re-established.

On another occasion, troops under the German General Guderian, were pressing towards the East with orders for the capture of the town of R and striking from the rear at the Soviet army operating north of the town. A certain cavalry formation was assigned the task of delivering a flank attack at Guderian's group, and foiling his attempt to seize the town. After the night's march the cavalrymen struck a surprise blow at the enemy. About 30 tanks and 50 lorries with infantry and several mortar batteries were destroyed and instead of advancing upon the town of R, Guderian concentrated the bulk of his force against the cavalry. The troopers engaged the enemy until the main Soviet force came up and destroyed the fascist group.

BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES

Cavalry is frequently employed for operations behind the enemy lines. A successful raid in the enemy's rear was carried out by the cavalry corps under Major-General Dovator. In the course of a single ten-day operation Dovator's men crushed the Four Hundred and Thirtieth Infantry Regiment, destroyed the headquarters of two other regiments, the topographical department of the 6th German Army, about a score of enemy officers, upwards of 25-hundred men, 200 motor vehicles, four armoured cars, two tanks, four guns, six mortars, 30 heavy machine guns and captured a large amount of arms and equipment as well as valuable documents. Several times Dovator's men, operating behind the enemy lines, saved partisans and civilians from the clutches of fascists. The very word, "Cossack", was sufficient to strike terror into the hearts of the Germans. When only 3,000 of Dovator's troopers were behind the German lines, a captured German soldier declared: "There must be about a hundred thousand Cossacks in our rear." Fear does magnify facts!

And cavalry played as important part in German defeat at Moscow, in December 1941. Thus, Major-General Dovator's Cavalry Corps totally annihilated the 78th German Infantry Division. Falling back from Moscow, the Germans kept to roads while Dovator's horsemen moved over the deep snow parallel to the retreating enemy columns.

The Red Cavalry is also doing its bit today when the Soviet troops are delivering one crushing blow after another at the retreating fascists. During the past month or two, many Cossacks down the Kuban track have been fighting for the liberation of their native villages and towns. And the Germans have again had occasion to feel the sharpness of the Russian cavalry sabres.

(*TASS*).

RUSSIA'S FIELDS GO TO WAR

By I. LYUBANSKY

THE other day in Moscow, results were reviewed of the competition among the collective farms of the Soviet republics, regions and territories in 1942. The palm was awarded to the Kazakh republic which received the Challenge Banner of the State Defence Committee. And the Kazakh collective farmers have, indeed, shown splendid results in wartime. In spite of the fact that the most able-bodied among the population had left for the army and the number of tractors and horses reduced, the crop area last year exceeded the crop area of 1941 by 842,000 hectares. Two hundred and eight thousand hectares more of beet was sown than in 1941, while the area sown with rubber-bearing koksagyz increased eightfold. Spring sowing was completed 25 days earlier than in the previous year. Thus, the first wartime sowing was carried in Kazakhstan brilliantly.

REAPING THE HARVEST

No less successful was harvesting. Collective farmers took diligent care to prevent a single grain being lost during the harvesting and thrashing, with the result that the crop gathered was considerably larger than in 1941. This enabled Kazakhstan greatly to increase its produce and deliveries to the State, seven regions alone delivering 5,500,000 poods more than in 1941. One can, therefore, imagine what a tremendous effort was made last year during the harvest season. This, however, did not diminish the collective farmers' concern for the 1943 crop. Autumn ploughing was carried out successfully, 230,000 hectares of more land being ploughed than in 1941, while in the winter crop 262,000 hectares more were sown.

Kazakhstan is able to record big successes in livestock breeding. The republic's meat deliveries to the State in 1942 were 2,657,000 poods, milk 1,418,000 poods, and wool 108,000 poods more than in 1941. Furthermore, 925,000 poods of meat were delivered as advance on the 1943 account. Simultaneously, herds, flocks and livestock increased. Cows (in collective farms) increased by 22 per cent, sheep and goats 18 per cent and pigs 13 per cent.

On an average, every collective farm in Kazakhstan owned 1,270 head of cattle in 1941 and 15,000 in 1942. About 200 collective farms own 5,000 head of cattle each while 30 own 10,000. This is the result of the enthusiasm of the Kazakh collective farmers. Here are a few examples: in the Kurlan collective farm, in the Aktyubinsk region, Chaganak Versyev and his field team gathered a millet harvest of 17 tons per hectare on an average, while in the Avangard collective farm, in the Kzyl Ordinsk region, Kim Nansan and his team gathered a rice harvest of 15½ tons per hectare. One can imagine how much selfless effort these heroes of labour made to gather such harvests. The Kazakhstan collective farmers are working in front-line style and helping the Red Army and the country to defeat Hitlerism.

PENNIES FOR 'SMOKES'

MEN of a British Unit on the North-West Frontier were recently the happy recipients of several consignments of cigarettes purchased from pennies collected by school children.

"This parcel is a gift from the school children of Great Britain and the Empire. They have contributed their pennies on Empire Day to send some comfort to the men in the fighting line on land, sea and air", reads the card enclosed with each packet of cigarettes.

Part of the card is torn off by the recipient and posted to the headmaster of one of the schools co-operating in the scheme, thanking him for the gift.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

17TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives at Cologne and elsewhere in Rhineland. Transport and other targets were attacked in Holland and Belgium. [This was Cologne's 115th raid.]

An enemy convoy was attacked off the coast of Holland.

18TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force carried out a series of daylight sweeps on Holland and Belgium. Nine Axis planes were shot down.

19TH JUNE.—One Axis supply ship was sunk and two others hit off the Norwegian coast. The Royal Air Force hit two small supply ships and a number of locomotives and barges during a daylight raid over France and Holland.

One German bomber was shot down and three were damaged over the Bay of Biscay.

The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on the Schneider armament works in France.

A German plane was destroyed over England.

20TH JUNE.—According to a naval reporter in the *Daily Express*, 50 U-boats were destroyed in the last two months. This number brought the total destroyed since the beginning of the war to 250.

21ST JUNE.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Luftstuffban Radio factory at Friedrichshaven. Spitfires raided the Poix airfield.

22ND JUNE.—The Royal Air Force bombed Krefeld City (10 miles westward of the Ruhr with a population of 160,000) in a heavy concentrated attack.

American heavy bombers attacked targets in the Ruhr and Belgium.

Bombs were dropped at scattered points over parts of south and south-east England.

23RD JUNE.—The Royal Air Force bombed Mulheim (an important city of German steel industry).

Five enemy escort vessels were sunk in a convoy off the Dutch coast.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

17TH JUNE.—President Kalinin of the U.S.S.R. sent a message to President Roosevelt on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Mutual Aid Agreement between the United States and Russia: "I am profoundly convinced that these ties and military co-operation will grow even stronger thus assuring further successes in our joint struggle and final victory of the U.S.S.R. and the United States and Great Britain over our common enemy."

18TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing a million-ton expansion of the United States Navy's auxiliaries. The Senate passed a 27,637 million dollar naval appropriation Bill.

The War Production Board announced that the United States aircraft production during May "reached the unprecedented figure of nearly 7,200 planes of all types, and the output will be substantially larger in June."

19TH JUNE.—The Navy Department announced the organization of a powerful army and navy amphibious force which may launch the invasion on Hitler's Europe.

Lend-Lease aid to Russia during May totalled 790 million dollars.

21ST JUNE.—The House of Representatives unanimously voted at 71,000 million dollar army supply Bill —the largest single money measure in the history of the Congress.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

17TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force attacked Atetnama and Sinoh on the Mayu peninsula. Indainggyi in Myitha Valley was also attacked.

18TH JUNE.—It was announced that Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell had been appointed Viceroy and Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India.

The Royal Air Force bombed the enemy base at Indainggyi. United States air force bombers attacked enemy barracks and installations at Lashio.

19TH JUNE.—The United States air force smashed rail road yards at Yamethin. Oil tanks were set on fire at Yenangyaung.

23RD JUNE.—Bombers of the United States Air Force attacked enemy installations at Monywa, Burma.

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

17TH JUNE.—Three enemy ships were sunk in the Aegean Sea. Military objectives, shipping, railway installations and other targets were attacked on the Italian mainland as far as the Gulf of Taranto.

The Algiers Radio commentator said: "The day of Allied invasion is steadily drawing nearer and in France the whole population is making the final preparation for the difficult task of helping the Allies when they land on French soil."

His Majesty the King continued his North African tour and inspected units of the British and United States fleets and merchant navies.

General Giraud and General de Gaulle were present at a meeting of the National Committee of Liberation. General Giraud presided.

18TH JUNE.—Bombers of the Strategic Air force attacked the docks at Naples.

An Italian communiqué announced: ("Enemy air formations attacked localities in Sicily, Calabria and centres of the zone of Vesuvius including Pompeii.

The Algiers Radio broadcast a warning to Italian people that the Allies intended to destroy their factories and communication lines so long as they continued to serve the Axis.

Stating that the Allies had armies at their disposal numbering 13 or 14 million men, the Soviet labour newspaper *Trud* asserted that the United Nations had all the necessary manpower and material to invade the European continent.

His Majesty the King visited Gibraltar.

The Nazis closed the Brenner pass between Germany and Italy.

19TH JUNE.—Martial Law was proclaimed in eight provinces in Italy.

According to the German Radio, from July 1, all Italian men from 18 to 36 and women from 18 to 24 would be called up for labour conscription.

Flying Fortresses attacked Messina in Sicily. In Sardinia, docks and shipping at Olbia were bombed.

20TH JUNE.—American heavy bombers made a daylight attack on Reggio di Calabria.

The Royal Air Force attacked Syracuse in south-east Sicily and railway targets in western Italy.

21ST JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Tunis and inspected the First Army.

The German Radio stated that the Allied fleet was off the Syrian coast.

22ND JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Malta.

Flying Fortresses bombed Naples. American bombers attacked Reggio di Calabria and San Giovanni.

An agreement was reached owing to the intervention of the Allies in the French dispute on compromise over the reorganization of the French forces.

23RD JUNE.—It was revealed that half of Naples Royal arsenal was destroyed as a result of Royal Air Force bombing.

Allied aircraft bombed Salerno, Castelvetras, Mailazzo and Olbia.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

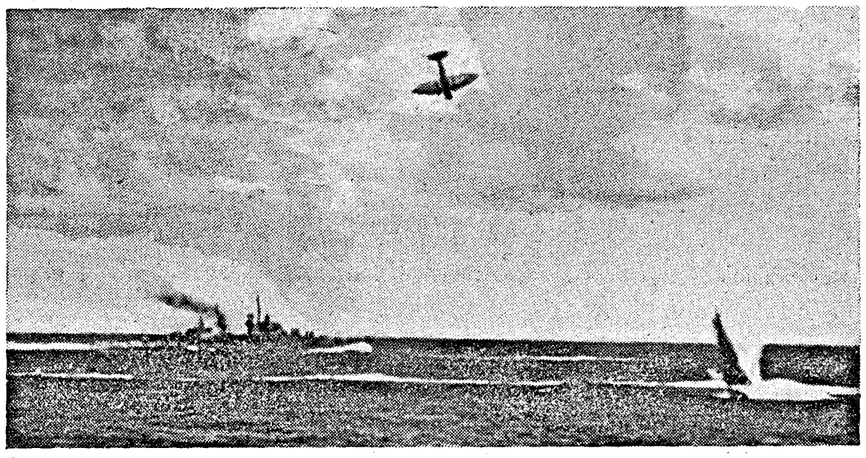
17TH JUNE.— Fighting in the Orel bulge grew in intensity. Russian forces captured an inhabited locality in the area of Mtsensk. The Red Air Force bombed the railway junctions of Unecha, Novozyhkov, Roslavi and Vladislavovka. Many trains were smashed and burnt out.

The Moscow Radio quoted a message from M. Stalin to the Congress of Polish patriots that met in Moscow: "You can rest assured that the Soviet Union will do everything possible to hasten the defeat of the common enemy—Hitlerite Germany—strengthen Soviet-Polish friendship and assist in every way the restoration of a strong and independent Poland."

18TH JUNE.—The Germans suffered heavy losses in the Orel bulge. The Russians massed more men and transport on the Kursk sector. Berlin confirmed that Russian troops were within gunrange of Novorossisk.

19TH JUNE.—A writer in the Moscow *Bolshevik* stated: "Hitler just wants to delay the time of his defeat and is trying to pacify the Germans by reports of bombing of Russian cities."

20TH JUNE.—The Red Air Force raided Briansk.



This remarkable photo taken during the battle of Santa Cruz released by the U. S. Navy Department shows two Japanese æroplanes hit by United States anti-aircraft fire on their way to a watery grave. Splash and explosion (far right) *shows the first one down, while the second nears the sea* (upper centre). *An American cruiser is in the background.*

21ST JUNE.—Col. Knox, United States Navy Secretary, paying a tribute to the Russians, said: "In two years of bitter fighting, the people of Russia have shown famous courage and rock-like determination unsurpassed in the pages of history."

On the eve of the second anniversary of Germany's attack on Soviet Russia, the Soviet press issued a warning against underestimating the strength Hitler had yet left.

The Germans suffered considerable losses in men and tanks round Orel. Over 2,000 casualties were inflicted on the Germans in unsuccessful counter-attacks north-west of Mtsensk.

The Moscow Radio broadcast a special communiqué on the second anniversary of Hitler's attack on the Soviet Union: "The German losses during the two years of war in killed and prisoners are 6,400,000 men against the Soviet loss of 4,200,000 killed and missing. Germany lost during the same period 56,500 guns, 42,400 tanks and 43,000 aircraft. Soviet losses in war material were 35,000 guns, 30,000 tanks and 23,000 aircraft."

23RD JUNE.—It was reported that Russia was making preparations for large-scale operations around Moscow.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18TH JUNE.—The frontier between Turkey and Syria was reopened.

The Rome Radio said that large British forces were concentrated along the southern frontier of Turkey.

21ST JUNE.—According to the German Radio, 15,000 people were killed by earthquake in the town of Ada Bazar, which lies about 60 miles east of Istanbul in Turkey. Hendel town also was completely destroyed.

* * * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18TH JUNE.—The British Labour Party Conference adopted the following resolution: "This conference sends its greetings to those valiant workers and democrats in occupied and enemy countries of Europe who are continuing the underground struggle against Nazism and Fascism and pledges its full support to them in that struggle."

21ST JUNE.—According to the Greek Information Bureau, Italian forces and Greek patriots fought a regular battle lasting 52 hours near Siatista in Macedonia.

The Rome Radio said that there was bitter fighting in northern Montenegro between German, Italian and Bulgarian troops and large forces of rebel troops.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

17TH JUNE.—Six Japanese planes were shot down and four more probably destroyed by American planes in an air battle over Changsha in Central Kiangsi.

Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to Britain, said: "More aeroplanes of all kinds and Burma re-opened—that is what China wants."

Dr. Evatt, Australia's Minister for External Affairs, forecast the speedy collapse of Japan after German defeat. He said that Britain's aid to Australia had helped considerably to hold the Japanese at bay north of Australia.

18TH JUNE.—A Chungking spokesman said that about 40,000 Japanese were killed or wounded in the recent battles of Hupeh and Hunan which lasted 40 days.

The London *Daily Telegraph* wrote: "Japan's confidence has been shaken by the collapse of the Axis forces in Africa. Her own troops have begun to show decline of fighting power and the will to fight. It is time for the offensive, but the Allies would be ill-advised if they expected easy success."

Chinese forces halted the Japanese northward advance in Western Yunnan.

"A very successful harassing raid" on the Pacific Island of Nauru was made by Allied planes.

20TH JUNE.—Allied planes attacked the Vunakanau airfield at Rabaul. Enemy-held villages along the coast to Sio were strafed.

Chinese forces captured four important points in the Yangtse river.

According to the American Office of War Information, Japanese naval and shipping losses up to June 11 were: 161 combat vessels were definitely sunk, including two battleships, seven aircraft carriers, 34 cruisers and 74 destroyers.

According to the Soviet press, Japan was everywhere on the defensive and had gained nothing by her temporary conquests.

21ST JUNE.—Twenty-two Japanese bombers and fighters nearly half the attacking force were destroyed or damaged in a Japanese raid over Port Darwin.

Liberators attacked the Kahili-Buin area and started large fires. There was another big bomber raid on the enemy base of Rabaul in New Britain. Allied aircraft attacked the enemy airfield at Lae and enemy positions at Salamana.

Chinese forces on Tali river in Western Yunnan Province routed a Japanese advance from Teng Chung.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Japanese on the Kungan front on the Yangtse.

22ND JUNE.—Twenty-three Japanese raiders were destroyed over New Guinea.

23RD JUNE.—Col. Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of Production, said: "We shall bring the whole weight of our arms to bear so that this threat of invasion will be crushed in the Far East as the threat of invasion of this island has been crushed here."

In an unsuccessful attack on the Allied lines in the Mubo area, 100 Japanese were killed.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY-HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1943 No. 42

INDIA IS NOW STRONG

SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL

During **the two 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 two hundred 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 victories won by the United Nations in other theatres of war, India has become immeasurably stronger. Substantial reinforcements of both men and supplies, and many squadrons of modern aircraft have been brought to India's shores**

The **Indian Army, reinforced by troops provided by Indian Princes and by His Highness 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-organized civil defence organization has been created**

India **is now strong. If then, all continue with undaunted will to do their duty, there need be no fear for India's safety**

Field-Marshal SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL, late Commander-in-Chief and now Viceroy-designate of India, in a farewell Order of the Day to the armed forces in the India Command on June 28

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Bose in Tokyo—Axis exploitation	5
The Way to Final Victory	6
Alternative Plans for defeating Japan	7
Ghosts in the Chancellery	8
Foreign Workers in Germany: Potential Danger to State	10
Softening Invasion Points	10
Building Life Afresh	10
Germany's Defensive Policy	12
War agianst Axis Transport	12
Allied Bomb "Exports" to Germany	13
Lamperdusa Has a Long History	13
German Home Front: Four Factors	14
Dr. Goebbels' Propaganda Antics	14
The Soviet Air Force: Russians, Great Organizers and Strategists	15
War on Soviet Front	16
Battle of the Atlantic	16
I was a Teacher in Moscow	17
Moahji	18
War Diary	19

WITHOUT SWERVING OR SLACKENING

We were sure of our duty and we have discharged and will discharge it without swerving or slackening to the end. We seek no profit, we want no territory or aggrandisement, we expect no reward, we will accept no compromise. It is on that footing we wish to be judged first in our own consciences and afterwards by posterity.

—MR. CHURCHILL, *in his Guildhall speech on June 30.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Mr. Churchill's great tribute to Indian Soldiers

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 two million have joined the armed forces and have distinguished themselves, in many cases during the fiercest conflicts with the Germans, Italians and the Japanese. All the great countries engaged in this war count their armies by the millions, but the Indian Army has the 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.

—MR. CHURCHILL, *in his Guildhall speech on June 30.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Calling All Forces! **Calling All Forces!!**

Watch every week for the **Wednesday Night's Programme**

Last Wednesday, we had quite a nice programme—

"The Match Parade",
"On the Wings of Song",
"Escape to Happiness,"
"Temple Bells", etc.

—And Episode 3 of the **"Huggins Family"!**

Quite an enjoyable programme

Well, tune in to Madras—or Trichinopoly at 10 p.m.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1943 No. 42

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Wavell's Farewell Order of the Day—Reference to Duties as Viceroy

In a farewell Order of the Day to the armed forces of India Command, Field-Marshal Sir ARCHIBALD WAVELL, late Commander-in-Chief and Viceroy-designate of India, has reviewed briefly India's defence position during the past two years and pointed out how India is to-day immeasurably stronger than it was ever before. He has paid a valuable tribute to the services of Indian soldiers and civilians and referred to the great opportunity that has been given to him of rendering further service to India as Viceroy. There is no doubt that in the discharge of the onerous duties he will receive the co-operation and support of the masses of the Indian people.

His appointment as Viceroy has, on the whole, been well received in India. World opinion has hailed it as the best possible one in the present circumstances. This is the first time that a professional soldier has been appointed Viceroy of India—a soldier whose military career dates from the turn of the twentieth century. He has led great armies and conducted large-scale military campaigns, all of them against heavy odds. "There is no man who knows more about the strategy and tactics of present day warfare than Field-Marshal WAVELL and that is obviously a first-rate qualification in a man who is to become the head of the Government of India in 1943," "said Mr. J. P. MCGEACHY in a news commentary broadcast from the B.B.C., the other day. "India is at war with the Axis, and waging war will be the first of the duties of the Indian Government until the Axis is defeated. And India will play a vital part in winning the victory as an arsenal and supplier of weapons, as a source of man-power and a base for operations to liberate China and Burma."

* * * *

Perplexing Political Task—Soldiers who have proved good

But the Viceroy-designate must be more than a warrior if he has to achieve complete success. "He has," says the B.B.C. commentator, "a political task before him of great perplexity. It is to unite India, or rather to help the Indians, so far as he can, to achieve unity by their own initiative." He cites the instances of soldiers who have performed exactly this kind of political service. There was GEORGE WASHINGTON in those days, and now we have Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL. The British Premier did not lead an army, but he began his career as a professional soldier, and "his soldierly courage, vivacity and boldness are certainly one source of his strength as the leader of Britain's All-Party Coalition." Field-Marshal WAVELL, says the commentator, has such soldierly virtues. He has also other qualities. His books on the art of war or his *Life of Allenby*, show that he is a brilliant scholar and a bit of a philosopher too. He is one of the few high ranking British officers who can speak Russian. His membership of the Viceroy's Executive Council for the last two years has given him intimate insight into the workings of the Government. He has met leaders of Indian political thought. It may be recalled that, during Sir STAFFORD CRIPPS' visit last year, he took an active part in the conversations about India's political future.

Referring to the great opportunity that lies before the new Viceroy and the Indian leaders, Mr. MCGEACHY says, "Everyone in Britain hopes that, during the term of the new Viceroy, India will arrive at complete autonomy. It is for the Indians themselves to achieve that goal by composing their differences and finding some scheme of Government to which Hindus and Muslims can both subscribe. The great political opportunity of the new Viceroy will be to help to discover this common ground and this compromise. Events will show whether Field-Marshal WAVELL can rise to the occasion, but I think the evidence is that he has the necessary experience of men, breadth of mind, philosophical temper and liberal spirit." The Indian people hope that, under the regime of the new Viceroy, India will see not only the victory of the United nations over the Axis forces, but also the success of the attempts at solving the complex and complicated Indian political problem.

* * * *

The Algiers Agreement—French National Committee and its Object

A solution to the long-standing French political tangle has at last been reached as a result of Allied intervention. *Reuter's* special correspondent in Algiers says that after night-long consultations on June 22, a compromise agreement was reached on the reorganization of the French forces. It involves a division of powers which has satisfied both the French generals. Both General DE GAULLE and General GIRAUD will continue to command their respective armed forces for the present. A joint military committee has been set up with the object of bringing about a fusion of the french land, sea and air forces into a new single army. "With agreement for the fusion of the French Forces," says *Reuter's* special correspondent, "the most difficult hurdle has been surmounted. There may be other difficulties, but none so serious as this. No crisis is now likely to shake the Committee for National Liberation."

Many would have been wondering why the French leaders found it so difficult to arrive at a common understanding earlier. They would have thought that it was merely a question of a clash of personalities, but really it was more than that. The seven patriotic men who gathered in Algiers had to find a solution to a really complex problem. They were actually aware that the arrangements they were making now would largely determine whether liberated France would achieve genuine resurrection, or go down again into confusion and anarchy. It was of vital importance that with their eyes, not on themselves, but on France and the common cause of the United Nations they should agree wisely. And after prolonged discussions of all aspects of the problem of unity, they had agreed on a compromise which would later on develop into a full-fledged unity.

Present situation in France—Four groups of collaborators

The issues that faced them have well been summed up by a special correspondent of the *Times*. "The moment of liberation," he says, "will bring the invidious task of attempting to discriminate between men in every branch of the French administration and economic life, who have been knaves and those who have merely been fools; between those to whom collaboration is a pleasure and a road to power and those to whom it was a reluctant and painful duty mistakenly assumed in a moment of despair."

It may be pointed out that there are four groups of collaborators in France who know they are living under the shadow of the noose, but who are anxious to further their ambition and lust for personal power. First, there is the group which contends that collaboration is morally right. Its leader is DEAT. Then there is the group led by DORIOT which thinks that collaboration is a golden opportunity, if translated into positive action. The third group led by CHARLES MOURRAS, Petain's main support, wants to console itself that it is the penalty of defeat. Lastly, of course there is LAVAL and his group who feel that it is the best bargain in the market at present. LAVAL'S satellites occupy all key positions of power and the National Militia and the new "Regiment of France" owe personal allegiance to him. He is the most insidious enemy of the French underground movement for liberation.

Though these groups differ in regard to the basis of their attitude of co-operation and collaboration with the Axis, they are on common ground in their attacks on the institutions and ideals of French democracy. Therefore it is clear that, with these elements interwoven in the political life of France, there is bound to be a civil war in the years to come. What the French leaders who met in Algiers evidently bore in mind during their discussions was the question of elimination of forces of friction, so far at least as they were concerned.

* * * *

Underground movement in France—Resistance centres and Laval

There are visible indications that in France lovers of liberty have organized themselves into strong bands of underground workers for the liberation of their country from Axis tyranny. They have been, now and again, doing all that they possibly can to sabotage the German war effort. To such a great extent have the activities of underground workers spread that the authorities have taken more stringent precautions to suppress them. This has been confirmed by reports from reliable sources. An interesting article from an eye-witness has also appeared in the Swiss paper, *Le Delemont*. The writer states that, in spite of numerous arrests and rough treatment, resistance centres are intensifying their secret propaganda, while the German army of occupation and LAVAL'S police are showing exceptional activity. He says:

"In all important centres, as well as in isolated posts along railways, in stations and factories, supervision has been reinforced and the fight against espionage has greatly extended and the arming of soldiers and gendarmes has been completed. Intensive troop movements are also noticeable. For several weeks, the Germans have been transporting soldiers, ammunition, barbed wire and building materials to Bordeaux or the South of France in trucks which are returning to the north."

The correspondent then refers to the effects of *releve* or forced deportation of French labour to Germany. He points out that this has cut all bridges between the French nation and the Vichy regime. PETAIN is hardly being mentioned as it is well known that he has no authority. Nobody criticises him except certain politicians who have developed a special dislike for him. LAVAL has not gained in popularity. On the other hand, the feeling of hatred against him is gaining ground. The correspondent says:

"Resistance of all kinds and outrages certainly continues, but LAVAL'S police have disorganized many centres of patriots and discouraged people of goodwill and filled the prisons with thousands of youths, including many regular officers belonging to secret corps of resistance formations. But neither threats of executions nor imprisonments have changed or will change the place of Frenchmen's hearts."

* * * *

Deplorable food situation—A grim picture

The food situation in France is deplorable. Rations are extremely meagre and frequently unobtainable. The correspondent says:

"Some friends of the writer for a whole week ate nothing but some cress, a little meat and some radishes."

The grim picture of general under-nourishment is confirmed by an article in the *Journal de Geneve* from a correspondent. "The worst aspects of the situation," says the correspondent, "are summarized in a terrible sentence in a report from Professor Richet of the Academy of Medicine to the Ministry of Agriculture: 'As a result of under-nourishment 10,000,000 Frenchmen are to-day condemned to slow death.' Transport by rail and road has become practically paralysed. Shops are short of practically every commodity, even of the most indispensable kind."

These quotations give a rough idea of the situation prevailing in France at the present time. There seems to be great discontent and unrest, and these may break all bonds and burst forth into a conflagration when the Allies launch the great offensive against Europe.

CHINS KEEP AN EYE ON THE JAPS

Chin tribesmen, members of the levies at work in the Chin Hills, make a speciality of watching the movements of Japanese in the villages on th plains at the foot of the hills.

"Lying in a secret hide-out on a hillside for hours at a stretch with the British officer commanding the Chin outpost I have seen the Japanese lines," writes an Indian Army Observer.

"I have just watched a Jap come out of a side street by a white temple in a Burmese village. He walked along the main street, then turned off to the right and disappeared."

Several thousand Japs are encamped in the valley but they are unable to move without some watchful Chin seeing them.

"As we lay gazing on the plains we saw many patches of smoke from burning paddy fields. In some parts cattle were grazing. It was difficult to realize that this peaceful plain was the Jap front line containing many hidden, well-armed men.

"To get to the Chin outposts heavily armed guides are necessary to protect visitors against Jap parols and the even more dangerous booby traps laid down by the Chins.

"The Japs have made several attempts to conquer the hills, but every time their casualties have been so large that they have given up the attempt."

BOSE IN TOKYO—AXIS EXPLOITATION

☆

SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE is now in Tokyo. He has made, soon after arrival, four broadcasts in three days—in English, German, Hindustani and Bengali. Three of the broadcasts were identical in text—a revealing comment on the remarkable poverty of Axis propaganda! Bose paid a tribute to the "brilliant victories" (in the past) of Japan and praised his hosts. He said, "The forces of the Imperial Japanese Army now stand on the frontier of India . . . The Government of Japan through its worthy Prime Minister, General Tojo, has repeatedly declared its fullest support for Indian Independence." He evidently forgot that the reference to the "Imperial Japanese," for whom he has developed grateful respect, comes with bad grace from one who has been condemning British Imperialism. In the broadcast itself, he said, "British Imperialism will ultimately break, but it will never bend. That is how empires have always behave in the history of mankind."

IT is of interest to note here that when he was in Berlin he held up Germany as the protagonist of India's interests, and now it is the turn of Japan! In a broadcast to the Germans, he expressed great satisfaction at having met "the Fuehrer and other important personalities of new Germany like Foreign Minister von Ribbontrop, Reichsminister Dr. Goebbels, Reichsleiter S. S. Himmler, Reichsleiter Baldur von Schirach and other gentlemen." He also expressed special satisfaction at the food position in Germany. He said, "As I travelled through Europe, I began to realise how utterly untrue was the enemy propaganda which claimed that Germany had robbed other European countries of their food." He evidently forgot the declaration made by Goering that "the German people come before all for food. The whole German army is fed from the occupied countries."

IN the Tokyo broadcast Bose referred to the prospects of Allied invasion of Europe, and said that it was "as remote as the occupation of the moon." In that case one may ask why Axis radios are so busy giving the fullest publicity possible for the arrangements made to defend the Mediterranean coastline.

ANOTHER statement made by Bose was that, "Radio broadcasting has now enabled the people in every corner of the globe to listen to both versions of the story on every point." This is of course true with regard to India and other freedom-loving countries, but not so of Germany and Axis-occupied countries in Europe where listening to the B.B.C. is a capital offence, nor of Japan, now the refuge of Bose, where no one can have short-wave radio sets.

WHATEVER attempts Tokyo might make to exploit Bose's convenient visit to its fullest advantage, the bulk of the people of India will not be misled. They know the antecedents of Bose and how Germany wanted to make use of him to gain her own ends. They know that Bose was put to broadcast in the German propaganda service to India at a time when all German stations were pretending that Bose was not in Germany and trying to locate the mysterious place from which he was making the broadcast. But when the hoax was exposed, they changed their publicity methods. The Indian people also know that, at the time of the visit of Sir Stafford Cripps in April last year, the Axis set up Bose as a counter to Cripps and that they viewed the prospects of any settlement between Britain and India with the greatest disfavour. The Japanese reaction to Cripps's visit was to bomb Vizagapatam and Cocanada. Tokyo said on April 13, 1942: "If India compromises with Britain, a rain of Japanese bombs will cover the land." The Axis satellite Helsinki radio declared: "Cripps's disappointment in India is as great a success to the Tripartite powers as a major military victory." The Indian people also know that the Axis resorted to the shameless stratagem of starting a rumour of Bose's death with the idea of finding out the reactions of Bose's former friends and associates.

NOW Tokyo's attempt to mislead India by using Bose will be attended with no better results than that of Berlin—where, incidentally, Bose was presented with a uniform and a title by Hitler and Mussolini two months ago!

THE WAY TO FINAL VICTORY

By H. V. HODSON

JUST lately our newspapers have been filled with debate about the so called Battle of the Atlantic, the war against the U-boat. It may seem a matter for surprise that we are suddenly becoming alert about a danger—and a problem—that has been with us since the war began, and indeed some people have been inclined to blame the Government for failing to awaken public opinion sooner. But I think that the uprush of public interest in this topic is, as much as anything, because of the victories of the United Nations in other theatres of war. It is the radiance of success that throws our difficulties into shadow.

When the war goes well and people begin to calculate whether we may be within a year or two years of final triumph, they look around for traps and obstacles that may delay the end. The U-boat danger is one such snare. So our popular war correspondents and experts argue with each other in the newspapers as to whether more destroyers and corvettes, or more flying boats and more bombers to attack the U-boat bases are most wanted to win the battle of the Atlantic, a battle which, of course, extends far beyond that ocean to every sea lane where our vessels navigate and the enemy may lurk.

Sometimes this debate is warped into the shape of a controversy over sea power versus air power. Then it becomes unreal and misleading; for when the security of our sea traffic is at issue there is no contrast and no conflict between air power and sea power. Sea power is not made up of ships alone, but of every means needed to keep the command of the sea. Ships alone cannot keep that command unless they are served by land bases, which in turn have to be defended and made secure. Nowadays neither the ships themselves nor the bases behind them can be secure without the air arm. So the air arm becomes an essential instrument of sea power, whether it is used to scout for the Navy, or attack the enemy's vessels above and below the water, to fight off his attacks on our ships, or protect the Navy's bases, or to batter the bases of the enemy. It is the objective that counts, not the particular weapons employed.

The aim and object of sea power is the control of the sea and its denial to the enemy. Everything that helps to serve that aim, whether it be naval strength or land strength or air strength, is part of sea power. We shall go wrong if we forget this, for we shall be tempted to take sides between the different elements in sea power and to neglect the vital need to co-ordinate them into a single effort.

THINGS THAT ARE A BLOW AT SEA POWER

Control of the sea, which is the object of sea power, is not the ultimate object if we mean by it merely the ability to sail vessels of war to and fro while the enemy dare not openly do so. We need control of the sea for the ultimate objects of defending our island homes and the shores of our Allies, bringing in the goods that we need to live and fight, and moving our forces across the seas to attack and destroy the enemy. Anything that prevents us from doing these things is a blow at sea power. So the submarine menace means just as much a loss of sea power as would the appearance of an enemy surface navy which could harass and outgun our battle fleet. It is of no purpose that policemen can move unmolested on their beats if ordinary citizens have their bags snatched while the constables are around the corner.

Without sea power—in this wide sense in which the term has always been used by the great experts, from the American Admiral Mahan to the British Admiral Richmond—we could not win the war. By gradual loss of sea power we could lose not only trade and territory but the war itself. The theory of an independent air war, which could by itself bring the enemy to his knees—a theory which had a good many friends between the two wars, especially in Germany and Italy—is now, I think, an exploded myth. To win, we must strike the enemy to the death on his own soil, and to strike we must move . . . by sea.

The history of sea power during this war, then, is vital to our understanding of the way to final victory. In the first ten months of the war the great tasks of British sea power were to scour the Atlantic for the surface and underwater raider and to hold open the sea routes to Allied Europe, including for a short time the coasts of Norway. The Norwegian campaign showed us where the frontier of our sea power then lay: we could move to and from northern Norway so long as we kept a foothold on land, but at serious cost. German sea power bulged northwards and held its ground. In the English Channel our sea power was supreme until the French and Belgian ports were lost. Since the fall of France, convoys of small vessels have navigated on either side of the Channel, and the escape of *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* from Brest to the North Sea last year emphasised that here again was a moving and uncertain frontier of sea power which must be pushed back before victory can be ours.

OPPONENTS OF THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

In the Atlantic during the first ten months of war the great event was the destruction of the German pocket battleship *Graf Spee* in the battle of the River Plate. This was the mark and signal of British sea power in that ocean. Since then we have seen *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* pinned down after their earlier Atlantic raids, and unsinkable *Bismarck* triumphantly sunk. The German bomber, which accounted for many valuable ships—such as *Empress of Britain*—in the Western Approaches, has for many months been held in check. It is between our own surface and air force and the enemy's underwater force that the battle of the Atlantic is now chiefly waged.

With the collapse of France and the entry of Italy into the war the face of the struggle for sea power changed. British sea power, at that time unaided by any great naval ally, had to draw back its frontiers and forego any attempt to keep open the Central Mediterranean as a convoy route. Men and supplies for the Middle East—the great bastion of our sea power in the Indian Ocean and the eastern and southern seas—had to go ten thousand miles round the Cape. Ever since, the main theatre of fighting for land forces from Great Britain has actually been much nearer to Australia than to Britain, measured by the route that had to be used. British sea power, backed by the tremendous assets of a secure Indian Ocean, protected this long line of communication with complete success. Besides, it contended so well for the command of the Mediterranean that although it has never been able to keep open a safe channel for shipping through the narrow waist of that sea, it has battered and cowed the Italian fleet, has kept the absolutely invaluable base of Malta fighting fit, and has never allowed the enemy a safe and certain passage even across those narrow central straits.

WHY OUR SEA POWER FAILED AGAINST JAPAN

Then came the war with Japan. British and American sea power, as we always knew, did not extend to Japan's home waters or the China Seas. Within a few weeks we learnt that it no longer extended to the Malay Straits, the century-old stronghold of British sea power in the Far East. Here was a grim example of the point that I made at the beginning—the combination of all arms and all advantages in sea power. For the weakness of Allied sea power in the Far East was not a naval weakness alone, though the drain on the Royal Navy in other theatres and the kick below the belt at the U.S. Navy at Pearl Harbour did make us week in fighting ships. Our sea power faltered and failed through the failure of two other parts of it: air strength over the Allied base territories of Malaya and Java and over the waters where our sea power was to be exerted, and military strength to hold those base territories against invasion. Japanese sea power, founded to a great extent upon air superiority, displaced Anglo-American sea power north of the New Guinea line.

But as it spread and stretched, while our sea power drew back and concentrated, the sea power of Japan found its frontier, as yet impassable. The battles of Midway and the Coral Sea, the earlier and the latest engagements off Guadalcanal, have been struggles for sea power along this frontier. The fighting in New Guinea by air and land is also part of this struggle for sea power, as is the bombing from Australia of Japanese bases in Rabaul and Timor and the Japanese counter-bombing. The object of all these engagements, whether offensive or defensive, has been the command of the seas approaching Australia and New Zealand.

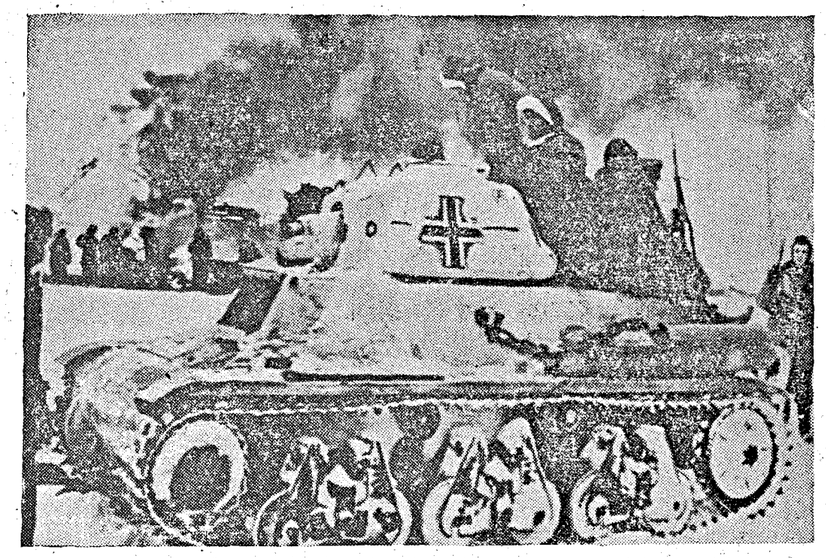
SIEGE OF AUSTRALIA

Here is one of the titanic battles for sea power that decide for centuries the course of world history. Every weapon is used, every advantage brought to bear—land-based air forces, aircraft carriers, capital ships, escort vessels, transports and supply ships, bases and posts, armies and industries. All these and more on the side of the United Nations are being poured into the struggle for sea power, which now as ever is vital to the defence of Australia and New Zealand just as it is to ours. Only by driving back the frontier of Japanese sea power and driving forward our own shall we win the war in the East. Only by maintaining our sea power after the war shall we turn the raising of the siege of Australia into permanent security.

Meanwhile the struggle for sea power continues at the other end of the world, along the Atlantic and Arctic supply routes. Here it takes a very different shape: no stupendous battles between rival fleets, but the constant war against the enemy's dark, satanic strength beneath the sea.

The Pacific and the Atlantic for the oceanic Powers among the United Nations are the two vital fronts. In the tropic islands of New Guinea and Guadalcanal and in the cold grey desert of the North Atlantic the peoples of the United Nations should be learning the lessons that tell us how to turn a day of victory into a century of peace. For what gave the world a century of peace after Waterloo was British sea power, and what alone will give us lasting peace after Hitler's Waterloo and Tojo's Trafalgar is the firmly built and strongy held sea power of the United Nations: sea power, not in terms of naval strength alone, but of bases and their hinterlands, of air strength over the seas and over the land bases, of merchant tonnage, of industry and invention, of everything that can help to give this new international brotherhood command of the sea where this is needed to guard its own shores, to keep safe the lines of commerce among its members, and to hem in and quench the fires of aggression.

We who live in islands will neglect those lessons at our deadly peril. (*Broadcast in the BBC's Pacific and North American Services*).



GERMANS CALL IT "GANG WARFARE."—Russian patriots living underground in occupied villages under German domination in Soviet Russia, lose no opportunity to sabotage the German war machine. At one village occupied by the Germans their munitions and tanks were stored in a large granary (which the villagers had taken care to clear as the Germans approached).

One night Russian patriots set fire to the building and soon it was a mass of flames. The Germans managed to salvage only one tank. This picture, just received from a neutral source, bore a German caption which reviled the "gang warfare behind the front" and the "violence" of the sabotours.

Photo shows the burning granary as German troops tried in vain to salvage the contents, and in foreground the one tank which was brought out.

ALTERNATIVE PLANS FOR DEFEATING JAPAN

CONSEQUENT on Mr. Churchill's announcement that the war in the Pacific will be intensified concurrently with the development of the war in the west, speculation persists on the best method of waging war against Japan.

Captain Russell Grenfell, the *Sunday Times* naval correspondent, writes that the drawback to the otherwise sound strategy of concentrating on the overthrow of the European enemy is that it gives Japan time to consolidate the enormous gains of her early aggression. No avoidable delay, therefore, is permissible in the development of the offensive action in the Pacific which will not prejudice the success of operations in Europe.

Witout ruling out other lines of attack against the Japanese, the problem is essentially maritime, one needing the highest attainable integration of sea, land and air power for its principal solution. Timely preparation for the achievement of this integration is, therefore, required, if there is to be the minimum delay in developing the eastern offensive when the European situation permits a major action elsewhere.

There is an impression abroad, the basis for which is not readily apparent, that Japan is specially exposed and vulnerable to bombing. Attu, just captured by the Americans, is 2,000 miles from Tokyo and a foothold in the Kurile islands to the south-west, which would shorten the distance, has yet to be achieved.

In China, enemy occupation keeps the Allied air bases a good thousand miles distant from Japan's home targets. Russian maritime provinces are closer at about 500 miles from Tokyo but Russia's participation against Japan, hitherto withheld, would be open to Japanese military invasion from Manchuria, which by pinching off a strip of territory facing the Japanese islands, would remove the air danger for another 500 miles away. The remaining possibility of attack from aircraft-carriers out at sea receives superficial support from the famous raid projected from the American *Hornet*. But a sustained attack is a different matter from the sporadic, and necessarily indecisive raiding and experience warns us against the use of ships for the former purpose unless and until the enemy fleet has been effectively dealt with—a principle to which shore-based air power adds further force.

While admittedly the Japanese wooden house is easily burnt down, it is easily replaced and most of the industrial and military targets are of modern construction. The bombing of Japan does not, in fact, hold out any special promise.

The principal alternatives are the reopening of the Burma Road with a view to the re-conquest of occupied China, a drive northwards from the Australian base aimed at forcing the Japanese back to their own islands and a combined sea, land and air advance through the Pacific with Japan's sea-borne communications with the Asiatic mainland as its objective. Nearly all the advantages are on the side of the last. It should be very much the quickest way since ocean distances, once a move is made, can be covered very quickly, whereas the bitter fighting in Papua has shown us what a long and laborious task reconquest by large-scale land operations is likely to be.

Again, it holds vastly greater opportunities for mystifying and surprising the enemy, for the islands are legion and garrisons are necessarily limited. It thus places the highest premium on the Anglo-American naval and air superiority while going furthest towards neutralising the value of Japan's millions of soldiers. Severance of her sea communications would mean virtual isolation of her armies in Malaya, Indo-China and the southern islands and eventually her inevitable collapse. Mere development of such a threat would be more than likely to provoke that very desirable occurrence—meeting the Japanese fleet and inflicting a decisive defeat which Japan could not survive.

GHOSTS IN THE CHANCELLERY

By K. R. SRINIVASA IYENGAR, M.A., D.LITT.

MIDNIGHT: a room in Hitler's chancellery in Berlin. Hitler, in full military uniform, is standing at the centre. There is a table to the right on which are displayed the portraits of Mussolini, Tojo, Antonescu and Laval; likewise there is a table to the left on which are displayed the portraits of Roosevelt, Churchill, Chiang-kai-Shek and Stalin. Hitler alternately gazes, now at one set of portraits, now at another; he is now somewhat haggard and woe-begone in appearance.

HITLER:

(breaking the silence)

The hour of reckoning's come, I must not fail.
Plots have I laid, inductions dangerous,
By drunken prophecies, libels and dreams;
My Stukas oft have hit their ports and towns;
Whole shops of books and scores of churches, all
Are, gone—and yet their mighty hearts endure!
I know not why my mind misgives, alas!
I have not that alacrity of spirit,
Nor cheer of mind that I was wont to have.

Suddenly the spirit of Austria rises between the two tables and dominates the scene: it is like Dolfuss now, anon like Schuschnigg.

SPIRIT:

Let me sit heavy on thy soul tomorrow!
Think how thou stabdst me, marched your armoured cars
O'er my prostrate frame; despair and die.

(vanishes)

The ghost of the late Field-Marshal von Blomberg rises and fixes on Hitler a malignant stare.

SPIRIT:

When I was mortal, my anointed body
By thee was pinched full of deadly holes:
Think of the Polish war and how you got me
Nicely out of the way: despair and die!

(vanishes)

The spirit of Czecho-Slovakia rises; its face is like the late Dr. Masaryk's, but it presently changes into that of Dr. Hacha.

SPIRIT:

Let me sit heavy on thy soul tomorrow!
I, that meant to ill to you or else,
By thy ruthless guile am broken into bits.
Tomorrow in the battle think on me—
On Munich and its bloody aftermath—
Despair and die!

(vanishes)

The spirits of Poland, Norway and Belgium rise, apparitioned like Paderewski, Ibsen and the late King Albert respectively. They stand in a row, and mouth their curses in unison.

SPIRITS:

Let us sit heavy on thy soul tomorrow!
Think of Warsaw's flames despair and die.....
Think upon Norway and let thy soul despair.....
Think upon Belgium, invaded twice,
And twice ravaged; and so despair and die!

(They vanish)

*The spirit of France rises: the expression on its face changes rapidly** it is Joan of Arc, Clemenceau, Foch and General de Gaulle by turns.*

SPIRIT:

Bloody and guilty, guiltily awake,
And in a bloody battle end thy days.
Vampire of nations, thief of fair Lorraine,
Thou wretched, bloody, and usurping boar,
That spoils our summer fields and fruitful vines,
That loots our far-famed treasures to hawk abroad.
Think of France's wrongs, despair and die!

(vanishes)

The ghost of Captain Roehm rises—his head is bloody but unbowed.

SPIRIT:

Remember the friend who helped you reach this height;
Think how you killed him in his prime of youth
At Munich: I bid thee despair and die!

(vanishes)

The ghost of General von Schleicher now rises and presents its blood-blotched countenance to Hitler.

SPIRIT:

Remember the nightmare "blood-bath" you decreed,
The thousand innocents massacred then;
Dream on my daughter's look when, before her eyes,
My wife and I were felled and done to death.
Let us be lead within thy bosom, Hitler.
And weigh thee down to ruin, shame and death!

(vanishes)

The spirit of Holland rises—its face is not unlike Queen Wilhelminas'.

SPIRIT:

Thy neighbour, hapless neighbour, Netherlands,
That, thanks to thee, was kept in fear always,
Whose mangled body screams through every wound,
Now fills thy days with perturbations.
Tomorrow on the battle think on me,
And fall thy edgeless sword: despair and die!

(vanishes)

During the preceding scene Hitler's countenance has changed frequently. There is utter silence for a few minutes. Hitler makes a supreme effort and finds his speech at last.

HITLER:

They upbraid me, my victims, spectres all!
O coward conscience, how dost thou afflict me!
My conscience hath a thousand several tongues,
And every tongue brings in a several tale,
And every tale condemns me for a villain.
Perjury, perjury, in the high'st degree;
Murder, stern murder, in the direst degree;
All several sins, all us'd in each degree,
Throng to the bar, crying all, 'Guilty, guilty'!
I shall despair: my plans are doomed to fail.
Tunis falls, Bizerta falls; the ghosts
Are everywhere; discontent hourly spreads.
Tomorrow's raging fever brings me death!
Save me, Goering! Save me, Goebbels! Save me!

(rushes out of the room as the curtain falls)

(Suggested by a scene in Shakespeare's *Richard III.*)

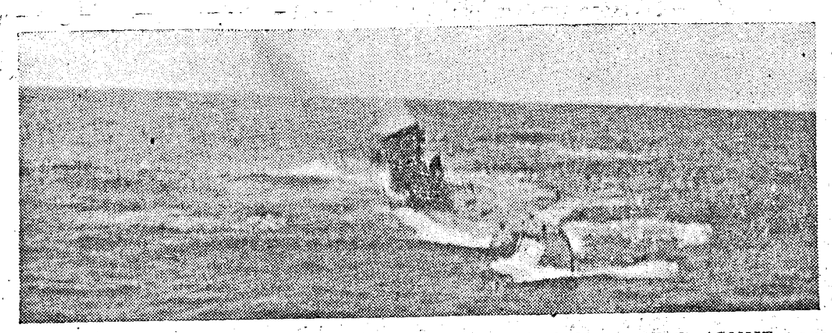
—*Human Affairs.*

"More than a Match" for Italians

A flash of inspiration when our bombers were flying over Italian lines at Jobol Garoi enabled Lance-Naik Em Bahadur of the 9th Gurkha Rifles to escape, says an Indian Army Observer.

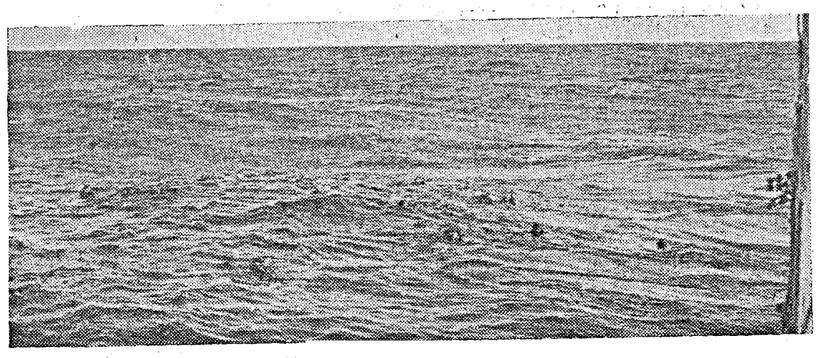
Taken prisoner during the Jobol Garoi attack in April, this year, Em Bahadur was made to do some work on the roads. One night, some of our bombers flew over the enemy lines and the Italians jumped into slit trenches. Em Bahadur quickly lit four matches in succession, allowing them to burn out in the hollow of his hands. Our aircraft spotted the glow and bombs soon fell on the area. Taking advantage of the confusion, Em Bahadur ran away amidst the curses of the panicky Italians. Without the aid of compass and map, he made his way to our lines and arrived among the Fighting French.

REMORSELESS U-BOAT HUNT IN THE ATLANTIC

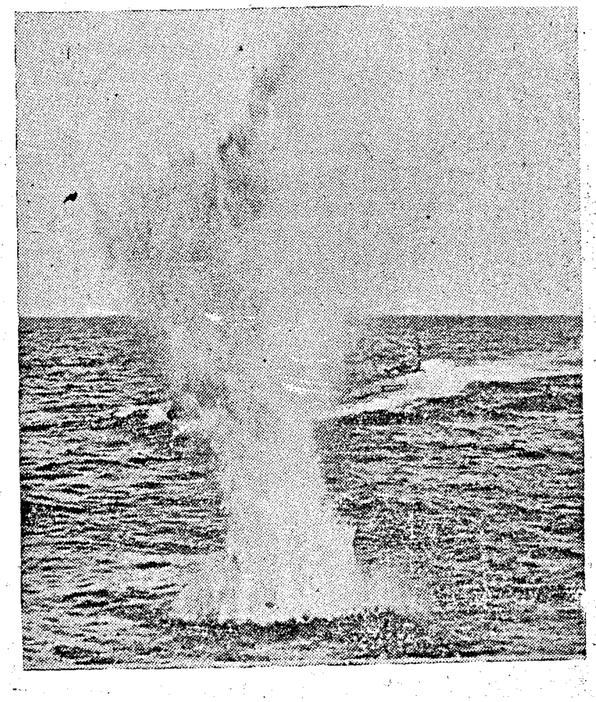


FREE FRENCH CORVETTE SINKS TWO U-BOATS.—This picture was taken by the crew of the Free French Corvette F.F.S. ACONIT during the Atlantic convoy battle on March 10 when she sank two German U-Boats by gun-fire and ramming. H.M.S. HARVESTER who had just been torpedoed herself watched from the water the ACONIT ram her second submarine.

Photo shows: After the "Cease fire" the ACONIT's second submarine heels over while the ACONIT steams in to ram.



The ACONIT steamed to a British port with survivors from H.M.S. HARVESTER and an American merchantman and prisoners from her two U boats. Photo shows: German survivors swimming towards the ACONIT after she had sunk their U-boats.



NAZI U-BOAT MEETS ITS DOOM IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC.—A Nazi U-boat met its doom within a few minutes of its being sighted by a Canadian corvette in the North Atlantic After a fierce gun duel, followed by a frantic crash-dive the U-boat was finished off with depth bombs. Photo shows: Shell-fire from the corvette sends a great geyser of water into the air as it falls short of the Nazi U-boat (seen in the background) *during the gun duel between submarine and Canadian corvette in the North Atlantic. Depth bombs later finished off the U-boat which attempted to escape by crash-diving.*

FOREIGN WORKERS IN GERMANY

POTENTIAL DANGER TO THE STATE

THE potential danger to the German State arising from the presence there of 5,000,000 foreign workers conscripted from all parts of Europe is strikingly shown in an article in the Swedish newspaper *Arbetet*, writes the *Daily Telegraph* diplomatic correspondent.

The German people, says the writer, are anxiously asking themselves what part these foreigners will play when the collapse comes which is now expected by most Germans or if a rebellion against National Socialism begins.

The writer, who has made a tour of Germany lasting several weeks, says that despite the close watch kept, it is not possible to prevent sabotage. This, just lately, "has increased to an extent which it is impossible to imagine outside Germany."

From the German viewpoint, it is considered far more dangerous that there are many political germ carriers among the millions of foreign workers. It is not necessary to talk long to a German industrial leader to realise that the great influx of labour has also irritated the labour market.

The Ukrainian workers stand up to their employers in an organised body. They insist on their rights and show an *esprit de corps* which gives their employers great trouble. To strike openly is too dangerous a method and is hardly ever used but canny tactics are often followed by the eastern workers.

Attempts to crush this policy are met with the argument: "If we work faster, we risk mistakes which may be considered as sabotage".

Managements are often compelled to yield to this argument. The fact that German workers are using the same method to show solidarity with their colleagues has played an important part.

Industrial circles think that they can detect a tendency on the part of German workers to form a common front with the foreigners when it is a question of conflict with authorities. The performance of all foreigners falls catastrophically after every German setback.

SOFTENING INVASION POINTS

By LIEUT.-GEN. SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

THE word "lull" is seen too often at the present time. The Oxford Dictionary gives the following definition—"soothe or send to sleep by sounds or caresses".

I hardly think the residents of the Ruhr or of the Italian islands and the mainland would subscribe to the suitability of that definition for what they are experiencing day and night as Allied bombers make their never ceasing sorties.

It is true that the victors of North Africa and for that matter other armies in the Middle East, have not yet made contact with the land forces of their enemies across the Mediterranean; but it is well to remember that the older fighting services are hampered by the difficulties from which their youngest partner is free.

Napoleon referred to deserts, mountains and rivers as three obstacles to military movement and none of these has any appreciable effect on aerial warfare.

Attacks by air across the Mediterranean are only limited by the position of aerodromes on the northern shores of Africa, by the efficiency of the machines and by the skill of their crews. But land and sea invasions are dependent on the provision of shipping and on embarkation facilities at one end and of disembarkation possibilities at the other.

It is natural, therefore, that the arm which is unhampered by terrestrial difficulties should use the time at its disposal to continue what has come to be known as the "softening" process whilst land and sea forces below make ready for the second move.

Air attacks on an ever mounting scale go on whilst shipping and stores are collected at invasion ports and harbours; but I go so far as to say that even if the ships were already collected, even if the troops and stores were already on board, it would be no waste of time to await the enemy's reaction to persistent air attacks before launching the invasion barges.

For an air attack goes out and return in a few hours. Even if one attack fails another can immediately be sent out to redress the balance. But once a land and sea invasion starts on a big scale, there is no withdrawal without grievous casualties and a dreadful loss of prestige.

I know that Gallipoli may be cited as an example when an invasion was called off without any of the consequences which were feared would result. That is true—but the evacuation from Gallipoli occurred before air power came into its own. This sort of thing would not happen to-day. If it could von Arnim would now be happily commanding some new formation in Germany instead of languishing in a British prison.

When an invasion starts, it must go right through; as Lord Trenchard pointed out the other day, it is persistent air attacks preceding a land invasion which will keep down casualties on the appalling scale of big attacks in the last war. Our losses in air crews are grievous; but every airman lost has saved the lives perhaps of a dozen sailors and soldiers.

BUILDING LIFE AFRESH

By E. MINDLIN

THE town has been cleared of the Germans. A meeting of the town Soviet was held in a half-ruined house. What is most essential now? Life has to be built afresh. The town is in need of window panes, nails, books, medicines and flour; it needs builders, teachers, doctors and bakers; but the liberated town has to have doctors before anything else. Many of the inhabitants—victims of German despotism—are sick and starved.

Water supply has been cut; the water in the reservoirs is foul with corpses; sewerage is out of order. The first task is to prevent any possible epidemic. The town is full of sick, hungry orphans and children. Their parents have either been killed or are missing. The Russian population was deprived of all medical aid during the German occupation. The liberated town is returning to normal life. A telegram was received at the Commissariat of Public Health saying, "Urgently request despatch of doctors, nurses and medicines".

Telegrams of a like nature come from all the liberated towns of the Northern Caucasus, Don, Kursk, Orlov and Voronezh regions.

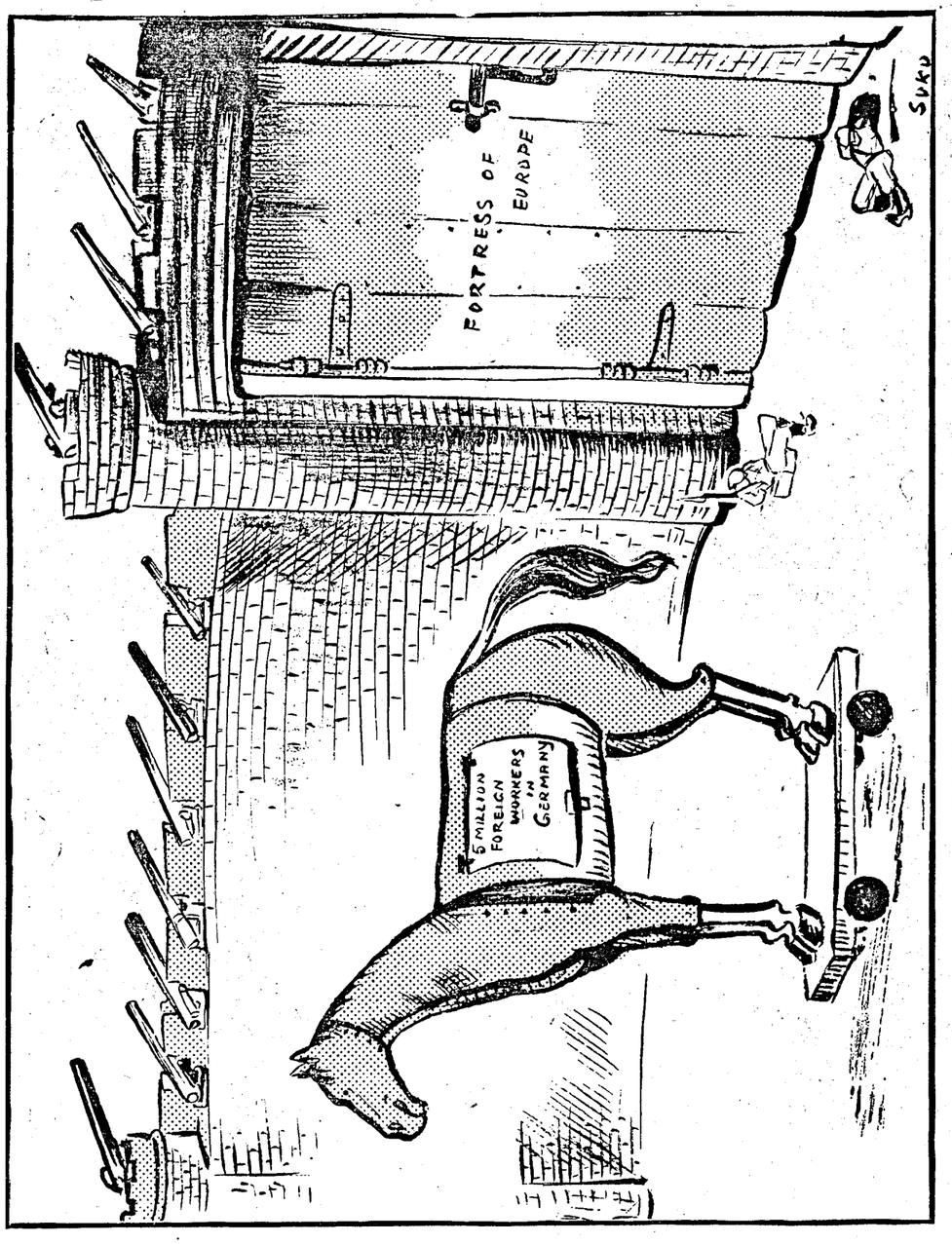
MEDICINES STOLEN

But did not Rostov, Kursk, Voronezh, Voroshilograd and dozens of other towns have their own staff of doctors and supply of medicines? Of course they did. But the medicines have all been stolen by the Germans and the doctors have either been executed or have fled from Hitlerite persecution. The town needs doctors.

The Commissariat of Public Health has received numerous such requests, but the same Commissariat daily receives dozens of offers from doctors, doctors' assistants and nurses.

"I want to work in the liberated town or village."

We saw the correspondence of the Commissariat for one day only. There were letters from various parts of the country. Doctors, nurses and doctors' assistants were offering their services. Each is willing to leave his permanent place of abode, his home, his place of work. All know that they will have to put up with many privations, but they want to do their share in the restoration of normal life in the liberated regions. The Commissariat of Public Heallth has already despatched hundreds and thousands of doctors to the liberated regions.



THE TROJAN HORSE

GERMANY'S DEFENSIVE POLICY

By MAJOR-GENERAL SIR CHARLES GWYNN

GENERAL Diettmar's announcement that Germany has adopted a defensive policy and has no intention of conducting a major offensive this year may be accepted since it is consistent with the general war situation. For some time, it has been evident that it would be desperate gamble for Germany to attempt in Russia an offensive aimed at decisive results.

The disaster in Tunisia which left a gap which must be filled and the growing rate of destruction of war industries by the Allied air offensive were sufficient to daunt the most confirmed gambler, quite apart from unforeseable developments which might follow an Allied invasion of Europe.

The Germans may still have in Russia sufficient forces to achieve initial success but unless the results obtained were on an inconceivably rapid and decisive scale, they would be faced with the probability of having to continue a costly and exhausting struggle with ever dwindling resources. The losses and the dispersed commitments of the Luftwaffe are of themselves almost sufficient to negative a prolonged effort.

The defensive policy does not, however, exclude offensive operations with defensive objects and if the shape of the present front in Russia appeared to demand them in order to shorten the line and render it more defensible. Why such operations have not already been started is an intriguing question since it seemed that they would have had the best chance of success if undertaken before the Russians had recovered from their winter efforts and had consolidated their hold on the recaptured country.

There is, of course, the possibility, perhaps probability, that the Germans may still have limited offensive projects in view but have not yet been able to accumulate reserves on an adequate scale in consequence of their heavy losses in their winter demands made by the North African campaign on their reserves and the reduced rate of output of their war industries due to the Allied air offensive. Whatever the reasons for the German inaction may be, the probability in the meantime grows that the Russians will after all be the first to strike for the prolonged lull must have greatly eased their problems.

It now seems possible that the Russians did not make very much use in the winter of British and American tanks and mechanized transport because their clearance was insufficient for the snow conditions. If this is so, there must be a large reserve of Allied material available for use in the summer and that in turn should give opportunities for building up reserves of Russian vehicles for use next winter.

WAR AGAINST AXIS TRANSPORT

ONE important if unspectacular element in the air war against Germany is the Allied offensive against transport and communications. This goes on almost uninterruptedly and will play an essential part in ensuring ultimate victory.

In continuing to hammer away at railways and canals of Germany and German-occupied countries, the Allies are pursuing an essentially sound strategy. One of Hitler's mistakes was to concentrate during the pre-war years on the development of motor highways at the expense of the German railway system.

Now under the stress of war, he finds his magnificent roads comparatively useless since he has only limited supplies of petrol. The inadequacy of his railways and rolling stock, which our air offensives have thrown in sharp relief, largely counteracts the theoretical advantage of his much vaunted "interior lines."

That is one reason why the possibility of land war on two fronts has always been a bugbear of the German General Staff. As the threat of invasion in the west draws nearer, the good work done by the Allied bombers and intruders will reap its long-deferred reward. It will effect eventually a stranglehold upon communications which may throw the enemy's strategy seriously out of gear. Every locomotive shot up from the air over Holland or Northern France appreciably weakens his capacity to resist.—*News Chronicle.*

Litany from the Edge of the Ditch

[" *If the blind lead the blind, shall they not both fall into the ditch ?* "]

From foul brutality
From trim rascality
From proud insanity
From blindfold vanity
From vile iniquity
From heart's ob iquity
From bad divinity
From asininity

Good Lord deliver us !

When Nazis stamp and Fascists kick
And jackboot-heels and handcuffs click
And Quislings bow and spittle lick

Good Lord deliver us !

When party lead rs sell their land
For pride of heart or itch of hand
And wag their tongues to plough the sand

Good Lord deliver us !

When blinkered eyes are all the rage
And fools set up to act the sage
Or strut with stilts upon the stage

Good Lord deliver us !

When mountebanks at will dispose
Of followers led by ignorant nose
To think dung sweeter than the rose

Good Lord deliver us !

Where politician joins with priest
To hurry to the rich man's feast
And poorer men are squeezed and fleeced

Good Lord deliver us !

Where calumny attacks the few
Who still their decent duty do
And keep their faith and temper too

Good Lord deliver us !

Where saintly souls bid us invite
A tiger as a guest polite
And talk away his appetite

Good Lord deliver us !

When half the world in bondage lies
Beneath heart-sickening cruelties
And heroes only 'sympathize'

Good Lord deliver us

From cowards and disgraces
Fr m idiots with smoot faces
From hid or op n treason
From ma ice and un eason
From ra ine a d o p ession
F om villainous aggr ssion
And most r om those perverse nes
Who'd change sma l ills for worse ones

Deliver us, Good Lord

—*R.G.*

DELIVERED FROM THE NAZI INVADERS.—As the Nazis retreat before the Soviet advance they pillage and burn everything that they can lay hands on. All food is confiscated and villages are left to starve until the advancing Red troops can bring up their food supplies. Photo shows a little Russian girl found by Red Army men after they drove the Nazi invaders from her village, being fed by the men who delivered her and her people from the enemy.

ALLIED BOMB "EXPORTS" TO GERMANY

FOR the first time since the war began, German people at home and German soldiers in dugouts and garrison towns of the occupied areas of Russia are going through a common experience, cables the *Daily Telegraph's* Moscow correspondent.

The Allied air offensive in the west has been coupled with air attacks of growing intensity from the east. The Russians are giving more publicity to the Allied offensive than to their own, and newspapers give full details and analyses of every aspect of the offensive, praising its scope and the skill of Allied pilots.

The other day the *Red Star* had a cartoon showing the growing tonnage of Allied "bomb exports" to Germany. Soviet air operations are of twofold significance—defensive and offensive. Russian fighters are tirelessly and daringly interfering with the Luftwaffe's attempts to bomb Soviet objectives, such as the approaches to Moscow or the city of Leningrad.

Although major operations have not yet begun on land and in the air, the war is as intense as anything during the battles of Voronezh and Stalingrad last year.

Guerillas behind the enemy lines are working to the same end as the Soviet air offensive by blasting roads, wrecking trains and stripping telephone lines. They are also watching German troop movements and passing word to the Russian bomber squadrons specializing in attacks on troop trains.

Guerillas transmit their information by radio installations captured from the Germans, or flown into Russia. They also report results of bombing operations.

A great bulk of the Russian bombers are Soviet-made, but British and American planes arriving along the northern route and through the Persian Gulf are already making themselves felt. So also the latest Soviet bomber Iliushin-4 which has two engines and resembles the famous Stormovik.

The new bomber is described by the *Red Star* as usable with great effect in any weather at any time of the day or night. It operates primarily over railway stations, munition dumps and barracks, causing havoc wherever it passes. One raid on an enemy barrack brought death to 1,500 Germans.

LAMPEDUSA HAS A LONG HISTORY

LAMPEDUSA followed the example of Pantelleria. It is a small island in the Mediterranean, and is reached by a steamer from Porto Empedocle. Its greatest length is about seven miles and its greatest width about two miles. The highest point is 400 feet above sea-level.

The island is about 90 miles from the eastern coast of Tunisia and has an interesting history.

There are prehistoric hut-foundations, also Punic tombs and Roman buildings near its harbour. The island is the Lopadusa of Strabo, and the Linadosa of "Ariosto's Orlando Furioso", the scene of the landing of Roger of Sicily and of his conversion with the hermit. In 1436 it was given by Alfonso of Aragon to Don Giovanni de Caro, baron of Montechiaro.

A thousand slaves were taken from its population in 1530. In 1661, Ferdinand Tommasi, its then owner, received the title of Prince from Charles II of Spain.

In 1737 the Earl of Sandwitch found only one inhabitant upon it: in 1760 some French settlers established themselves there.

Catherine II of Russia proposed to buy it as a Russian naval station, and the British Government thought of doing the same if Napoleon had seized Malta.

In 1843 on wards Ferdinand II of Naples established a colony there. There is now an Italian penal colony.

Eight miles west is the islet of Lampione. Linosa, some 30 miles to the north-north-east, measures about 2 by 2 miles, and is entirely volcanic; its highest point is 610 feet above sea-level. It has landing places on the south and west and is more fertile than Lampedusa, but suffers from lack of springs. Fragments of Roman pottery and Roman coins have been found there, but cisterns and ruins of houses are probably later.

ANATOMY

"And what kind of officer does your uniform signify ?" asked the inquisitive old lady at a reception.

"I am a naval surgeon, lady."

"Goodness me," was the response, "how you doctors to specialize in these modern times."

GERMAN HOME FRONT: FOUR FACTORS

THE frontline Hitler has become the homefront Hitler now, cables the Stockholm correspondent of the *Daily Express*. Reports coming up here, he adds, say that the Fuehrer, who always used to declare that his duties with his soldiers prevented his leaving his headquarters on the Eastern Front, is now spending increasingly long periods at his Berchtesgaden home.

According to these reports, Hitler has more and more been leaving the general direction of military matters to his Wehrmacht chiefs, especially Field Marshal von Manstin. Hitler himself apparently spends an increasing amount of time reading reports on home morale, supplied by Party leaders all over Germany and reviewing measures which Himmler and Goebbels are taking to insulate his citizens against any shocks that may come.

CHANGED VIEWPOINT

Hitherto despite some depression and grousing, there seems to have been no sign that German morale has been disastrously shaken even by Tunisia or by increased air raids but four things are specially worrying the Fuehrer.

Firstly, the growing respect which German troops are now expressing for the Russians as fighting men and technicians. Ever since the Germans invaded Russia, Nazi propaganda has talked of Soviets scornfully as "sub-men" (untermenschen), but this propaganda has been made to look more ridiculous with every defeat which the "sub-men" have inflicted on the German "supermen" soldiers.

NAZI PAPER'S COMMENT

Steps are already being taken to meet this changed viewpoint and the latest issue of the journal of the Black Guard *Das Schwarze Korps*, for instance, devotes the whole front page to a condemnation of "those people who talk about the marvellous technical ability of the Bolsheviks". The paper says: "Such people declare that 'those so-called sub-men are wonderfully healthy. They resist hunger and cold in a way we cannot conceive of. They have no nerves and are splendid tools for their leaders'."

To these doubters, the paper explains that it is only because the Germans are not used to the Russian climate that the Bolsheviks are better at bearing the rigours of war in that part of the world than they are.

PARTY DISSENSIONS

Secondly, there is the growing dissension within the ranks of the Nazi Party itself. It is this dissension which lies behind both the artilce of Count Reischach condemning "fortune-hunters who are a menace in times of war" and the recent speech by Gauleiter Wagner demanding intensification of the struggle against faint-hearted Nazis.

Thirdly, the anxieties among war production workers, especially about British air raids. It was this growing disaffection among the German workers which caused Goebbels to stage the recent meeting at the Sportspalast in Berlin: There he and the Reichsminister Speer assured representatives from factories all over the Reich that production had not been affected by air raids and that the British would be paid back for the damage they had done to Germany.

And fourthly, the rising prices. Hitler knows that the Germans fear inflation. The other day, the German Price Commissioner, Dr. Fischboeck, spoke at a Berlin conference strongly condemning those who used war as an excuse for raising prices. "We shall use every means to fight these men," he said.

Dr. GOEBBELS' PROPAGANDA ANTICS

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

AFTER a lightning visit to Germany, lasting only a fortnight in all, Frants von Papen, the German Ambassador to Turkey, has returned. Indeed a very busy trip for Herr von Papen, who was officially supposed to relax, a trip on which he had to stand in front of his beloved Fuehrer and give an account for his recent diplomatic failures.

Before he left, von Papen went to see the Turkish Foreign Minister, Numan Menemendjoglu, and as is his habit, he asked for a series of guarantees and assurances. He never falls to ask for these, every time he goes home. But home he went, empty-handed, as usual.

This time he asked for a supplementary guarantee that Turkey would not attack Bulgaria, should the latter become involved in a conflict with the Allies in the event of the latter landing in the Balkans. He was told that there already exists a non-aggression pact between Turkey and Bulgaria and that if, Bulgaria keeps her word, there is no reason why Turkey should become involved in an armed conflict with Bulgaria. Von Papen naturally nodded assent and came back to his favourite theme: a separate peace with Britain.

CAN GERMANY KEEP A TREATY?

Again he produced the Bolshevik bogey from his pocket and asked the Foreign Minister if it would not be better for the Anglo-American world to make peace with Germany and then march jointly against Russia. He thought that Turkey would gain a lot in mediating such a peace. He was told that there is no reason why Turkey should do so, especially after the Casablanca meeting during which United Nations policy was pretty well defined.

It is said that the Turkish Foreign Minister then reminded von Papen that he himself knows very well that it is Germany who is to blame for creating this intransigence. For who is certain that Germany would and can keep a treaty and not violate it after a few years? Von Papen smiled, a little drily, it is reported, and, after taking his leave, departed for Germany. This should put an effective end to any German propaganda about a separate peace.

German propaganda is not content to leave matters where they are and is continually busy to find out new things. The latest German propaganda find shows clearly that we are now approaching the humour page of Goebbels' propaganda book. You have also heard about it: the invasion of Great Britain in the coming summer with 200 divisions and 10,000 planes and I do not know how many tens of thousands of tanks.

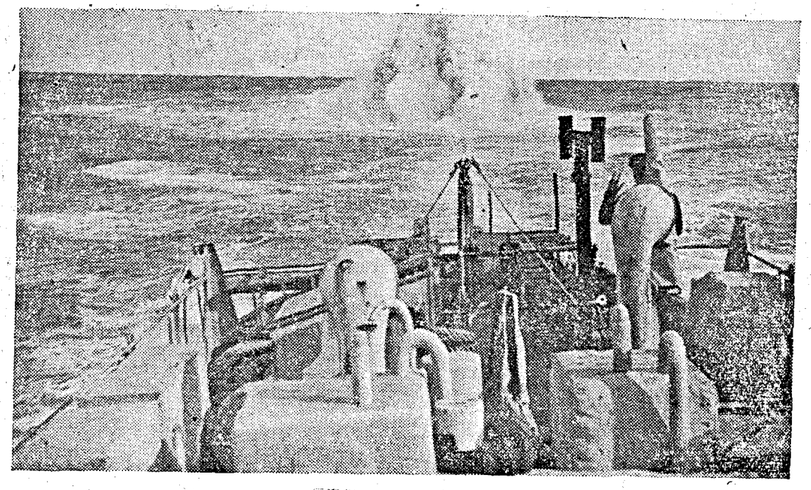
GERMAN TIT-BITS FOR TURKISH PRESS

The Turkish Press shouted with laughter because it has been a very long time since tit-bits like these have been dished up on editors' desks. So all the newspapers pounced on it and in the true festive spirit made the most of this choice morsel. After laying bare the ridicule of it all, the papers asked one serious question: Why is it that Germany did not invade Britain in 1940?

In asking this question some of the editors, and I mean those who visited Germany last year, had their tongues in their cheeks, for was it not Goebbels who replied last year to a journalist asking if Germany was not afraid of the United Nations invading Europe, with the following? "We who were much stronger in 1940 than the Allies are now did not want to risk on a hazardous adventure. We are so well defended now that the Allies will not dare do what we have not done when we were in a better position to do it."

So last year Dr. Goebbels said that Germany although well armed did not think an invasion of Britain more than an adventure. Dr. Goebbels seems to have forgotten what he told the Turks and now he spreads rumours of a German invasion of Britain. Dr. Goebbels has no memory but the Turkish Press has.

This is an indication of the contortionism in propaganda Dr. Goebbels is forced to by the present situation. Propaganda was effective when there were tanks and planes behind it, when a "film of frightfulness" shown to audiences that knew nothing about warfare succeeded in intimidating Governments and also Kings. Today it is just what the word implies, nothing but propaganda. Dr. Goebbels is having a difficult time.



FREE FRENCH CORVETTE SINKS TWO U-BOATS DURING ATLANTIC CONVOY.—Photographs taken by the crew of the Free French corvette ACONIT, during the Atlantic convoy battle on March 10 when she sank two German U-boats by gunfire, and ramming. H. M. S. HARVESTER, who had just been torpedoed herself, watched from the water the ACONIT ram her second submarine. The ACONIT steamed to a British port with survivors from H M.S. HARVESTER and an American merchantman and prisoners from her two U-boats. Photo shows: The ACONIT depth-charging her second U-boat.

THE SOVIET AIR FORCE

RUSSIANS, GREAT ORGANIZERS AND STRATEGISTS

By OLIVER STEWART

STRATEGICAL and tactical genius of a high order has been displayed by the Russian Command. And equally obviously their methods call for the closest study. The way they have used air power, in particular, is instructive—and it is noteworthy because it is always difficult to develop air power to the fullest extent in winter.

The Russians in all their planning have had to visualise immense land battles. And so their use of air power has been influenced by that central fact. The primary duty for their pilots has always been to support the land forces. The methods have been enterprising. We can piece some of them together from the official communiqués. It seems that the general principle on which the Royal Air Force works is accepted by the Russians: that is that fighters are used to keep certain zones clear while the bombers do their jobs. Direct escort is not used except where it is unavoidable.

In the selection of bombing targets, however, the Russians, as would be expected from those locked in a terrific struggle for territory, go much more for things that have an immediate effect on the progress of the land battle. They are not keen on long-range strategic bombing—though they have done some—and their close-support bombing is very close indeed. In fact, successful attacks on enemy tank formations appear almost as frequently as any other kind of operation. The fighters by covering sweeps, keep the air clear enough of enemy fighters for the bombers to go in low and do their work. In these low-level attacks dive bombers have been used a lot, but so have cannon-carrying machines.

In fact, the way the Russians have developed all kinds of air attack on tanks, guns, transport columns and similar targets is one of the outstanding things about the air war there. They have done a tremendous amount of work on this kind of thing. It has entailed the introduction of some new weapons: large-calibre aircraft guns, self-propelled bombs, and the like. And it has also entailed the provision of special protection for the low-flying aircraft.

RAMMING AS A PRACTICAL EMERGENCY MANŒUVRE

Then their actual methods of fighting have been remarkable. Mostly they have used similar formations and tactics to the Royal Air Force; but they have also introduced ramming as a practical, emergency manœuvre. They have used this method—according to their statements—a fairly large number of times, and usually it has been possible for the pilot who has rammed an enemy machine with his own machine to get down safely by parachute or even sometimes in his own damaged aircraft. Before the Russians came into the war I do not think that ramming had ever been considered as a serious tactical manœuvre. Captain Nesterov is the officer who is said to have introduced it.

Then they have done some long-range strategical bombing. They have bombed Berlin and other places well inside Germany with their large multi-engined aircraft. But, as I have said, they have devoted most of their air effort to the immediate vicinity of the battlefield.

The evidence now is that the Soviet Air Force is large, well equipped, and well trained. It looks as if it was as big as the German air force at the outbreak of war, and it seems to have maintained a sound balance ever since.

Three outstanding types of Soviet aircraft—and I am trying as much as possible to stick to information coming from an officer of the Soviet Air Force—are the Stormovik drive-bombers, the T.B. 7 four-engined bomber, and the M.I.G. 3 fighter.

REMARKABLE STORMOVIK

The Stormovik is heavily armed and armoured, and it is this machine that has been used for carrying self-propelled bomb. It has sliding armour plate to protect the radiator and engine and it carries two 32 mm. cannon in the wings as well as two 13 mm. machine guns. It was designed by Ilyushin, and is sometimes called the I.L. 2. It has been most successful as an anti-tank weapon. The general design is straightforward and there is a single engine.

The big four-engined T.B. 7 bomber was seen in England at the time of M. Molotov's visit and it attracted favourable comment from Royal Air Force men who saw it.

As for the M.I.G. 3 fighter, this is an extremely small machine and the pilot sits far back along the fuselage. Incidentally, the Russians paint these machines white during the winter as camouflage.

Russia also has a number of British and American aircraft. The Hurricane has been out there for a long time and is liked by the Soviet pilots. The Airacobra and the Tomahawk are among the American single-seaters. Lately some fine looking twin-engined medium bombers have been coming into service with the Soviet forces. Some of them are developments of the earlier types; but some appear to be new machines.

The Soviet Air Force is divided up into five air armies, four of them engaged with the Germans. The Russian claim is to have put out of action two thousand enemy aircraft since the beginning of the offensive in November. November.

WAR ON SOVIET FRONT

By G. KOLMANYAN

MILITARY operations on the Soviet-German front during the past few days were confined, except for the battles in the Kuban, to air-combats which were developing on a large scale.

Russian bombers continue to inflict blows on the German rear. Kiev, Smolensk, Bryansk, Mogilov, Orel and other towns have been bombed. A particularly heavy raid was launched against Orel. Five hundred and twenty planes bombarded the enemy railway installations, ammunition trains and dumps.

The most important air-battle was fought over Kursk. During the first attack on Kursk on May 22, German bombers came in waves at very short intervals. They appeared from different directions and at various altitudes. The battle continued for 10 hours and ended in the loss of 162 German machines. Our losses were 27 planes.

In the course of this battle, Soviet fighters succeeded in isolating German escort planes from bombers, and inflicted heavy losses on the latter. When it became evident that the raid launched from various directions had ended in failure, the German Command sent a formation of 100 bombers. But only some machines could break through to the town. German pilots were forced to release their loads from an altitude of 6,000 metres which rendered accurate bombing impossible.

German losses were nearly one-third of the number of machines participating in the raid.

WAR LOAN SUCCESS

Moscow Radio has broadcast information about the release of the War Loan of 1943. The new loan issued totals 12,000,000,000 rubles. It is the largest loan ever issued in the country.

Judging from the information received, the loan is a great success. Towards the evening of June 4 nearly all workers, engineers and employees had subscribed to the loan at the offices of factories in Moscow, Leningrad, Gorki, Sverdlovsk and other towns. The subscriptions of many patriots exceed their monthly earnings. Many are paying their sums in full and refusing to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the Government of paying the sums in instalments.

The loan is also being realized successfully among the peasants. Many peasants have purchased loans to the extent of 25,000 rubles. There is every reason to believe that the sums subscribed by peasants this year will exceed the subscriptions of 1942.

SOVIET ARABIC SCHOLARS

A meeting of Soviet Arabic Scholars, convened by the Institute of Languages of Peoples in the U.S.S.R., was held in Moscow. Many Soviet scientists are engaged in the study of the culture, history and language of the Arabs. The Arabic language is the foundation on which the Muslim culture of many peoples of Middle Asia, the Caucasus and Tataria is built. In Tadjikistan, for example, near Bukhara, and also in Uzbekistan reside descendants of the Arabs transferred to these places by Tamerlane. In several places near the Caspian Sea, the local population speaks the ancient Arabic language.

Scientists said at the meeting that while the inhabitants of Arabia know the ancient Arabic language through old works and classics, several people of the Soviet Daghestan speak and write the language, and have preserved the ancient Arabic traditions.

The Russian academician Ignati Krachkovski, an outstanding Soviet Arabic scholar, stated that, despite the war, Soviet Arabic scholars continue their scientific work. During the war has been published "Syntax of Modern Arabic Language" in Leningrad composed by D. Semenov. Many other works are ready for publication—among them is a dictionary of the modern Arabic language by K. Baranov.

A large number of works of Arabic scholars of Leningrad was saved from destruction by German bombs. The Arabic scholars residing in Leningrad are continuing their researches.

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC

THE First Lord of the Admiralty was able to give to Parliament recently an encouraging report on the progress in a campaign which exceeds all others in importance—the war on U-boats—writes *The Times*.

In May, according to Mr. Alexander's statement, the number of U-boats destroyed seems to have been actually greater than the number brought into service by the enemy. Losses in merchant shipping have correspondingly declined; and the fall was emphatically not due, as the enemy propaganda has alleged, to a diminution in the amount of Allied shipping at sea offering fewer targets for U-boats, since imports into this country since April gave the highest monthly total during the last year and a half. These satisfactory results are the fruit of a substantial increase in the strength of convoy escorts, including escort carriers.

A result of the fall in shipping losses, compared with the steadily rising output of new shipping on both sides of the Atlantic, has been a large increase in the volume of shipping available to the Allies—a very welcome development in view of the stage in war, which is now being reached. But Mr. Alexander wisely refrained from venturing upon prophecy. That a turn for the better has been manifested in the battle of the seas in the last few months is highly satisfactory in itself but it is not more than the beginning. That or a higher level of success is to be maintained for many months before U-boats can be regarded as definitely mastered, and the First Lord of the Admiralty was careful to warn the country that full ascendancy has not yet been achieved and that we must still be prepared to encounter setbacks and further periods of heavy losses.

The growth of the U-boat fleet has indeed been checked partly by bombing the factories and bases but chiefly by more "kills" at sea, and it should not be over-optimistic to expect that check to be maintained henceforth. The enemy, however, has still some 400 or more U-boats in service, even without a single addition to them, and that great underwater fleet would still have to be defeated decisively before the full command of the sea could be assured. There can be no diversion of resources yet from the vital battle of the seas.

SONGS AND MUSIC OF THE SOVIET

Many people have wondered what kind of music is now being played and sung in Soviet Russia. They will soon be able to gratify their curiosity, for two enterprising recording companies have issued several records of co temporary Russian music. These records, which will be available overseas, have been made in Russia by Soviet artists. The Russians, like the Welsh, are a naturally musical people and they produce some of the most splendid voices in the world. Anyone who has ever heard a Russian choir will be eager to hear the Red Banner Troupe singing topical marching songs—songs that are all the more stirring and poignant when one thinks of the circumstances in which they are being sung to-day. The Red Banner Ensemble, a favourite of the U.S.S.R. Fighting Services, has popularised Soviet songs throughout Russia. Its conductor, Professor Alexandrov, has earned the highest honour an artist can now attain in the Soviet Union—"People's Artist of the U.S.S.R." It is said that one learns more of a nation from its songs than from its laws. These records of Soviet opera, marching songs and folk songs will convey to many people, more vividly than any words, the spirit of the vast and varied country now united under the emblem of the hammer and the sickle.

I WAS A TEACHER IN MOSCOW

By DEANA LEVIN

I first went to Moscow in 1933 and got a job as a teacher in the Anglo-American school there.

But I don't want to tell you just about my school. You know, I think, so many people have got the wrong impression of the present-day Soviet Union—impressions formed on what it was like, say, twenty years ago. I don't think you can count the first ten years of its existence—it was only war and famine then. But to-day it is very different.

AIMING AT TEN-YEAR SCHOOL

Soviet schools are of one type—the seven-year school, which is free and compulsory for all children from eight to fifteen. They are co-educational, and the boys and girls take the same subjects. The aim of the Soviet is eventually to have a ten-year school, when there are enough buildings and teachers to go round.

One of the biggest problems of Soviet education has been to get enough trained teachers. At the time of the Revolution there were very few teachers indeed, and in those early days anybody who had any kind of education at all was asked to volunteer for the teaching profession. These people have been working steadily all through these years, and in a way, of course, they have become qualified by their own experience.

But in 1937 the Soviet Government passed a decree stating that all teachers must become fully qualified according to present-day standards. In Moscow alone it was found that about forty per cent of the teachers were unqualified: from that you can get some idea of the problem to be tackled.

These unqualified people were given a chance of taking a special course for a year at the same salary, or of attending an evening institute for two years. If they didn't do one or the other they had to stop teaching.

The Soviet is trying to open teachers' training colleges in every district; but Russia is such a huge territory and there are so many people that the demand is much greater than the supply. There are still too few specialists to go round, and naturally there are more in the large cities than outside. Though every national republic has its own training scheme carried on in its own language—in those centres Russian is only taught as a second language—the general aim is to provide adequate training colleges and to endeavour to produce enough specialists to cover the whole country.

To-day there are comparatively few illiterate children in the Soviet. I knew an Englishman who was engaged on tea-planting work in Georgia. He was travelling over the mountains in his car, and he stopped at some remote village. He started talking to the people and when he saw a number of children he asked whether they went to school. He had been told that every village, however small, however remote, had its school; and when on this occasion he was told: 'No, there is no school,' he said: 'Ah, at last I've caught you out. Look at all those children.' And then his chauffeur said: 'But they go to school over there,' and he pointed towards a mountain. 'But how do they get there?' 'By bus,' was the reply. It turned out that in the summer a bus took them to school every day, but in the winter months, when they are snowed up, the children lived in the school and carried on with their schooling as usual.

The standard of literacy among the adult population up to the age of forty-five or fifty is very good; but there are still many people over fifty who are illiterate, except that they can sign their own names and some of them can laboriously read newspapers and books.

STUDENT OF FIFTY-FIVE

The charwoman in our school was a typical example. She was about fifty-five and had lived in village up to the time of the Revolution. She was attending evening school, which was run by one of our teachers specially for the domestic workers on our staff. And she had reached the third class, which was about two classes below her youngest child. Her five children were very proud of her indeed, and they thought she was wonderful because at fifty-five years old she was learning not only to read and write but history and geography. She was quite a typical example. People everywhere are so interested in what is going on that they want to be able to read and write, and so they are willing and eager to go to school. Everywhere you will find this tremendous desire for learning.

It was usual, I should say, before 1925, for the younger members of the family to teach their grandfather and grandmother to read and write, and I'm told you would quite often see the whole family sitting round the table studying, the children of from twelve to fifteen helping the elder members of the family. And prior to 1925 it was quite common to see the children and their parents sitting on the same bench at school studying together.

U.S. AIRMEN WHO FOILED JAPANESE.—Three airmen of the U.S. Army Air Force in the China-Burma-India theatre congratulate each other on a daring exploit. Lieut. Melvin Kimball (centre) *shakes hands with Capt. Charles Colwell, who spotted Kimball's plane behind the Japanese lines after Kimball was forced down on a flight from India to China. Colwell, who was returning from a strafing mission in Burma, radioed for help and then circled above the spot until other U.S. airmen arrived to form a protective covering while Lieut. Ira M. Sussky* (left) *landed in a light training plane and brought Kimball to safety. Nine attempts were made to take off from the soft ground before the plane with its two passengers finally got away. Lieut. Sussky holds an axe with which he smashed Kimball's plane to prevent its use by the enemy.*

But that period has passed now, and when I was there the attitude was: 'Now we have reached the point where we can get on without the aid of the children; we will let the children enjoy their childhood and we will not burden them with the responsibility of their fathers and grandfathers.' But, now that war has come things have altered again, and the children have been helping with the agricultural work and collection of scrap metal and doing other war jobs.

FREE MEDICAL ATTENTION

The Soviet Government carefully studied the educational systems of other countries to get new and improved ideas, and because of their interest in what is going on in the rest of the world they have gradually been able to raise the standard of their own teaching and training to much the same as in our own country.

Every school has a full-time doctor as a member of the staff and all medical services are free in the Soviet Union. The children are given every care to make them strong and healthy.

But their production of text-books, for example, was far below our own—the paper is very poor, and the type used was not at all good. But I must say that I have seen text-books published since 1938 which have impressed me very much; but even so they're not yet comparable with ours, less so with the Americans. That is something the Russians are still trying to achieve, and I remember when I came back to England in 1936 for a short holiday they begged me to bring back some text-books to help them; these went into their research department to be examined to see in what respect they could help in improving their own.

The Russians are always very willing to learn and will always pick the brains of foreigners if they think they will be of any help to them in their own difficulties. For example, I teach mathematics, and I was always being

invited to talk to other groups of mathematics teachers in Moscow to explain my methods and to exchange experiences.

A relatively small percentage of children go to school after fifteen, though there is the option of keeping on till you are eighteen and reaching university standard. I should say that about two per cent reach that standard.

CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN MUST NOT WORK

Young children may not work till they are sixteen, and then from sixteen to eighteen only part-time. That was in peacetime; but now, because of the war, the rules are somewhat relaxed, and I think they can go to work when they are sixteen. But normally most boys and girls between fifteen and eighteen go into technical or factory schools. If it is an engineering school they will do three or four hours' academic work a day and then five hours' practical work in the factory. Then when they have finished their three years at the technical school they are qualified workers in the factory—fully skilled workers. But the point is: they are carrying on with their academic education at the same time as they are learning their trade.

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT AMAZING

The Russians—in the big cities, at any rate—in their one type of school, their universal school, are getting a general standard of development at the age of fifteen which I personally think compares more than favourably with our own fifteen-year-olds in our secondary schools. And you have got to remember that the Russians have only had compulsory schooling of any kind for little more than twenty years. I found the intellectual development of the quite average young Russian worker simply amazing—even from our own standards—and I think that is because their general syllabus in the schools includes a very wide study of literature and cultural subjects as well as utilitarian ones.

The academic work in a Soviet school occupies only a part of the day. The rest of the time the school is turned into a kind of club, and groups are organized in any subject which the children wish to pursue. In our school we had groups in drama, singing, dancing, gymnastics, sports, airplane building, scenery-making, painting, sculpture, puppetry, and several others. The leaders for these groups are specially engaged and paid by the school—they are not connected with the academic side—and the only obligation a child has on joining a group is to remain until the particular job undertaken is completed—until the play is produced or the airplane finished.

In this way Soviet children get many opportunities of developing their technical skill and their æsthetic taste. If a child shows special aptitude for music or art the school can send him or her to the local music or art school for afternoon lessons, or if he or she is interested in technical subjects the child will spend several afternoons a week at the local technical centres where there are fully equipped workshops under the supervision of a specialist in wood or metal work.

In the villages there were very few schools before the Revolution, but now most of them have built one; and the æsthetic and technical developments here depend a great deal on the actual teachers. In the winter the cultural life in the villages is very often shared with the grown-ups as well, because while the snow is on the ground they often can't carry on with their agricultural work. In this way you see there is scope for the development of the peasant arts and crafts.

The Russians believe in criticism and self-criticising on a constructive basis. Actually at my school I hated it at first; then after a while I began to realise its value and I thought to myself: 'After all, it is good, it is very salutary—like a cold bath!' There was absolutely no malice at all behind their criticism—it was done in a very friendly spirit, and I think the whole basis of the thing was co-operation and not competition. We used to have regular meetings to discuss our work and our methods; and any weakness of the teacher was discussed too. I remember early on one of the American men who taught English said: 'I've been having trouble with my class. Can you help me?' I was astonished. Several of the other teachers gave him their helpful suggestions. The principal himself would come and sit in a class day after day in order to find out where a weakness lay, and he would discuss it at great length after each lesson with the teachers until the teacher was able to find a solution to his problem.

But the fact that you can criticise people—and this applies also to Soviet factories—means that you can get along with them far better than you would if you felt you wanted to criticise but couldn't express it.

There is naturally always the possibility of a clash, and if it comes to the point where you and your colleagues cannot get on, then some adjustment has to be made. There is a trade union organization which functions in every school, and it exists to try to help you to overcome such difficulties. As a matter of fact, one of our American staff did leave while I was there. He went to teach in the university, and actually he preferred it and found it more interesting. And although he couldn't get on at an ordinary school he made good at the university.

Obviously you could see the whole political basis of the Soviet Union permeating right through their teaching in the schools—even in their mathematical problems. But in their moral, their ethical teaching, they taught the children about the international brotherhood of children all over the world—to be courteous to their neighbour, to respect social or public property, to respect their own school buildings, not to carve the tables or write on the walls, because they were their own and they should look after them. They were taught to look after the older people because they had had terribly hard lives, and because through them the children had all these advantages. That was their ethical training—and that I personally consider is just the sort of teaching necessary for a child. —*(BBC. Home Service broadcast.)*

MEAHJI

MEAHJI isn't a smart soldier. He's only a little over five feet, and one of his shoulders is higher than the other, and the sides of his face don't match. Dirt seems to be attracted to him, and to stick, like flies to a fly-paper. And there's usually a hole somewhere, or a button off, or something torn—and sometimes all three at once. Meahji's companions laugh at him, and he knows that; people have always laughed at him: it is nothing new. His drill is frightful, and the N.C.Os. shout at him, but there's nothing new in that either: for years people have been shouting at him. That's Meahji: no credit to his section on parade, and a man who's quite used to being shouted at and laughed at.

He joined the Army because he thought he was going to like it, and he wasn't wrong; he's not unhappy in the Army and never has been (in spite of the fact that he has his difficulties, and makes them for others). For although the others may find him a figure of fun which he is, he is certainly not unpopular with them; in fact they respect him.

And this is quite the first time in his life that anything like that has happened to Meahji. On the whole the past hasn't been easy. First he was a fireman on a ship, but there were difficulties at home; his wife dead, he married again, his second wife died—he renounced the sea then and earned his living as a coolie at Chittagong and married a third time—which alone shows that he is man of courage.

People laughed at the little Chittagong coolie and sometimes abused him; his was a life unlikely to increase a man's self-respect. The war came, and that gave to many men the chance to find themselves, and to find a new self-respect.

It gave that chance to Meahji, and he was not slow in taking it. He found that the Indian Engineers were requiring recruits, offered himself, was accepted.

His knowledge of ships made him potentially suitable for military Docks Operating, and he underwent a technical course, and a course of military training (but Meahji is *not* a smart soldier)—he duly passed out as a Sapper-Stevedore.

He liked his new trade, and was immediately good at it; before long he was promoted from Grade III to Grade II. He was posted to an Indian Docks Operating Company and found himself on operational duties not far from the theatre of war. Meahji was, so to speak, in action.

He isn't a smart soldier. He's only a little over five feet, and one of his shoulders is higher than the other, and the sides of his face don't match. But you ought to see him now that his company is working in the Port: Meahji acting as hatchwayman, directing the soldiers who drive the winches, acting as liaison between the soldiers on the quay, small dark figures in the glare of the cluster-lights, and those toiling in the hold of the ship. You ought to see him guiding the tanks and lorries, helpless monsters, as they swing up from the distant ground, clear of the cables and ropes which perilously thread this strange twilight, down into the ship's belly with perhaps only a few inches to spare. It's not an easy job that Meahji does, and they don't laugh at him then or shout at him either. It's he who does the shouting, and they who listen and do as he orders.

Look at his face, his funny face, and you'll see how happy he is; and that's because he's found something that he can do, and do well. And something that's vitally important. Struggling blindly through life for thirty years, fighting always not to be swept aside into the rubbish heap, Meahji is in demand now. And it's not merely an employer who needs him. It's India herself who needs him. So he's fully a man at last.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

24TH JUNE.—Between 400 and 500 Royal Air Force planes were engaged in attacks on targets in Holland and Northern France. Operations extended from Flushing to Cherbourg Penninsula. Oil storage tanks and docks at Flushing were hit. The airfield at Manpertus near Cherbourg was bombed. Other targets were the Marshalling yards at Fort Rouge and the Abbeville airfield Squadrons of United States Air Force made sweeps over Belgium and Holland in support of the Royal Air Force bombing mission.

Describing the Ruhr raids, the German radio said: "The battle simply goes beyond human description. Nobody who has not seen it with his own eyes can have even a faint notion of it."

Enemy aircraft made an attack on Hull. Damage was caused and there were casualties including some people killed.

An urgent warning by the Allied High Command to the Netherlands people of heavier air raids in future on war factories in the Netherlands was broadcast by radio Orange.

Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, informed the House of Commons, that the possibility of bringing representatives of the Fourth Indian Division to Britain was being considered.

A German frontier report to the *London Times* stated that the ex-President of the Reichsbank, Dr. Schacht, was under house arrest at his estate at Lindow near Berlin.

25TH JUNE.—American heavy bombers attacked the important German industrial area of Ellerfeld, the western half of Wuppeatal.

The Royal Air Force carried out offensive operations over France and Belgium. Ten German fighters were destroyed.

His Majesty the King returned to England after his North African tour.

26TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force continued the offensive against the Ruhr with a heavy attack on Bochum—Gelsenkirchen district. Two enemy fighters were destroyed.

Captain Harold Balfour, Under Secretary for Air, said: "The battle of the Ruhr is the quickest way of hitting at the heart of Germany's production."

27TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the bomber command laid mines in Axis waters and attacked objectives in west and north-west Germany. Airfields in Northern France were also attacked and two enemy planes destroyed.

28TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force were over Germany. American heavy bombers attacked France.

The official balance-sheet of German railways for 1942 disclosed that damage estimated at £50 millions was sustained by the railways owing to the Royal Air Force and Red Air Force onslaughts.

According to an Ankara report to New York, Hitler had ordered a large part of Germany's U-boat fleet to return to their German and Italian bases ready for an attack by the Allied invasion fleet.

A communique by the Admiralty and Air Ministry stated: "It is known that not less than 400 Axis war ships, supply ships and small craft have been sunk or damaged by mines laid in European waters".

Mr. Ernest Bavin, Minister of Labour, said that Britain without the Allies was producing more aircraft than the whole of Germany could produce.

29TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the bomber command attacked Cologne. Bombs were also dropped on Hamburg and mines were laid in enemy waters.

The Germans shelled the Straits of Dover area. An enemy convoy was attacked in the Straits of Dover.

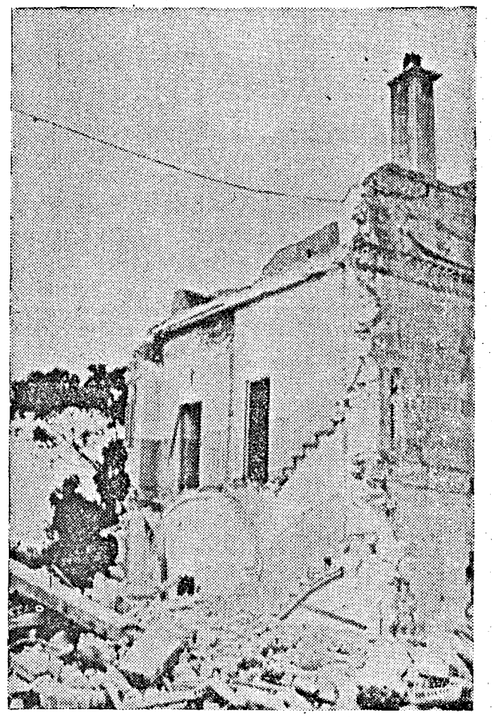
30TH JUNE.—Mr. Churchill, speaking at Guildhall, said: "We demand from the Nazis, Fascists and the Japanese unconditional surrender. Their will-power to resist must be completely broken and they must yield themselves absolutely to our justice and mercy."

German troops were transferred from Central Germany and the East to meet invasion threats in western and southern Europe.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

24TH JUNE.—Lieutenant-General Henry H. Arnold, Chief of the United States Army Air Forces, told the Civil Service Committee of the House of Representatives, that the United States Army airforces were to be increased by 115,000 new planes during the coming fiscal year.



ALGIERS CONVENT WHERE fifteen NUNS WERE KILLED BY NAZI BOMBS.—When German dive-bombers raided the North African port of Algiers on April 17, fifteen Catholic sisters perished at their prayers as the bombs demolished this convent-orphanage. The fifteen who died and three sisters who were severely wounded remained behind to pray when the raid started while other nuns led 60 orphans from the building to safety in an air raid shelter. Among the victims was Mother Superior Marie Duval, who had been at the convent for 31 years. Gen. Henri Honore Giraud, Military and Civil Commander-in-Chief of French North and West Africa, awarded Mother Duval the French Legion of Honour posthumously, stating: "On April 17, 1943, she was a victim of German barbarism, as were fourteen of her sisters." This picture was radio-photoed from North Africa to the United States.

25TH JUNE.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, told a press conference that there was nothing to substantiate the reports that Italy had made peace overtures to the United Nations.

27TH JUNE.—Mr. J. E. Davies, former United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, said that the attempts of Axis leaders to sow suspicion in Russia of other Allied countries and of Russia in other Allied countries must not be tolerated.

There was an air raid alert in San Francisco.

28TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt signed the largest Naval Appropriation Bill in America providing approximately 33,000 million dollars for the fiscal year starting on July 1. Five thousand million dollars of the total amount is to provide the Navy with additional 27,000 planes.

29TH JUNE.—The British High Commissioner in Canada, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, said that at least 14 Axis submarines had been sunk in the last two weeks. "We had a dead submarine served up for breakfast every day for the past fortnight."

Captain Leland Lovett of the Public Relations Department of the United States Navy said that May was "the finest month" in overseas shipping and the sinking of U-boats.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

25TH JUNE.—A particularly successful action took place in the Kuban valley when severe casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Attacks were made on Japanese positions in the Kalemyo area and Akyab.

26TH JUNE.—American heavy bombers attacked enemy installations in Mandalay, Kanbyu, Kinu and Shweli bridge.

27TH JUNE.—Bombers of the United States air force attacked enemy targets north of Shwebo and Kanbalu. The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese positions at Indainggyi Kalemyo.

28TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force made three attacks on objectives on Akyab island.

29TH JUNE.—Akyab was again bombed by the Royal Air Force. Enemy hutments near Myohaung were also attacked. Offensive against the Thanbyuzayat railroad installations was intensified. Railroad yards at Pyinmana and Sagaing were also attacked.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

24TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force attacked the airfield at Comiso in Sicily and Spezia on the Golf of Genoa.

The German Overseas radio reported a strong concentration of Allied warships in Gibraltar harbour.

Castello Rosso, the easternmost island of the Dodecanese, was evacuated by the Italians.

A British submarine bombarded the radio location station on Salina island in the Lipari group north of Sicily.

25TH JUNE.—According to unconfirmed Hungarian reports, Sgr. Mussolini was seriously ill.

According to German military circles, the Eighth Army had been withdrawn from Africa and sent to Syria.

Goebbels writing in *Das Reich* said: "The Anglo-American invasion attempt may well be a prelude to the decision of the war. The Anglo-American powers possess enough shipping and armed forces to land at any given point in Europe."

26TH JUNE.—Ten German divisions were moved into northern Italy to guard the approches to the Brenner Pass.

Two hundred tons of high explosives and incendiary bombs smothered a train, a ferry terminus, docks and marshalling yards at Messina.

27TH JUNE.—Newspapers in Rome emphasized that the British and Americans were on the point of completing their preparations in the Mediterranean, North Africa and the Near East to attempt an attack on southern European territory.

28TH JUNE.—It was revealed that practically all the large towns of South Italy had been evacuated.

According to a German report, United States battleships had reached the Mediterranean and joined the British fleet there.

The Royal Air Force attacked Naples and the United States Air Force the airfields at Eleusis and Hassani near Athens. The Gerbiri airfield in Sicily was raided.

29TH JUNE.—One hundred Flying Fortresses raided Leghoon. Oil tanks were set on fire. The Royal Air Force attacked factories and railway yards at Licata in Sicily. The Comiso airfield was also attacked.

An Axis supply ship was sunk in the Strait of Messina by a Polish submarine.

The Paris radio said that the Axis powers had massed 250 divisions along the European coast to resist Allied invasion.

Reuter's special correspondent wrote: "Anglo-American invasion armies have got sensational surprises for the Germans."

30TH JUNE.—The German Radio cited July 3 as the latest invasion date.

* * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

25TH JUNE.—There was bitter hand to hand fighting south-west of Vilikie Lukie. The German radio admitted that the Red Army had broken into the main German defence line.

26TH JUNE.—Soviet troops made several breaches in the main German lines at south-east of Orel, north of Orel and west of Velikie Lukie. Five hundred German planes were destroyed in Soviet raids. Twelve out of the 24 German planes that attempted to raid Leningrad were shot down.

27TH JUNE.—M. Stalin, in a message to President Roosevelt, said: "Victory will be achieved all the sooner when we hammer the enemy with our joint and co-ordinated blows from the west and east."

Soviet long-range aircraft raided the railway stations at Briansk and Navlya. A large number of German planes were destroyed.

28TH JUNE.—There was a flare-up on the Donetz and Kuban front.

It was revealed that Soviet guerillas had killed about 300,000 Axis troops, including 30 generals in the past two years.

29TH JUNE.—According to the *Red Star*, in the first 15 days of June, the Germans suffered big losses in attempts to bomb the approaches to Leningrad.

Soviet bombers attacked the railway station of Orsha and Taman town. Bombs were dropped on dumps and troop concentrations. Numerous fires were started.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

26TH JUNE.—The United States submarine *R-12* was lost.

* * * * *

VICHY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

24TH JUNE.—Nazi terror in Poland was intensified. Eighteen hundred persons, mostly from among the intelligentsia, were arrested.

28TH JUNE.—The Algiers radio said that 50,000 French hostages had been shot or guillotined in France since 1942.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

24TH JUNE.—The "no confidence" vote against Mr. Curtin's Labour Government was rejected by a majority of one—27 against the opposition's 26 votes. Mr. Curtin informed the House of Representatives that he would seek dissolution of the Commonwealth Parliament.

Allied Liberators hit a Japanese cruiser and a merchantman in the Macassar Strait. A Japanese submarine was sunk 40 miles off the mouth of the Columbia river.

Over 1,000 Japanese troops were killed when a large Japanese transport hit a Chinese mine and sank in the Yangtse river.

25TH JUNE.—Chinese troops captured the Japanese stronghold of Tiko in Eastern Honan. They occupied the town of Yangtiehling.

26TH JUNE.—It was revealed in the United States official figures, that Japanese planes were being destroyed at the rate of eight daily.

27TH JUNE.—The German radio reported that the Japanese were tightening up A.R.P. measures fearing that more United States air raids were imminent.

The Japanese News Agency reported that the Japanese had completed tests on large ships made entirely of rubber.

American planes raided Kiska.

Allied bombers raided Rabaul.

28TH JUNE.—According to an American source of information, the Japanese were withdrawing from the Pacific.

Chinese troops hurled back the Japanese who attacked positions north-east of Hangchaw.

Chinese "puppet" troops serving under Japanese officers, mutinied and surrendered to General Chiang Kai-Shek's forces.

29TH JUNE.—Eighteen Japanese planes attempted to raid Darwin of which two were shot down and four destroyed. Allied air craft raided the Laha airfield.

Mr. A. S. Drakeford, Commonwealth Air Minister, said: "Allied aircraft covering over 300,000 square miles of north-western Australia, destroyed 44, probably destroyed 10 and damaged 16 Axis aircraft during the month of May—a record bag."

The United States Navy Department stated that United States submarines sank 8 enemy ships and damaged 3 others in the Pacific and Far Eastern waters.

It was reported that America may launch an invasion of Kiska following up the air blows on the island.

30TH JUNE.—American troops landed on Rendova island in New Georgia group of the Solomon Islands.

It was reported that the Chinese held the greater part of the City of Ouchihkou in their hands.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1943 No. 43

China's Seventh Year of War

MR. CHURCHILL

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 North 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 civilized 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.

Mr. CHURCHILL, in a message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, on July 6

THE NAVY SUPPLEMENT

A ROYAL INDIAN NAVY SUPPLEMENT consisting of 24 pages is issued along with this Number of the "Madras War Review." It is appropriate that the Supplement should be published now, as it was in July two years ago that H.M.I.S. "TRAVANCORE," the first vessel of the Royal Indian Navy to be built in Indian shipbuilding yards, was launched.

The Editor wishes to thank Naval authorities who have contributed articles and pictures to this Supplement and hopes it will be of some help in increasing mutual respect and good fellowship between the Navy and the Civil population.

CHINA WILL FIGHT ON

"Our people will fight on until the unconditional surrender of our common enemies."

—GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, *in a message to United Nations, on July 7.*

* * * * *

HEROIC DEFENCE

"This day marks the end of the sixth year of heroic defence of your soil under the leadership of the great Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. The promises of the United States are always kept and our pledges are always redeemed. It is good to know that the hopes and promises I expressed on former occasions are all being borne out to-day."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *in a message to China, on July 7.*

WORLD'S GRATITUDE

"The world is full of gratitude to the people of China. But we must say it more and more with deeds. And I think these deeds are coming."

—MR. WENDELL WILLKIE.

* * * * *

REAL BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR

"The resistance of China to Japanese aggression marks the beginning of this world war of the rapacity of great nations. It will, please God, also mark its end."

—MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

* * * * *

WILL NOT BE VERY LONG

"As a result of recent conferences, there is good ground for the hope that it will not be very long before the large scale plan of dealing deadly blows to Japan will unfold itself. The whole Chinese nation is eagerly waiting for the day when the Chinese army will be able to launch a general offensive against the enemy and drive him back to his native islands."

—DR. WELLINGTON KOO, *in London, on July 7.*

* * * * *

LET US GET ON WITH THE JOB

"Two years ago we were threatened from the west. German forces and German intrigue were endeavouring to thrust towards India through Syria, Iraq and Persia The gallantry of our Russian allies and our own defence of the Eastern Mediterranean frustrated those efforts. We now face a direct threat from the east, and this threat will continue until the Japanese are driven back whence they came.

"The Japanese are hard and determined fighters and always ready to die for their country. Defeat them we must and it is necessary for each one of us to put this task above all others and to allow no consideration of comfort or self-interest to interfere with our determination to win. We have no time to lose. Let us get on with the job."

—GENERAL AUCHINLECK, *Commander-in-Chief in an Order of the Day to the Armed Forces of the India Command, on July 4.*

* * * * *

CLAMOUR FOR A RUSSIAN BOOK

There is now an acute shortage of almost every commodity in the shops. But you'll never guess the article which, at present, is most in demand. It's not silk stockings: women have long ago given up hope of seeing silk stockings again until after the war. It isn't food: our diet is now so completely regularized and disciplined by coupons that free-lance buying of eatables has virtually ceased. And, for the same reason, it isn't clothes. It's a book. More precise than that. It's one particular book. And the title is *War and Peace.*

Since the Germans' first retreat from Moscow last winter, interest in Tolstoy's vast novel about Russia in the Napoleonic Wars has been steadily growing. Now *War and Peace* is the most popular book of the day.

The trouble is that *War and Peace* is such a vast novel that the book publishers haven't been able to find the paper—in the present shortage—to print new editions. So the second-hand value of copies of *War and Peace* has rocketed. And, human nature being what it is, the clamour to buy the book has become louder than ever.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1943 No. 43

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Mussolini and Fascist Party—Rift in the Lute?

On Monday the Rome radio broadcast a report of a recent speech made by MUSSOLINI to the Fascist Party Directorate, in which he has referred to the report of CARLO SCORZA, Secretary of the Fascist Party. MUSSOLINI observes that there have been wrong interpretations of that report. He says, "Men have committed errors in the past, and we shall speak about this later, but these errors were always committed in good faith." It is of interest to note that SCORZA and the Fascist Party Directorate made certain outspoken and blunt criticisms of MUSSOLINI and his regime very recently. They sent an open message to MUSSOLINI calling on him to impose ruthless discipline on the party and gave a list of drastic measures to be undertaken to repress all attempts to undermine the material and moral cohesion of the Italian nation. The significant thing about the message was that it did not contain the fulsome tributes to the Duce, which used to characterise such party documents. SCORZA demanded ruthless enforcement of existing laws, stricter measures against all internal enemies of the Fascist regime, expulsion of useless foreign elements, increased administrative efficiency, better control of distribution, elimination of the black market and strict supervision of luxury hotels and restaurants. In the report of the speech broadcast by Rome radio, MUSSOLINI is reported to have said: "Drastic measures will be taken against the black market. Luxury restaurants and all institutions of luxury will be closed."

* * * * *

Incident without Precedent — Pre-arranged Affair?

How is it that the Secretary of the Fascist Party has, for the first time in the history of the Fascist regime, indulged in outspoken criticisms and demanded sweeping reforms which, in any other country, would be regarded as a full programme for a party about to challenge the administration in power? It may be a pre-arranged affair. In a totalitarian state like Italy, it is quite possible that SCORZA is acting under instructions from MUSSOLINI himself. It is a favourite device of dictators in troublous times to pose as noble leaders who have been misled by faulty advisers and dishonest subordinates. One of their own men is inspired to level certain criticisms and deflect popular discontent away from the leader and direct it against individuals who are "dishonouring" the Fascist cause and its leader. By this method MUSSOLINI wants the public to dissociate him from his disgraceful past. SCORZA makes certain blunt criticisms. Immediately drastic reforms in the administration and purge of all undesirables from the Fascist party follow. The whole thing may be a camouflaged attempt to recover public confidence in a renewed MUSSOLINI and a cleansed Fascism.

Scorza vs. Mussolini?—Discontent in Party

Another interpretation might also be placed on SCORZA's action. He may be acting without MUSSOLINI's approval. Is he then engaged in a rash attempt to oust MUSSOLINI from power? Or is he trying to force an unpalatable policy on the Italian dictator? The first is highly unlikely, because there is no reason to believe that the Italians in general are openly blaming MUSSOLINI for the present plight. Their hatred seems to be chiefly against profiteers, corrupt officials and the Germans. As regards SCORZA's suggestions for drastic reform, it may well be that, as head of the Party Directorate, SCORZA feels that he has become indispensable and, therefore, is using his power to enforce his own ideas of reform.

Two reports are going abroad. One is that MUSSOLINI is himself gathering around him the nucleus of the old guard of the Party whose conservatism in earlier days he had always ignored. The other report is that SCORZA is introducing younger and hotter blood into the Fascist Party Directorate and trying to use the Fascist militia to force a revolutionary reconstruction of the State on some such basis as "dictatorship of the proletariat."

Whatever it be, one thing is clear: there is considerable discontent in the Party and in the country against MUSSOLINI. An article published in MUSSOLINI's family review *Gerarchia* frankly admits the existence of such unrest and discontent. PAOLO BEDUSCHI, an unknown author, has written this article, which could not have been published without MUSSOLINI's knowledge and approval. The writer says, "Many Fascists seem possessed by an iconoclastic and revisional fury"; they have become uneasy because of "evident divergence between some (Fascist) theories and general practice." But he says significantly, "Where a political movement has at its head a man who is its immediate and daily creator, that cry may also appear to be an expression of weariness on the part of his followers and almost seditious."

The recurring theme of the article is: "We must have something positive to offer to the people." The writer says: "Spiritual disquiet among Fascists is evident since it has been possible for the theory of return to origin (of the Fascist Party) to take root . . . . . Sometimes there is a cracking faith when the masses feel and express these waverings and when anxiety takes the place of certainty . . . . . We must shake off this disease of scepticism, discouragement and retreat . . . . . *If a new spirit of revival were to permeate our hierarchs, if at our Duce's side*—for he has always been a creator and builder, negative ideas being reserved solely for polemic rejoinder—new spirits arise, the present crisis would be easily overcome." It is clear from this article that in Fascist circles there seems to be considerable anxiety, distrust and indecision.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND THE WAR EFFORT

By R. H. HOBDAY

[In providing for the supply of cheap cloth for the use of the poorer classes in India, Government of India's scheme inevitably depends much on mill-made products. Government of Madras, however, in seeking to promote the cheap cloth supply, continue their policy of supporting the handloom weaver in the Province, a class of skilled labour, very strong in number and with a tradition that has been widely recognized.]

CHEAP cloth has recently featured very frequently in all sections of the Press, due to the necessity for clothing being made available to the poorer classes at a price they can afford to pay, and because of the steps taken by Government to see that such cloth does become available.

As for the handloom weaver, probably most of you, even if not connected with either the industry or with textiles, have at some time or other seen a weaver at work, and for those of you who are interested only from the point of view of the weavers' welfare, I can recommend the co-operative movement as a most absorbing and interesting study, and full of opportunities for constructive help. The majority of the weaving community are not generally educated according to modern popular standards, but nevertheless they have inherited considerable skill in their particular craft.

Unfortunately, for lack of funds, the individual weaver has for years past been forced into the hands of others who have given him advances in terms of cash at high interest rates, or yarn with which to weave cloth, when the rates fixed for the yarn and the finished article have been much in favour of the dealer, with the result that the weaver has eventually arrived at a position where the best he could expect is sufficient return for the labour to just support himself and his dependants. This condition of affairs does not apply in all cases, of course, and many weavers working outside the co-operative movement have much better experience and fair treatment. Considerable progress to help the weavers has been and is being made by the formation of co-operative societies, run by the office bearers elected by the weavers, but under the care and supervision of the Co-operative Department and the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Ltd.

IN A WEAVER'S COTTAGE

Now, I want you to imagine you are in a small room of a weaver's cottage, where the clack-clack of the loom as the shuttle flies up and down gives you at once the impression of industry—now glance at the cloth which quickly forms under the skilled manipulation of the weaver—the soft colours and the intricate design—very soon that saree will be the object of the latest fashion talk in a ladies' drawing room. The loom on the other side is busy too—this is a plainer cloth—what is it? That's a length of shirting to be sold under the cheap-cloth scheme for this Province. The weaver has put one loom on this production, and as such he is performing a most useful contribution to the War effort by ensuring that you may buy your requirements at a reasonable price. Clack-clack they go, two hands and two feet—this weaver's forefathers were using their hands and feet with equal dexterity to supply fine clothes for the ancient Greeks and Romans, and that was a long time ago.

Now, you have all read of the steps being taken to place cloth, on the markets throughout India at controlled and reasonable prices. Originally this scheme was based upon the supply of cloth manufactured by many of the Textile Mills in the country. Now in this Province with such a large handloom weaving population, a large section of which found it difficult to obtain adequate earnings for even the most simple living, the Government of Madras has for many years given considerable attention to the improvement of the weavers' lot, and so, in adopting the cheap cloth scheme it was decided that the machinery in existence in the form of the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, coupled with the many affiliated weavers' societies should provide a large part of the cloth required in the Province.

SUPPLY OF YARN

Government in co-operation with the Cotton Spinning Mills throughout the Province are supplying yarn each month at rates fixed by the Cotton Textile Directorate, which are based on actual costs and a reasonable profit, and are periodically reviewed for fixing the prices of yarn required for War purposes. These rates are naturally far below current market prices, which in the absence of control reached ridiculously high levels.

However, yarn prices are not a part of this talk, but I want to try and give you the picture showing how cheap cloth is arriving on the market. The yarn is distributed among weaving societies who in their turn issue it to their individual members. The wages for producing the various types of cloths have been agreed between the Provincial Society and the Committees of the producing societies, and the yarn, when woven is taken over by the Provincial Society, by arrangement with the Yarn Commissioner, and distributed for sale.

An organization for this distribution of shirtings, sarees, dhotis and towels is set up and in many centres the cloth is now being sold regularly. It is contemplated that before long, emporiums belonging to the Provincial Society and some hundreds of co-operative societies and stores registered throughout the Province will have shirtings, etc., in their several varieties available to the consumer. The prices are based on actual costs with a reasonable margin to enable each and every handloom weaving co-operative society to become a unit sound, both in finance and organization, to continue to act as the recognized medium for the production of handwoven fabrics, to the benefit of both the consumer and the large population in the Province who are hereditary weavers.

TWOFOLD OBJECT

The scheme of cheap cloth has a twofold object (1) to provide the public with clothes at reasonable rates and (2) to help the weaver. While on the subject of cheap cloth, I would like to say that before very long our progressive production will reach more than 35 lakhs of yards per month and ultimately we hope to pass the 60 lakhs of yards mark. I am aware that these figures will not meet the demand, especially in the earlier stages, but when it is remembered that we do not all buy clothes every month, the supply will go far to meet this demand, particularly from the poorer classes, but this deficit will of course be more than met by mill-made standard cheap cloth likely to come on the market very soon. Steps are being taken to bring both the production as well as the marketing sides up to full strength and efficiency, and I am sure you will find your requirements easily available, whether you live in Madras itself, or in the villages of the mofussil in a very short time, if they are not there already.

Along with cheap cloth, the Provincial Society is controlling the balance of production of its affiliated societies and the specialized products for which many Madras weavers are famous will also be sold at reasonable prices.

ANCIENT INDIAN INDUSTRY

Now for the weavers themselves. Some of you may be surprised when I tell you that Ancient India sent the finest muslins, and other cloths to Egypt, Greece and Rome, while the Western World was a regular export market through the Middle Ages. Various factors and reasons have been put forward to show why this ancient export industry declined during the 19th century, but prior to the outbreak of this War specialized goods were still exported to Burma and Ceylon, Africa, Europe and America. Even in olden days various districts specialized and as an instance, Masulipatam has been recognized as a foremost centre for printing fabrics since early times. As a matter of interest particularly just now, the khaki dye used for Military uniforms, etc., was first inroduced by the handloom industry on the West Coast, and it was during the course of a visit there that Lord Roberts, the then Commander-in-Chief of India, saw the khaki and recommended its adoption by the Military. It is said that the colour was invented by a specialist in weaving who came to the West Coast from Europe in 1851. The same man—a Mr. Haller—first introduced the fly shuttle loom, which, with Government and other influential encouragement, has very largely displaced the older throw shuttle and materially helped to increase the weavers' production and of course his earning capacity. Sharing in this industry, Madras easily tops the list with some 340,500 looms. When it is realized that this is essentially a cottage industry, and one to two looms generally support the weaver and his family, you can imagine what a large number of people are dependent upon the continued popularity of handwoven goods. The only available figure I can find is of nearly 487,000 weavers and this excludes non-working members of their families, such as young children, etc. To increase the popularity of handloom fabrics, the Provincial Society has started a factory of its own, with the object of bringing out new designs in cloths and furnishings, and the associated weaving societies will be kept in close touch with the

(*Continued on page* 8)

CHINA—THE "SEVEN-SEVEN" DAY

WORLD WAR II is going on. It is really two wars in one. One war began on September 3, 1939. This war is nearing its fourth year. Another war began on July 7, 1937. This war has entered on its seventh year. The year is seventh, the month (July) is seventh, and the date is seventh. This "Seven—Seven," as the Chinese call it, has been celebrated in India as the China Day. (The Chinese do not use names for months, they call them by their numbers. September 4 would be "Nine—Four"; January 6 would be "One—Six"; and July 7, "Seven—Seven"). In Madras City, the Chinese flag flew over many public buildings and business premises.

BRITAIN has celebrated the China Day, as also other freedom-loving countries. In a message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek on the eve of the seventh anniversary of the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War, Mr. Churchill has sent the greetings of the British people to the great Chinese nation. He has referred to the Sino-British alliance of 18 months ago, an alliance which made China and Britain "Allies in name as well as in spirit." He says: "Our two countries have been through many vicissitudes together. Now, with the victories in North Africa, and the successes on the Yangtse, we have tangible evidence, in the East and the West, of what is to come."

THE Tunisian and Yangtse victories have given an advance picture of the shape of things to come, but when we celebrate the China Day, our mind naturally goes back to the great struggle against Fascism begun by China in the East six years ago.

IT all began with the "Lukouchiao Incident." Lukouchiao was an important railway junction on the Peking-Hankow railway line. Its western end was connected by a shuttle line to the Peking-Tientsin Railway. The eastern terminus of this shuttle line, Fengtai, was illegally occupied, by the Japanese a year earlier (May 1936), and they wanted Lukouchiao, which was 15 miles south-west of Peking, so that they could have control of all southern rail entries to Peking. A few hundred yards east of the Lukouchiao railway station was the ancient walled town of Wanp'ing. The Japanese pestered General Sung Cheh-Yuan who was in command of Chinese troops in North China to concede some 1,000 acres near this area to build an aerodrome and a permanent military barracks. But General Sung was evading them. He did not actually refuse the land near Lukouchiao and Wanp'ing, but was putting them off. He could not, however, prevent them from holding military manœuvres in the neighbourhood of this area, but these manœuvres became too frequent!

ON the night of July 7th the Japanese wanted permission to enter the town of Wanp'ing on the pretext of searching for one of their soldiers who was missing. The magistrate refused to give the permission and the Japanese attacked the town with trench mortars. The missing soldier existed only in imagination, for neither then nor afterwards did they produce any evidence that a soldier was really missing. They were not even willing to discuss about this question when press correspondents asked them for details.

WAS the incident planned by the Special Service Section without the knowledge of Tokyo? Or was it done under instructions from the Japanese High Command? The fact will never perhaps be known, but subsequent developments clearly proved that Tokyo was prepared to exploit the Lukouchiao incident to the utmost. Later, there were attempts to settle the matter, but Japan would not listen.

EDGAR SNOW, American Correspondent in China, was an eye-witness practically to what happened during this period. He writes in his famous book "Scorched Earth": "Japan did not want any agreement at all with a sovereign North China, she simply wanted North China. It was as evident to us on the spot then as it is in retrospect now, that Japan's negotiations for a settlement merely provided diplomatic cover for military preparations to nullify all settlements, except one to be achieved by force."

SHOULD there be war or peace, struggle or submission, was the question at issue. The Chinese Government met at Kuling, the summer capital, and decided that further retreat or capitulation would not be in the interests of China. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek made an unequivocal statement on July 17th (1937) in which he set down four points—the "minimum conditions possible as a basis for negotiation for any nation, no matter how weak it may be." The four points were: (1) A settlement must not infringe upon territorial integrity and sovereign rights; (2) the status of the Hopei-Chahar Political Council (of which General Sung was Chairman), being fixed by the Central Government, could not illegally be altered; (3) North China officials, including General Sung, could not be removed at the will of Japan; and (4) no further positions could be yielded to Japan by the 29th Army.

IT is this determination, reinforced in strength and vigour by six years of struggle, that is evident in the message to the United Nations sent by China's great leader on Wednesday. He said, "Our people will fight on until the unconditional surrender of our common enemies." In this message also the Generalissimo set down four points. (1) There must be no negotiated peace; (2) The future peace should seek the emancipation of all mankind; (3) A joint machinery for signing the peace as well as war should be set up by the United Nations; and (4) there must be a post-war world organization with an international police force.

ALL these four points seem to be really concerned with post-war problems, as Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek feels convinced that the victory of the United Nations is very certain. "What disquiets the mind of the Chinese," he says, "is not whether the United Nations are going to win the war, but when they are going to win and at what price?"

CHINA has been paying a heavy price, but she has withstood the crisis, thanks to Britain and America. Baron Tanaka said in his memorial to the Japanese Emperor years ago: "In order to conquer the world, we must first conquer China." After all these years, even the preliminary thing remains to be accomplished! Japan is still being held by the indomitable spirit of the united Chinese nation. The wonderful guerilla tactics of the Chinese people have hamstrung Japan's mightiest offensives, and her scorched earth policy has deprived the enemy of many of the advantages of his ill-gained conquests.

NOW great events are in the offing in the Far East, and General MacArthur's offensive in the South-East Pacific is only a prelude to bigger events which will unfold themselves in course of time.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND THE COMMONWEALTH

5TH JULY.—The Australian Parliament was formally dissolved. General election will take place on August 21, and the new Parliament will assemble not later than September 27.

6TH JULY.—Mr. Churchill paid a tribute to the memory of General Sikorski in the House of Commons.

6TH JULY.—Brazilian Ambassador in London stated that Brazil was willing to send an expeditionary force to help the Allies.

6TH JULY.—Field Marshal Smuts speaking at a mass rally of his supporters in Johannesburg stated that all prophecies of the opposition about the outcome of the war were a dismal failure and that the idea of withdrawal from the war was an insult to the intelligence of the electorate.

7TH JULY.—The first war-time elections in South Africa were held to-day. Results will take at least a fortnight for announcement. War or neutrality is the only main issue. There is country-wide confidence that General Smuts is going to win.

7TH JULY.—British Finance Bill was read for the third time in the House of Commons without division. Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that the average citizen paid one-third of his entire income in taxation.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

2ND JULY.—A 71,500 million dollar bill was signed into law by President Roosevelt, three times as much money to spend in the next twelve months as America spent during the whole of the last war.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

1ST JULY.—Mr. Amery gave details of India's food position in the House of Commons, and attributed shortage to grave maldistribution. In answer to another question he declared that no cost of living index numbers were available for the whole of India, but working class index for Bombay city, which was a reliable guide, showed the figure 225 for last April (1943) compared to 105 for August 1939. Wages had risen by 75 per cent and there were also cost of living allowances.

1ST JULY.—The Tenth Session of the National Defence Council opened at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi.

1ST JULY.—The Royal Air Force in India continued their harassing attacks on Japanese monsoon quarters in Arakan.

Bombers of the Tenth United States Air Force bombed the oil refinery at Syriam in Burma. Medium bombers attacked many targets in Central Burma.

2ND JULY.—The first group of 34 young officers of the Indian Air Force for operational experience under the Empire Training arrangements arrived in London and was received by Mr. L. S. Amery, Field-Marshal Lord Wavell and Mr. Malcolm Robertson, M.P.

3RD JULY.—Sugar and Sugar Products Control Order was published by the Government of India.

4TH JULY.—His Excellency General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, has issued an Order of the Day to the armed forces in the India Command reminding them that we now face a direct threat from the East.

5TH JULY.—India celebrated the 168th anniversary of American Independence.

5TH JULY.—Food Conference met in Delhi; His Excellency the Viceroy addressed the gathering which included Provincial and State representatives.

6TH JULY.—Mr. M. S. Aney has been appointed Indian Envoy in Ceylon.

6TH JULY.—*His Excellency General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India, made his first public utterance at a press conference in New Delhi, and said that two years ago India was a base of operations, but now she had a war front and had to defend her own frontier.*

* * * * *

ITALY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1ST JULY.—British Admiralty Communiqué announces sinking of one transport ship and three supply ships by His Majesty's submarines in Italian waters.

1ST JULY.—Communiqué from Allied Headquarters in North Africa announces bombing of Messina and Palermo and important air fields in Sicily on the night of June 29-30 by the North-West Africa Air Forces. Allied bombers also caused considerable damage in Cagliari.

2ND JULY.—Bombers of the Ninth United States Air Force attacked the aerodrome at Lecce in Southern Italy.

4TH JULY.—*General Sikorski, the Polish Premier, was killed in an aircraft crash near Gibraltar while he was on his way to London from the Middle East.* Seventeen of the crew including the General's daughter are missing, and the pilot is the only survivor. The General was 62.

4TH JULY.—King George of Greece broadcast from Cairo to his people in Greece and promised a Constituent Assembly after the war to consider political reforms.

5TH JULY.—Heavy round-the-clock offensive by American and British bombers battered Sicily's air bases and knocked 44 enemy planes out of the sky.

Small British land forces carried out raids on air fields in Crete.

6TH JULY.—Thirty-six hour non-stop bombing took place against Axis air fields in Sicily which ended only to-day.

Formations of heavy bombers of the Ninth United States Army Air Force in the Middle East attacked harbour installations at Messina in Sicily.

Squadrons of German Air Force have been transferred to Italy from the Russian front.

6TH JULY.—Landing grounds in Gerbini in Southern Sicily were attacked by strong formation of heavy bombers of the Ninth U.S.A.A.A.F. in daylight, dropping more than 285,000 pounds of high explosive and fragmentation bombs.

7TH JULY.—Responsible Government is to be given to Malta after the war, stated the Colonial Secretary Colonel Oliver Stanley in a statement in the House of Commons.

* * * * *

RUSSIA

1ST JULY.—Long range Russian aircraft raided the Port of Kerch in the Crimea and Sennaya. German communications between the Crimea and the Kuban are getting heavy air raids and the Germans are still unable to use Novorossisk in spite of their being in possession of it for the last eleven months.

2ND JULY.—Polish Premier, General Sikorski gave the terms on which good relations between Poland and Soviet Russia could be resumed.

3RD JULY.—Scouting operations on the western Moscow front. Similar encounter took place west of Rostov. Artillery acitivity is reported on the Volkhov front. German key ports in the Kuban bridgehead received increasing attacks from the air and frontal land attacks.

The Japanese Ambassador in Moscow visited Kremlin and met Molotov, the Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

5TH JULY.—*Germans have launched a big offensive along a 180-mile front between Orel and Kharkov and north-west of Byelgorod.*

6TH JULY.—Continuous fighting took place on the Russian front during the last 24 hours and attack has extended north-west beyond Orel. Germans are attacking on a 250-mile front from Byelgorod. Fighting is assuming violent proportions north of Kursk.

Russian army has started a counter-offensive against the German lines at Veliki Luki.

7TH JULY.—In two days offensive Germans lost 1,271 tanks and 314 planes, says a communiqué from Moscow. The first forty-eight hours of the new offensive have shown Red Army's defence as powerful, resolute and effective. German army is under the command of Field Marshal Gunther Von Kluge who is now 61.

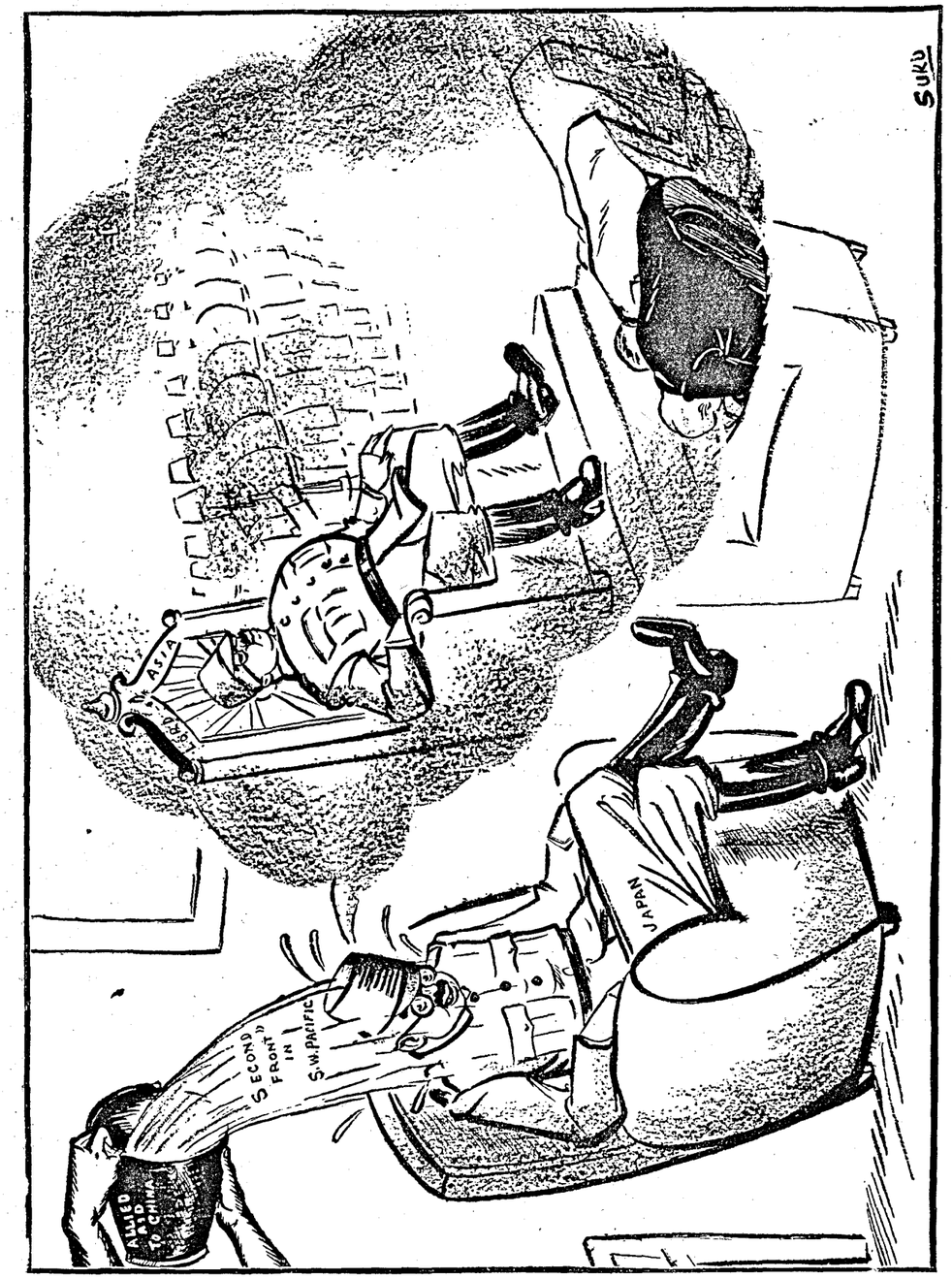
* * * * *

GERMANY AND OCCUPIED EUROPE

1ST JULY.—American fighters swept over Northern France and the Low Countries.

Sofia has become the supreme Axis operational headquarters for the entire Balkans.

2ND JULY.—Strong force of the R.A.F. flew over France and Holland and hit railway lines near Ghent, Lille and Coaltrai.



A COLD DOUCHE

2ND JULY.—Polish Prime Minister General Sikorski outlined a scheme of redivision of Europe after the war, envisaging two related federated blocs, northern and southern.

3RD JULY.—Strong British bomber formations attacked Cologne, a great industrial area in France. There was an air raid on Hamburg also.

4TH JULY.—Large formations of American bombers attacked targets in France.

5TH JULY.—Large formations of the Flying Fortresses of the American Air Force took off from Britain and attacked German aircraft factory at Le Mans, repair shops at Nantes and U-Boat installations in La Pallice.

Royal Air Force Mitchell bombers attacked marshalling yards at Amiens.

7TH JULY.—Reports from France reaching London say that Marshal Petain is now virtually a prisoner in Laval's hands, and that Laval is now forming a French army corps to fight for the Nazis.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1ST JULY.—Mr. De Valera has been re-elected Prime Minister of Eire by 67 votes to 37.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

1ST JULY.—A new Allied offensive started in South-west and South Pacific with the invasion of Rendova and New Georgia among the Solomon Islands. Immediate objective is capture of the islands of Rendova, New Georgia, Lae, Salamaua and Munda, and the ultimate objective is the Japanese base at Rabaul and clearance of the Japanese from the island fringe, north of Australia.

2ND JULY.—Rendova was captured and Japanese garrison in the island wiped out. One hundred and twenty-three Japanese planes were destroyed in the last two days. Allied forces landed in New Georgia.

3RD JULY.—Allied forces in the Nassu Bay sector have reached a point from where they can see Salamaua.

Rabaul has been bombed.

Large numbers of American warships are steaming through the Pacific and a naval clash, more vehement than the one at Midway, is expected in Allied attempt to take Bougainville island.

Heavy fighting continued in the suburbs of Owenhikow, one of the four strategic bases still held by the Japanese on the south bank of the Yangtse river in China. Yangtse drive began on May 4, 1943, and between that and June 30 Japanese lost more than all the total number of forces employed.

4TH JULY.—Salamaua, the Japanese stronghold on the north coast of New Guinea, is closely ringed by American and Australian jungle troops.

The important Japanese aerodromes at Munda in New Georgia and at Rabaul have been bombarded from the air. Munda is the main Japanese naval and air base and has been bombed 150 times since last November.

4TH JULY.—Madame Chiang Kai-shek has returned to Chunking.

6TH JULY.—In South-west Pacific Theatre a short sea battle took place in Kula Gulf off New Georgia between American and Japanese warships, and considerable damage was inflicted on the enemy.

American forces have gained control of the Vangunu island.

6TH JULY.—Kiska in the north-east Pacific was bombarded by United States Surface forces.

7TH JULY.—Sixth Anniversary of the Chinese struggle against Japan.

An appeal to the United Nations for launching immediate offensive against Japan was made by General Chiang Kai-shek on the occasion of the "China Day."

7TH JULY.—In the Kula Gulf naval engagement between United States surface fleet and Japanese fleet, six Japanese ships were sunk and four damaged.

* * * * *

FREE FRANCE

1ST JULY.—Mr. Churchill made a statement in the House of Commons on Britain's relation with the French political controversy in North Africa.

M. Pierre Charles Cournarie has been appointed to succeed M. Boisson (resigned) as the Governor-General in French West Africa. Cournarie had been General de Gaulle's Governor in French Cameroons since November 1940.

Vichy High Commissioner of Martinique, Admiral Robert has asked U.S.A. to send an envoy to fix terms for a change of French authority on Martinique.

6TH JULY.—French Committee of National Liberation, meeting in Algiers, decided on dissolution of the French Popular Party with all associations and groups attached to it. This party had maintained Nazi connexions through M. Jacques Doriot.

7TH JULY.—General Giraud visited President Roosevelt in the afternoon.

7TH JULY.—Martinique has joined Free France.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS AND THE WAR EFFORT

(*Continued from page* 4)

varying demands in the market, and with all technical information to assist in a steady turnover of production. A printing plant will shortly be installed with trained designers and technicians, and from the demonstrations I saw the other day I am quite confident that before long printed handloom fabrics equal in design to any imported materials will be available. The man in the street, not familiar with weaving centres is perhaps apt to think of the textile industry in terms of factories, but for Madras at any rate this is certainly only partially correct, and the reorganization of the industry on co-operative lines, will, I hope, ensure that this large section of the community will continue to progress on sound economic lines.

EXPORT OF MADRAS HANDKERCHIEFS

Aside from co-operative weavers, of course, are very many who work on a piecework or contract basis for master weavers. However, whether weavers are on a co-operative or other basis, they form a very important part in our economic structure and we must see that their lot is a happy one.

They are very skilled and there is a good and continued demand throughout India for sarees from Salem, Coimbatore, Madura and other centres, whilst as another example Madras handkerchiefs take an important place in our normal foreign exports of piecegoods. Exports of furnishing fabrics, lungies and coatings are part of the wide variety of articles in regular production.

I commenced with the reference to cheap cloth and I will close on the same subject. Don't buy more than your actual immediate requirements—the price won't go up to-morrow; pay the price stamped on the article and remember, that in restricting your purchases to your actual needs you are helping your neighbour who also wishes to buy, and the large community of weavers, many of whom are busily engaged in producing bandage cloth and gauze, etc., for the medical branches of the Indian Navy, Army and Air Force, or grey shirting for your friends in the A.R.P. and similar services.

Handloom cheap cloth is sold only through the Provincial societies' own emporiums or through registered co-operative stores and institutions. If you are offered any cheap cloth by others at a price higher than that stamped on it, and bearing the Handloom Weavers Trade Mark, *don't buy it*. In any case the prospective seller is making himself liable to action under the Defence of India Rules and lack of social conscience must be discouraged.

The handloom weavers are in the war effort; we must so help them and thereby help ourselves.—*A recent talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.*

INDIA AND CHINA

"The associations between India and China are close. They 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 between the two great Asiatic peoples."

—FIELD-MARSHAL LORD WAVELL.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

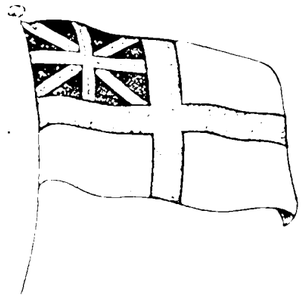
Royal Indian Navy Supplemen

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL IV FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1943 No. 43-A



ACTION!

An R.I.N. rating on the job

INDIA'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE

"We like to think that India's first line of defence is, or should be, the Navy, for it is from across the seas that any threat to India is bound to come. There should, therefore, be no cheese-paring of naval effort after the war.

"India of the future must be able to stand upon her own naval feet. The day is over when India can say: Let somebody else do the naval job for me."

—VICE-ADMIRAL SIR HERBERT FITZHERBERT, *at a farewell Press Conference on March 18, 1943, when relinquishing his office of Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy.*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
India's Navy Chief: Sketch of Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey	3
The Royal Indian Navy: Guards India's Vast Coast-line	4
A Fine Profession: Life in a ship is a family affair	5
Coastal Forces of R.I.N. at Work: Like David against Goliath	5
R.I.N.'s Dockyard Facilities: India's contribution to United Nations' War Effort	6
Recruitment to the Royal Indian Navy: Many hundreds join from Madras Presidency	8
Advantages of a Naval Career	9
R.I.N. Officers and Their Career: Rapid growth in number	10
H.M.I.S. "Travancore": First ship built in Indian Yard in July 1941	11
Seniormost of India's Defence Services:—The Navy: Its Past and Future	11
Royal Indian Navy in the Present War: How the White Ensign frightened Italian War Ship	12
H.M.I.S. "Bengal's" Baptism of Fire: Gallantry against Great Odds	15
D.S.O. for "Bengal's" Captain	18
H.M.I.S. "Jumna's" Battle with Bombers: First-class Show in accordance with High Standard	19
Awards for "Jumna" Heroes	20
R.I.N. Ship Hunts Submarine: Saves Convoy in Heavy Sea	20
Little Ships' Great Record in the Arakan: Vital Job of the "Wavell's Navy"	21
R.I.N. and Burma Campaign: Courage and Resourcefulness of Indian Seamen	22
Story of a Successful Raid	22
R.I.N. Vessel Shells Machine-gun "Nests"	23
In Hospitable Scotland: On the Banks of Loch Lomond	23

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey, C.B.	3
Opening of New R.I.N. Training Establishment	4
Sailors of the Royal Indian Navy Training in England. (A gunnery training class)	5
R.I.N. Men in British Port	6
In the Royal Indian Navy. (A sloop of the R.I.N. in dry dock)	7
A sloop of the R.I.N. taking part in a practice shoot with an air-craft	7
Sailors of the Royal Indian Navy Training in England. (Game of billiards in the recreation room)	7
A seaman from the West Coast of India on a sloop of the R.I.N.	8
A young signalman from Ratnagiri (West Coast) in a minesweeper of the R.I.N.	9
In the Royal Indian Navy. (Punjabi seaman handling twin Lewis guns)	10
A view of H.M.I.S. *Baroda*, the minesweeping submarine chaser	11
Lady Srivastava launches R.I.N. vessel H.M.I.S. *Agra*, a minesweeping anti-submarine basset trawler	12
Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding the R.I.N. inspects the party of R.I.N. officers and men on duty in Delhi	13
In the Royal Indian Navy. (An officer of a minesweeper takes a sight)	14
H.M.I.S. *Bengal* entering port after the battle with the Japanese raiders	15
The gallant gun crew of H.M.I.S. *Bengal* at action stations at the 22-pounder gun	16
Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve and other officers of H.M.I.S. *Bengal*	16
Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve, Commanding Officer, H.M.I.S. *Bengal*	17
A public reception was accorded in Bombay to the crew of H.M.I.S. *Bengal*. (Men of H.M.I.S. *Bengal* marching past)	17
The gun crew of H.M.I.S. *Bengal*	18
Sailors of the Royal Indian Navy training in England. (Indian ratings leaving the camp)	18
Chief Ordnance Artificer P. C. Mascarenhas of the R.I.N.	19
In the Royal Indian Navy. (Escort ship of the R.I.N.)	21
R.I.N. keep a constant patrol in Burma waters incessantly harassing the Japanese. (Guns trained on the Burma Coast ready for immediate action).	22
A happy group of R.I.N. ratings photographed with an officer in camp	23
Seamen of India on duty. (A sailor of R.I.N. at the range finder of a gun)	24
In the Royal Indian Navy. (Men of a minesweeper of the R.I.N. with a breech-loading gun)	24

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY SUPPLEMENT

India's Navy Chief

Sketch of Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey

VICE-ADMIRAL J. H. GODFREY, C.B.

Appointment Significant of R.I.N.'s Important Role

THE new Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy, Vice-Admiral John Henry Godfrey, C.B., comes to India straight from the Admiralty where he has held the key post of Director of Naval Intelligence since 1939. He has seen service in Eastern waters on previous occasions, the first time as long ago as 1910, again in 1915–17, and more recently in 1931–33, when he commanded His Majesty's cruisers *Kent* and *Suffolk* on the China station.

Born in 1888, Admiral Godfrey entered H.M.S. *Britannia* as a naval cadet at the age of 14. He thus has 40 years' service to his credit. He went to sea in 1904, was promoted Sub-Lieutenant in 1907, and took five "firsts" in his examinations for Lieutenant, in which rank he was confirmed from October 30th, 1908. He specialized in navigation.

After serving in the Mediterranean, he joined H.M. Gunboat *Bramble in* China, October 1910, became navigator and served in the River Yangtse during the opening phases of the Chinese Revolution in 1911.

When His Majesty's Fleet mobilized for the last war he was appointed navigator to H.M.S. *Charybdis*, flagship of Rear-Admiral R. E. Wemyss, commanding the 12th Cruiser Squadron. In 1915, he proceeded to the Suez Canal. He took part in landing the Lancashire Fusiliers on "W" Beach on April 26th, 1915, during the Dardanelles campaign and was present at the Suvla Bay landings and at the final evacuation from Gallipoli. He remained in H.M.S. *Euryalus* with Admiral Wemyss when the latter was appointed Commander-in-Chief, East Indies and Egypt. During this period, he served in the East Indies, Persian Gulf, Red Sea and Egypt.

In August 1917, he became Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Mediterranean, and in October 1918, accompanied that officer up the Dardanelles and to Constantinople in H.M.S. *Superb*, wearing the flag of Admiral Gough-Calthorpe who arranged the armistice with Turkey, and subsequently at the opening up of Sebastopol and the Black Sea Ports by the Allied Fleets.

Promoted to Commander on June 30th, 1920, he served for two years in the Plans Division of the Admiralty and for another two years on the staff of the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich.

From 1925 to 1928, when he was promoted Captain, he was Commander of H.M.S. *Diomede* on the New Zealand station. Following a spell ashore as Deputy Director of the Royal Navy Staff College from 1929 to 1931, he went to sea again and commanded the cruisers *Kent* and *Suffolk* on the China Station for the next two years. He was at Shanghai during the opening phases of the Sino-Japanese conflict in 1932.

Then followed two years as Deputy Director of Plans at the Admiralty from November 1933, after which he returned to sea and commanded the battle cruiser *Repulse* from 1936 to 1939. *Repulse* was then with the Mediterranean Fleet and she saw much active service off the Spanish Coast and at Haifa.

Joining the Admiralty as Director of Naval Intelligence on January 24th, 1939, Captain Godfrey was promoted to Rear-Admiral on February 22nd, 1939, and to Vice-Admiral on September 15th, 1942. He has had wide experience of all aspects of naval warfare—experience which will stand him in good stead during the tenure of his new office. His appointment shows the importance which the Admiralty attaches to the war activities of the greatly expanded Royal Indian Navy.

The Royal Indian Navy

Guards India's Vast Coastline

Process of Expansion Still Proceeding

WHY does India need a Navy? If you think of the vast extent of her coastline and the great Himalaya mountain range that walls her off on the north, you will see that India is in a sense an island. To reach her, men and materials in the vast majority of cases travel by sea; the land route is long and difficult. Her trade with other countries is huge, yet all but a very small proportion of it must cross the oceans. To-day when war has drawn near to our country, troops and implements of war are pouring in to help in her defence They too must come by sea. Other lands in their turn need India's products to carry out the war against ruthless aggression. These products must be conveyed from our ports in ships.

In peace time and during war India relies on her communications by sea as much as any island in a true geographical sense. No island prospered that did not give thought to the defence of its coasts and the ships passing up and down them.

Defence by sea is entrusted to ships specially equipped and men specially trained for the purpose. India is protected by the great naval strength of the Allied Nations; to that strength she herself contributes.

AN OBJECT OF JUST PRIDE

In the Royal Indian Navy our country has a Service in which she can justly take pride. It guards our ports: it patrols our great coastline ceaselessly, ever watchful of incursions by enemy submarines, surface vessels and aircraft. It escorts merchant shipping. Last year the largest single assemblage of ships that ever reached our shores entered India's ports shepherded in the last stages by ships of the Royal Indian Navy. In it came troops and equipment. It was the job of the Navy—India's Navy included—to see that no enemy molested these ships. The job was done with the thoroughness for which the Senior Service is renowned.

NAVY IS INDIA'S HERITAGE

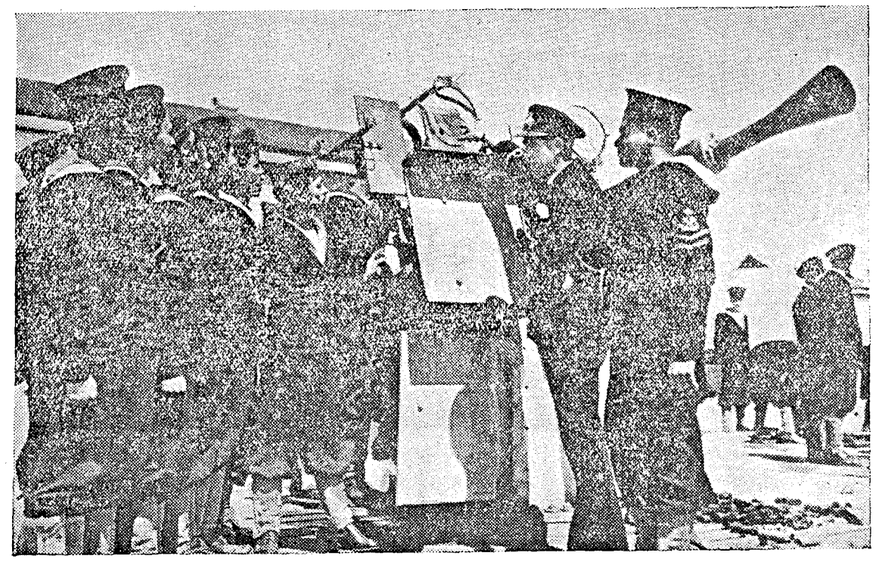
Centuries ago Indian rulers maintained fleets for just the same purpose, the protection of the coast and of shipping. In more recent times the Mahrattas gained renown by sea as well as by land, and the Moghul Emperors also maintained naval forces. The origins of India's navy go back as far as 1612, when the East India Company armed vessels to protect commerce from piracy on the western coast. Since that time India has continuously had a Navy, though its name has undergone various changes. For more than two centuries that Navy's headquarters were in Bombay, where many ships were built for it, and for Britain's Navy as well, by a famous line of Parsee shipbuilders. To-day Naval Headquarters are in New Delhi, the seat of the Central Government, but Bombay remains its great base.

Between 1914 and 1918 ships, officers and men of the Service assisted in the conduct of the war at sea. To give only one example, H.M.I.S. *Hardinge* won fame by her courageous action in defending the Suez Canal which the enemy planned to cross in an attempt to attack Egypt. And now once more India's Navy is on guard, watching over our shores and our trade, but it is a Navy that has expanded enormously.

In the five years before the present war the Royal Indian Navy built up a small but experienced body of men well-trained in mine-sweeping, gunnery, and other duties essential for the protection of India's coast. The outbreak of war in September 1939 imposed on it enhanced responsibilities, and, to enable it to shoulder these, more men and ships were added to it in large numbers. The process of expansion is still rapidly proceeding.

OPENING OF NEW R.I.N. TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT.—Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, till recently Flag Officer Commanding the R.I.N. early in 1942 opened at Karachi H.M.I.S. Dilawar, *the junior boys' training establishment. Most of the boys had arrived one day earlier, clad chiefly in the attire of village lads.*

The Admiral with some of the pupils in a class room.



SAILORS OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY TRAINING IN ENGLAND.—Royal Indian Naval ratings under instruction at a training camp in England. Picture shows a gunnery training class.

A Fine Profession

Life in a Ship is a Family Affair

THE Navy as India's means of defence by sea is a fine profession for men of alacrity and spirit.

Perhaps it is the sea and salt breeze that bring men closer together than on land, but it is true to say that life in a ship is a family affair. It is the personal interest of every officer to care for the welfare of the men under his command.

The Captain is in command, and each of his officers has a separate duty to perform.

The Navigating Officer must keep a reckoning of the ship's position and carefully mark off all alterations in her course.

The Gunnery Officer controls the shooting of the guns.

The Second-in Command, or First Lieutenant, as he is called, has many duties. For instance, he is responsible under the Captain for the discipline and general organization of those on board.

The men are divided up to provide for firing the guns, steering the ship, detecting submarines and dropping depth charges to destroy them, working the wireless, keeping a sharp look out, operating the engines and, last but not least, providing good hot appetising food for all.

In his leisure a sailor finds time to look after his clothes, for he is most punctilius about his appearance, especially when in port.

He also enjoys wrestling or boxing, and a drama always provides fun. These forms of amusement may be found in every Naval ship and are most popular.

There are plenty of men who take all the advantages that the Navy offers for improving their education, and often you will find them studying hard in their off-time.

Officers too take every opportunity for increasing their knowledge.

Naval training in all its various spheres broadens a man's outlook and makes him self-dependent.

Coastal Forces of R.I.N. at Work

Like David Against Goliath

WHAT happens, if a big Jap warship spots us? The question came from a landsman taking part in the recent combined operation which destroyed Myebon on the Japanese line of communications below Akyab in Burma. He asked it when we were well out to sea on our homeward journey, not nervously, but as a matter of general interest, writes an Indian Army Observer.

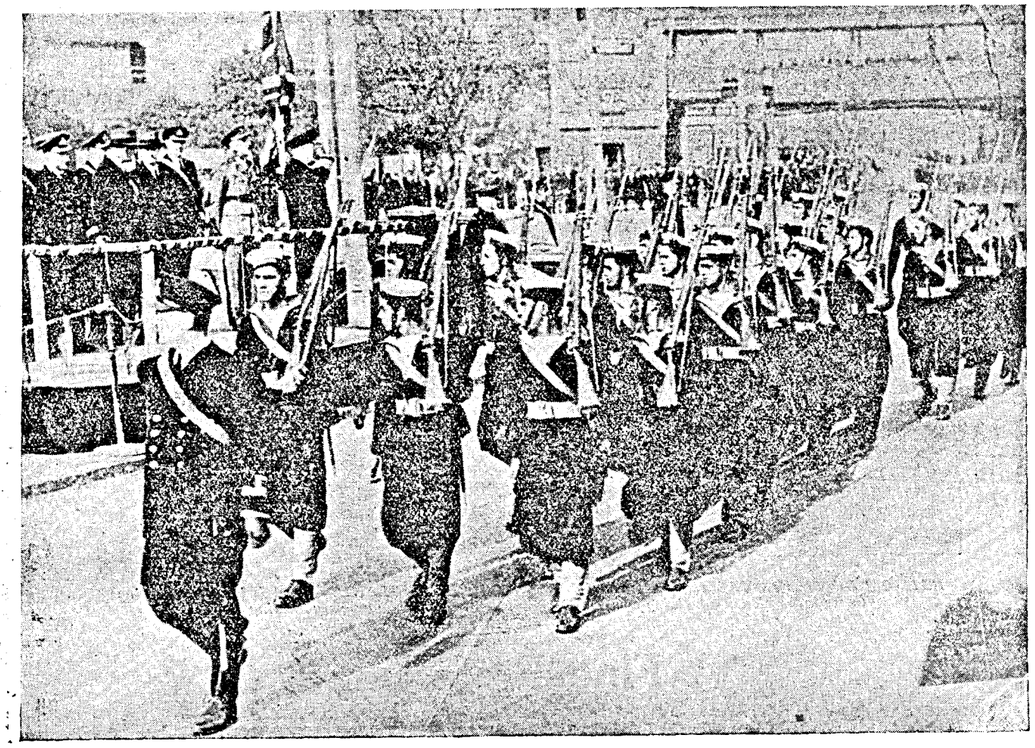
"What happens?", echoed the naval officer in command of the expedition gently, "Well, we fight and then, if he blows the bottom out of the ship, we go for a swim."

That is the spirit in which the Royal Indian Navy sets about its business in these waters, ready to tackle anything and doing it.

Powerfully armed though they are, fast as they can move and slippery as they are in manoeuvre the vessels of coastal forces in which we made this cheeky raid would be rather like David against the Goliath of a capital ship.

But as I looked at the little smile on the lean face of the skipper and remembered how he handled his "fleet" in tricky shallow waters, I had no doubt about the fight he would put up against any sort of enemy. Just for a second I caught myself half wishing it might happen—until I remembered that our job had been done and that it was our remaining business to get home with all on board.

This naval officer is a character. He is the sort of man who weighs the chances and then, having made up his mind, goes in with all he has. Through several months he has been a scourge to Jap craft up and down the Arakan coast and in the tidal rivers cutting through it.



R.I.N. MEN IN BRITISH PORT.—Ship's Company of a Royal Indian Navy vessel marching past during a call at a port in Britain.

He it was who recently drove an enemy launch ashore on the Mayu Peninsula and then, a couple of hours later, rammed and sank another crammed with Jap troops.

This is the kind of leadership to which his officers and ship's company respond like men inspired. I have seen nothing more efficient in any service than the way in which these ships set about a task demanding boldness and judgment.

Many a time during the landing and embarkation of troops it was a case of improvising ways and means, but nothing was too difficult to be done—and quickly. More than one naval officer took a ducking from the wooden seaward end of the pier, part of which I collapsed as we came alongside.

They emerged with dripping clothes, hair and beards—50 per cent of them are bearded—shook themselves like dogs, grinned and got on with the job.

The skipper himself classes them as good "types". To him his fellow men are always "types". These officers and ratings merit his description.

As for the soldiers, they were almost dancing with delight when they came back from the brilliantly successful little action. My last memory of them is seeing them ashore again at their base, surrounded by envious comrades who had not been in the party and whose great thought now is "Wonder if we'll be in on the next show?"

R.I.N.'s Dockyard Facilities

India's Contribution to United Nations' War Effort

ONE of India's contributions to the United Nations' War effort consists in making the Royal Indian Navy's dockyar facilities available to 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

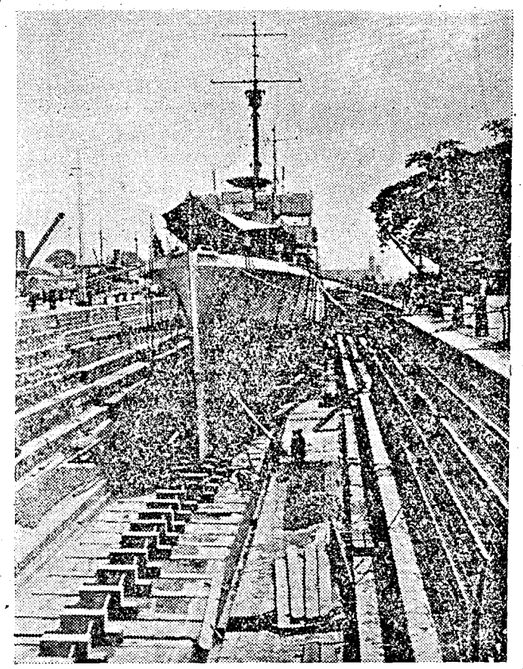
Men-of-war like those that fought in the European conflicts of the period were built and repaired in India as long ago as the seventeenth century. In one port the site of the dockyard was chosen by the first of a distinguished line of Parsee shipbuilders 200 years ago, and in it were constructed warships 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.

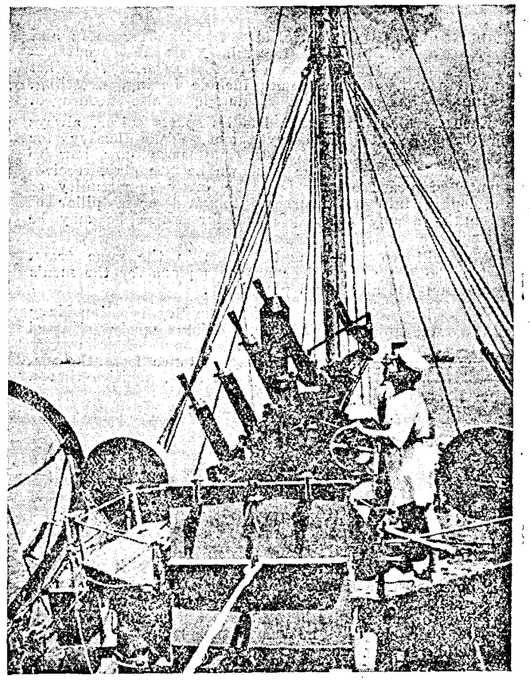
The more complicated types of machinery needed to refit a modern warship come to India from Europe, but a great quantity of Indian material and Indian-made equipment is used every month, including hundreds of tons of Indian steel and large stocks of timber and stores. Orders are also carried out for naval shore establishments, and launches and other craft are built.

WELL-KNIT ORGANIZATION

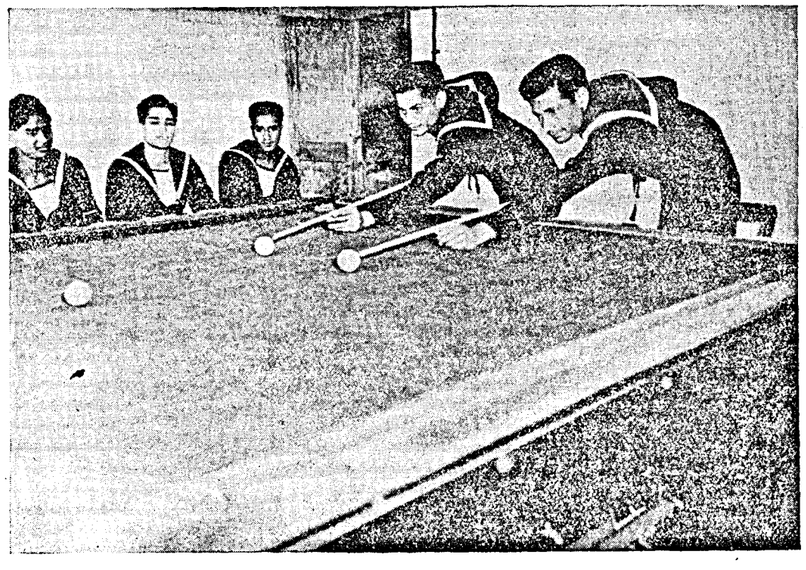
A dockyard is a well-knit organization, and in India each branch has brought its skill and technical knowledge to bear on the problems raised by the increase of work. The Constructive Department deals with repairs to hulls; the Engineering Department attends to engine and boiler rooms, as well as, to some extent, to armament.



IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.—A sloop of the Royal Indian Navy in dry dock.



A sloop of the Royal Indian Navy taking part in a practice shoot with an aircraft above.



SAILORS OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY TRAINING IN ENGLAND.—Royal Indian ratings under instruction at a training camp in England.

Picture shows a game of billiards in the recreation room.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

In warships of today electricity plays a most important role; 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 a welfare organization exists, 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 berth 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 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 grassland, 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 Gujerat 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.

Recruitment to the Royal Indian Navy

Many Hundreds Join from Madras Presidency

SINCE the beginning of the war many hundreds of persons have joined the Royal Indian Navy from Madras Presidency. Candidates for the various branches of the Service have have not been confined to the coastal districts only, but have come from every district and from far inland.

When H.M.I.S. *Bengal* went into action in the Indian Ocean in November last against two much more heavily armed Japanese raiders, two out of the gun's crew of seven came from Madras. In every ship and shore establishment the Madrasi is playing his part and making full use of the opportunities and prospects in this rapidly expanding service.

Every man who joins the Navy is, irrespective of his branch, first and foremost a seaman and it follows, therefore, that he must be physically fit, mentally alert and possess commonsense and a cheerful disposition.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

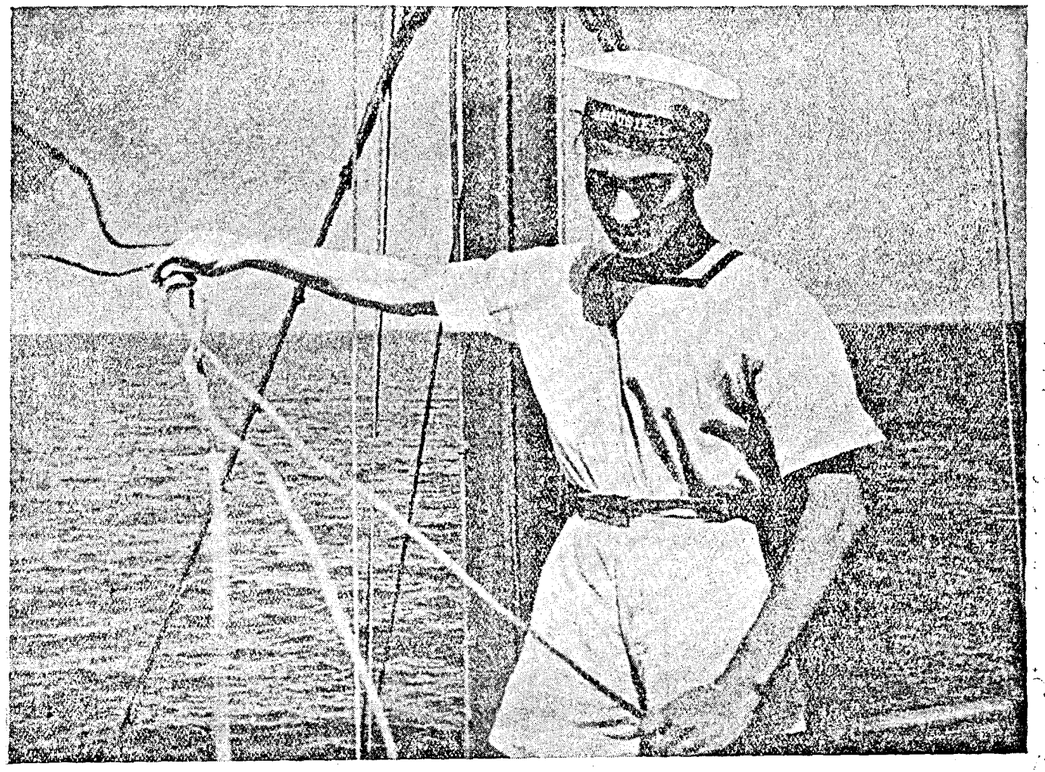
For the young lad who is not very highly educated, but who at least has a sound elementary knowledge of arithmetic and a working knowledge of English, life in the Seaman or Stoker branch offers a wide variety of interesting and useful duties. His general education is continued and supplemented by up-to-date knowledge on all subjects. With forty rupees pay every month in his pocket, and such items as food, accommodation, uniform and medical attendance, provided free, together with all the amenities of the Naval Service, he is given a good start. The rest depends on his own efforts and he is given every encouragement to qualify for advancement. His future career in the service, however, rests upon his professional ability combined with good conduct, character and leadership.

The more highly educated youngster who has passed Matriculation is eligible for other branches of the Navy where the rates of pay are proportionately more attractive according to the higher standard of education required for the branch concerned. In particular, the Communications branch may be mentioned as this requires men of intelligence who can read, write and understand good English. The accurate sending and receiving of messages, whether by visual signalling or wireless telegraphy is a vital part of the routine life of a worship. Without the speedy despatch and receipt of information by means of signalling, the fighting efficiency of Naval units is seriously impaired.

For those who possess the additional qualification of a diploma, degree or certificate in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, Naval Engineering provides plenty of scope for highly skilled technical work. Full training in specialized subjects such as the work of an Engine Room Artificer, Electrical Artificer or Ordnance Artificer is provided by the Navy. Shipwrights, the Naval equivalent of carpenter-boatbuilders, do not require the additional qualifications mentioned above but should have two or three years' practical experience in carpentry. Preliminary training for Artificers and Shipwrights in the capacity of civilian trainees on a stipend of Rs. 70 per mensem is given at the Technical Training Centre, Pilani in Jaipur State and candidates for this should apply to the nearest National Labour Service Tribunal or Technical Recruiting Office.

A seaman from the west coast of India on a sloop of the Royal Indian Navy. He is using the Aldis Lamp (used in communication with aircraft, etc.). Note his steel helmet. The Royal Indian Navy draws its men from all over India.

The Navy has two Boys' Training Establishments in Karachi where boys between the ages of 14 and 17 are given a thorough grounding in all naval subjects. In H.M.I.S. *Dilawar*, the Junior School, boys from 11 to 15½ receive a year's educational training before proceeding to the Senior School, H.M.I.S. *Bahadur* for further training in the Seaman, Stoker or Communications Branch, according to their suitability.



A young signalman from Ratnagiri (West Coast) in a minesweeper of the Royal Indian Navy—India's Navy—draws its men from all over the country.

Full particulars regarding these and other branches of the Service which a man can join, such as the Medical, Accountant and Educational brances, are given in an attractive pamphlet "India's Navy," obtainable at any recruiting office where a candidate can apply in person or by letter. At the Recruiting Office he will be medically and educationally examined.

R.I.N. VOLUNTEER RESERVE

Recruitment of officers to the Royal Indian Navy Volunteer Reserve is carried out as follows: Candidates between the ages of 17 and 36 years apply to the nearest Military headquarters or Collector's office and are required to pass through the Provincial Selection Board and then the Central Interview Board. Candidates over 36 are required to apply to the same authority, but in their case they are interviewed by the District or Area Commander within whose military jurisdiction they live. Officers may be elected either for the Executive Engineer, Electrical or Accountant Branches, special qualifications being necessary for entry into the last three branches mentioned. Details are available in the brochure "How to become a Naval Officer" obtainable from the Secretary, Provincial Selection Board, Senate House, Chepauk, Madras. Apart from the necessary educational qualifications the qualities looked for in the potential officer are leadership, enthusiasm and capacity for hard work.

ELEMENTS OF NAVAL LIFE

Naval life is fundamentally different from life ashore. It has its discomforts and hardships to which the newcomer, whether rating or officer, has to accustom himself quickly. The method of dealing with problems which are likely to confront him in the daily routine of naval life or in actual battle at sea is catered for by intensive training and constant practice. Nothing should, therefore, deter the young man from taking up the Navy as a career. He can look forward to a life which is always healthy, worthwhile and full of interest.

Advantages of a Naval Career

THE best age for a boy to join the Royal Indian Navy is between 14 and 16 years. The life of a sailor is known to be one of the healthiest in the world, perhaps because the sea air is fresh, clean and dust-free. A lad who learns the rudiments of seamanship at an early age will find himself at an advantage throughout his Naval career.

A sound educational grounding is an essential part of a boy's Naval training. This is given in H.M.I.S. *Dilawar*, the Junior Boys' Training Establishment of the Royal Indian Navy at Karachi.

It is necessary for all boys on entry to receive a preliminary course in such subjects as Urdu, English, Mathematics, Geography and History to bring them up to a common standard and enable them easily to grasp the more advanced Naval subjects taught in H.M.I.S. *Bahadur*, the Senior Boys' Training Establishment. It is to *Bahadur* that boys go from *Dilawar* before finally embarking on their Naval career at sea.

A boy who wishes to enter the Navy through the Boys' Training Establishments should get into touch with his nearest Recruiting Officer. There are Recruiting Offices at Bangalore, Vellore, Chittoor, Cocanada, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Cannanore. There are Technical Recruiting Offices at Bangalore, Madras and Coimbatore. Full information about the conditions of services in the Navy is available from the Head Recruiting Officer in attractive pamphlets and leaflets. Application forms can also be obtained from these authorities.

A boy wishing to join immediately can, provided he possesses his parents' or guardians' written and witnessed consent, be medically and educationally tested on the

spot. A healthy constitution with good eyesight is, of course, necessary.

As regards education, a boy should have a sound knowledge of the first four rules of arithmetic, vulgar fractions and decimal weights and measures. If unable to read and write Urdu, he must have a good working knowledge of English, English, however, is not essential in cases where boys can read and write Urdu satisfactorily—except for the Wireless and Signals Branch of the Navy.

A boy who has never been near the sea before and makes his first journey to Karachi may feel a little strange at the start. His mind is soon set at rest, however, when he finds that he is living in a fine building with every facility for games and entertainment and that he receives good food. Boys are not appointed to ships until they have completed their training. When out rowing or sailing in the harbour they have a good opportunity of learning about the sea as Karachi harbour affords excellent opportunities of training for a Naval career.

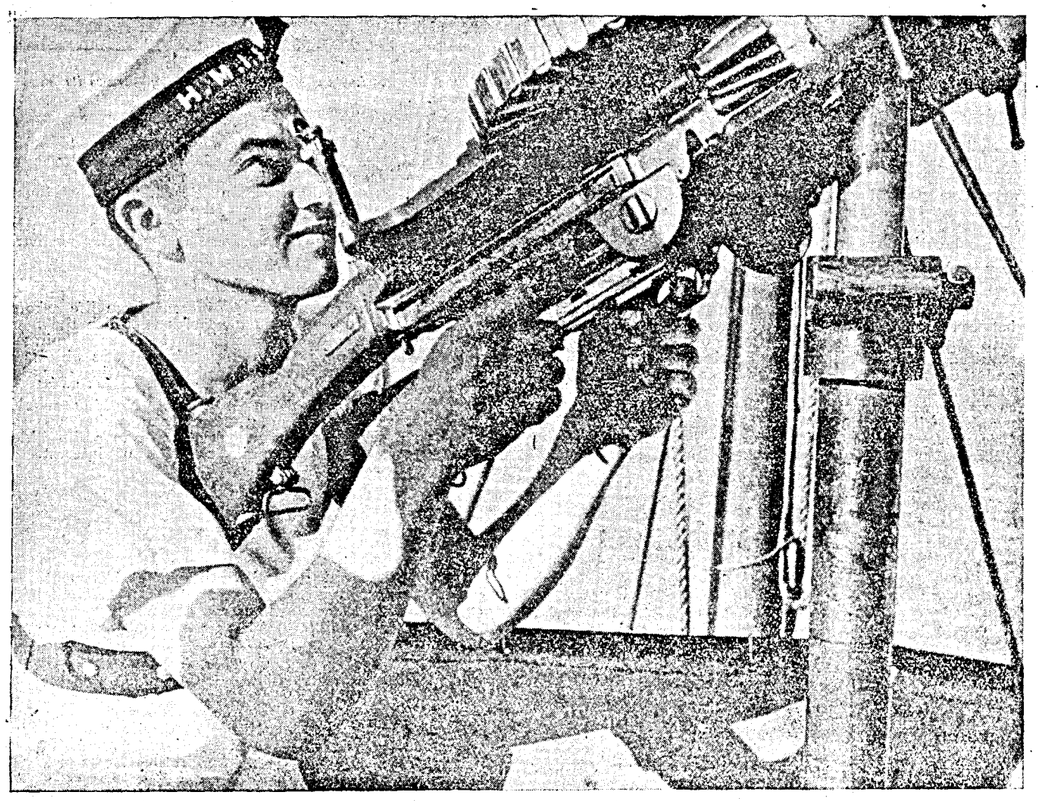
R.I.N. Officers and Their Career

Rapid Growth in Number

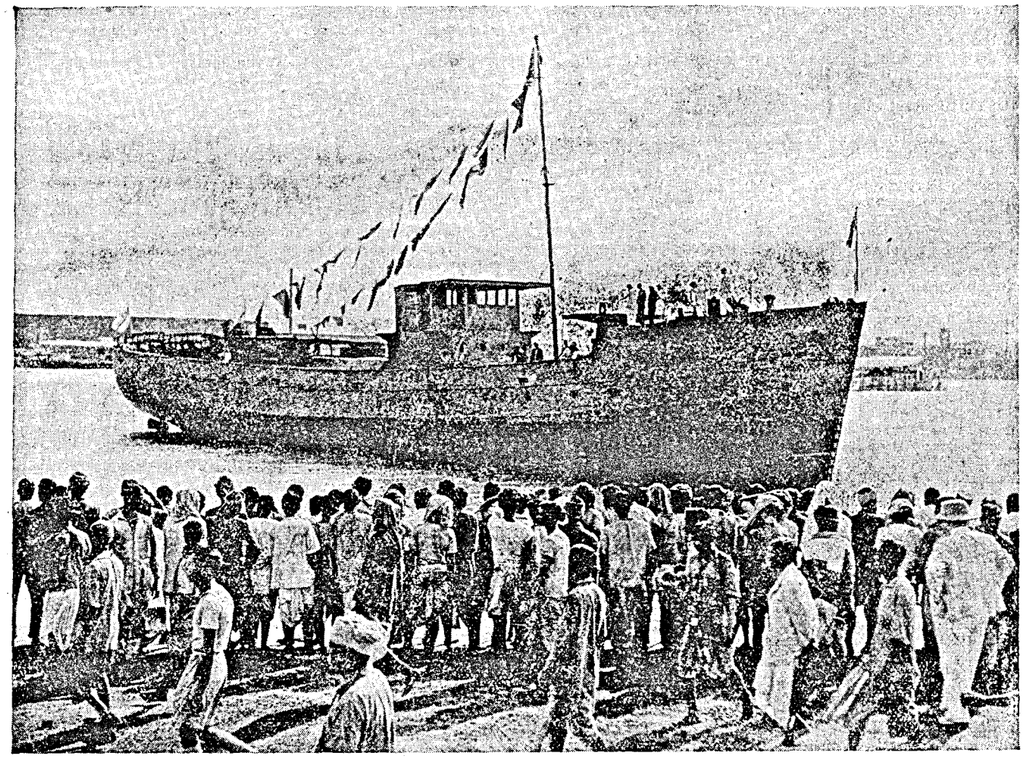
THE number of officers in the Royal Indian Navy has grown rapidly. A limited quota of vacancies in the permanent commissioned cadre is, as before the war, filled periodically as a result of examinations held by the Federal Public Services Commission. Such entrants join the service as Cadets, undergoing training with Britain's Royal Navy in the United Kingdom. The permanent commissioned cadre contains a large proportion of Indians, as the advantages of joining so fine a service were quickly realised. Prominent among those R.I.N. officers who have distinguished themselves in the present war are Indians who in peace time chose a sea career, with its healthy life and good prospects.

The need for more officers in the event of hostilities was, however, so great that permission was obtained shortly before the war to establish Reserves. The Royal Indian Naval Reserve consists of serving officers and warrant officers of the Mercantile Marine, both Indian and European. The Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve is recruited from gentlemen in civilian life, Indian and European, not necessarily having any previous connection with the sea. For these R.I.N.V.R. officers special courses of instruction have been instituted.

Many applications for entry into the Reserves continue to be made every week, and every week appointments are made. Applicants approach the district authorities first, and later appear before the Provincial Selection Board concerned, then the Central Interview Board and finally, for selection, before the Naval Interview Board at Bombay. The pay is good, the work interesting and responsible and the officer is serving his country when it needs his services most. The fact that he may have been a "landlubber" all his life is no bar to his making a successful Naval Officer. He is given the requisite training and all the opportunities he needs. The rest is up to him.



IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.—Punjabi seaman handling twin Lewis guns on the bridge of a Local Defence Ship of the Royal Indian Navy.



A view of H.M.I.S. Baroda, *the minesweeping submarine chaser, after it had been launched by Lady Russel (wife of Sir Guthrie Russel, Director-General of Munitions Production) at Calcutta on October 22.*

H.M.I.S. "Travancore"

First Ship Built in Indian Yard in July 1941

WHAT of the ships in the Royal Indian Navy? Their number has increased to many times the pre-war figure. On the outbreak of war India set to work to build up her fleet and soon every available building ship was occupied. Every month now you hear of a vessel, sometimes several vessels, being launched. In July 1941 it was H.M.I.S. *Travancore*, the first ship for the Royal Indian Navy to be built in an Indian yard. In October came H.M.I.S. *Baroda*. Since then a stream of new ships has issued from the shipbuilding yards. The development of Indian shipbuilding in response to the R.I.N.'s needs is one of the outstanding features of the country's industrial life.

Meanwhile in shipyards in Great Britain and Australia new construction was taken in hand for the Royal Indian Navy. Among the vessels now in service or under construction, one class, sloops are named after the rivers of India. No order is, however, placed outside India unless it is certain that India's own resources cannot carry it out. Two of the R.I.N.'s sloops commissioned in the United Kingdom in 1941, H.M.I.S. *Jumna* and H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, have already seen much service in the Atlantic, Dutch East Indies waters, and elsewhere.

In addition to its own ships the Royal Indian Navy has attached to it auxiliary vessels, principally minesweepers, which have been taken over from shipping companies. These are equipped for minesweeping and patrolling, are manned by personnel of the Mercantile Marine who sign on for these war-time duties, and have as officers members of the two Reserves.

The Navy's ships cannot operate without bases, and along the coast-line of India naval facilities have been developed at ports.

Seniormost of India's Defence Services

The Navy: Its Past and Future

THE Royal Indian Navy is historically the seniormost of India's Defence Services, its origin dating as far back as 1612. But it also continues and embodies a tradition built up over many previous centuries. Even in remote times Indian rulers maintained naval forces to protect the coast, and shipping in a more recent era the Moghul Emperors maintained fleets, and the fighting vessels of the Mahrattas won renown on the western coast. It is interesting to note that for many years the seafaring population in the South of Bombay Presidency, particularly the Ratnagiri district, supplied India's naval forces with almost all its ratings. It is still well represented in the Service, although recruitment is now from a much wider area.

When the East India Company received permission to trade with India in 1609 it found that, like the rulers of the time and other commercial bodies, it would have to maintain armed ships to protect its trading vessels against piracy. Accordingly a fleet of four armed ships was sent to Surat in 1612. It was soon in action against the Portuguese, whom it defeated at the Battle of Swalley. Having thus shown its mettle, the little fleet received the name of the Honourable East India Company's Marine, a title used until 1686. In it were employed seafaring men from the Konkan coast. When Bombay was acquired from the Portuguese soon after the middle of the century the ships were transferred to it from Surat, and ever since Bombay has been the Navy's principal base, although in recent years Naval Headquarters have been located at New Delhi in close touch with the Government of India.

A notable feature of this early period was the construction of naval ships of fine quality. India's timber was most suitable for this purpose, and vessels built at Bombay won high commendation in Europe. The first shipbuilder was sent from England, but later the work was carried out under the supervision of a famous Parsee family, the Wadias. The site of the present dockyard was selected by Mr. Nusserwanjee Wadia, the first of these Parsee shipbuilders. In a little over 100 years no fewer than 115 warships and some 144 merchant or unarmed government vessels were constructed there. Owing to its close association with the great western India city India's naval forces were from 1686 to 1830 known as the Bombay Marine.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries there were frequent engagements at sea between Britain's naval forces and those of other European Powers, and in these operations the Bombay Marine played its part. But in between these warlike activities the ships engaged in a number of important peace-time duties. Among these was the surveying of anchorages and navigational channels on the Indian coast and in an area stretching from Malaya to Somaliland in Africa.

In the Great War of 1914 and 1918 officers and men of the Service, then known as the Royal Indian Marine, assisted in operations at sea, a number of ships serving as auxiliary cruisers and carrying out transport duties. H.M.I.S. *Hardinge* in particular won fame by her courageous action in defending the Suez Canal on the occasion of an attack by the enemy.

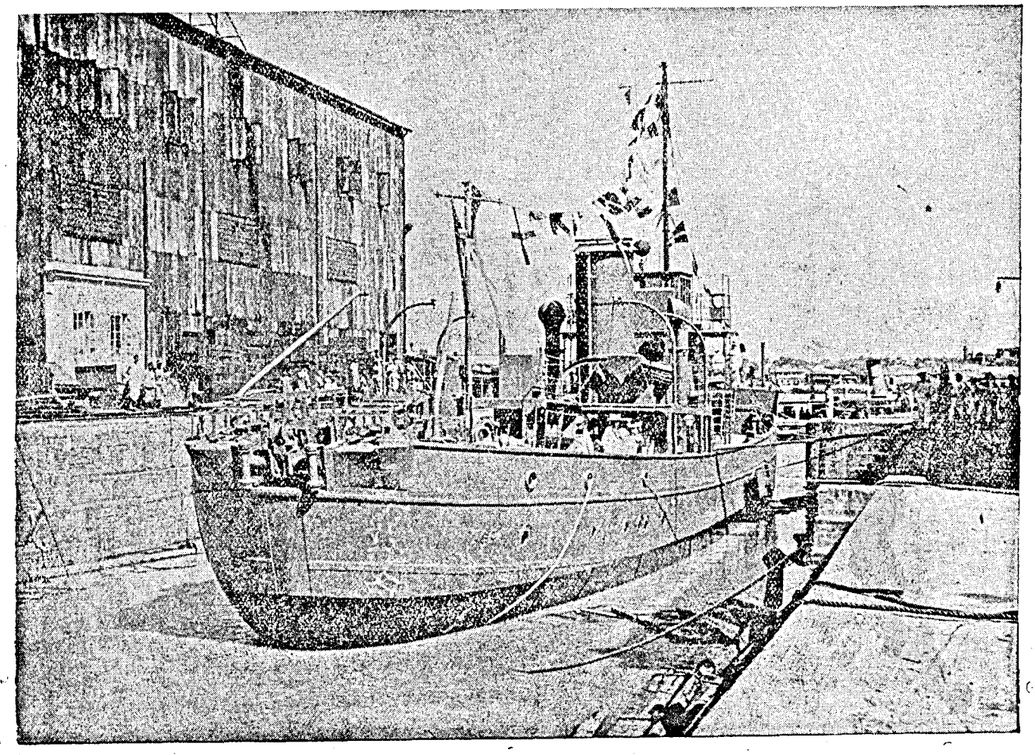
After the war financial restrictions severely limited the activities of the Royal Indian Marine. Several schemes for its reorganization were drawn up, and finally one that had been submitted by a committee under Lord Rawlinson was accepted by the Indian and British Governments. This proposed that the Marine be placed on the basis of a combatant service with the title of Royal Indian Navy. In 1934 the necessary Bill was passed by the Central Legislature, and in October of that year the ceremony inaugurating these important changes was held at Bombay.

Royal Indian Navy in the Present War

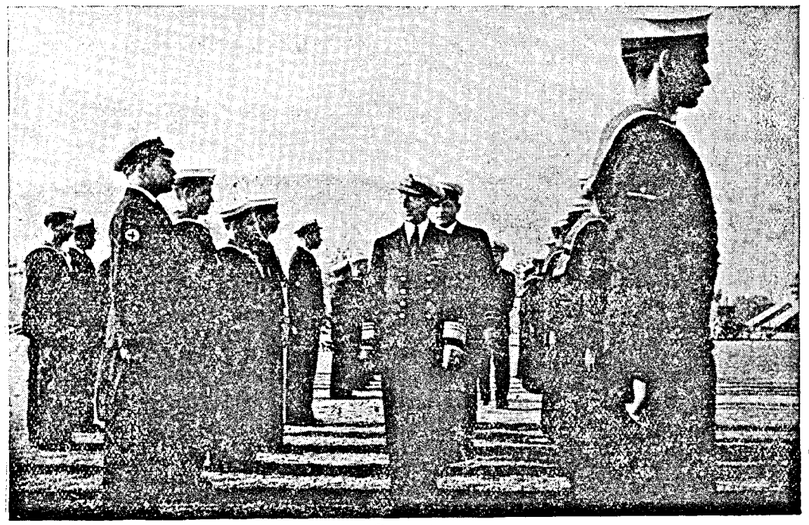
How the White Ensign Frightened Italian War Ships

SHIPS of the Royal Indian Navy have played their part in widely separated theatres of war since September 1939.

Some of them assisted in the operations that led to the downfall of the Italian Empire in East Africa. A notable instance was the reoccupation of Berbera, Somaliland. In the early hours of March 16, 1941, a convoy of warships and troop carriers—the fromer including R.I.N. ships—appeared off the coast in company with tankers and lighters. The Naval forces first reconnoitred the approaches and then bombarded the shore, silencing the Italian guns. The landing of the troops met with hardly any



LADY SRIVASTAVA LAUNCHES R.I.N. VESSEL H.M.I.S. "AGRA", a minesweeping anti-submarine basset trawler, at Calcutta. The vessel is seen about to leave the dock.



Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, inspects the party of Royal Indian Navy officers and men on duty in Delhi in connexion with the forthcoming War Services Exhibition. Walking behind him is Lieut. Commander R. Sawhny, Officer-in-Charge of the Naval Section of the Exhibition. Thirty-five of the men wore badges for overseas service, and one of them, Chief Ordnance Artificer P.C.Mascarenhas, is the holder of the D.S.M., while another was mentioned in despatches.

opposition, and large numbers of the enemy were seen trying to escape even before our troops attacked them. The occupation of Berbera followed without further fighting.

IN THE MIDDLE EAST

During our Army's victorious drive from the Sudan into the Italian Colony of Eritrea H.M. Indian ships helped to maintain the flow of supplies to Indian troops who had pushed in from the coast to attack the left flank of the enemy's position at Keren. They also escorted ships carrying our troops to an improvised base on the Eritrean coast, and in other ways played an important role in the successful campaign.

In the final assault on the port of Massawa India's warships, in conjunction with the Royal Navy, were allotted the task of entering the mine-infested harbour to support our troops. Upon the White Ensign's appearance the Italian warships steamed off in confusion and later scuttled themselves. Some R.I.N. vessels had an adventurous time in passing through enemy minefields, but skilful navigation averted danger, and it was an R.I.N. ship that led the way triumphantly into the Italian port. Another Indian warship was prominent in the operations against the subsidiary Italian port of Assab.

During the brief campaign that followed Nazi intrigues in Iran (Persia) the Royal Indian Navy assisted in conveying troops and supported our troops on shore. At Bandar Shahpur ships of the Royal Indian Navy and Royal Navy steamed up the Khor Musa channel with a force that included Baluchis: when these had landed without opposition, officers and men of the ships turned to five German and three Italian merchant ships and managed to prevent the crews of all but two from scuttling them.

JUMNA SHOOTS JAP BOMBERS

In Dutch East Indies waters after Japan had entered H.M. Indian ships also distinguished themselves. There they were engaged in escorting convoys of merchant ships, often in hazardous conditions. One of them, H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, shot down four Japanese bombers for certain and perhaps destroyed more. She is believed to have been the last warship to leave Batavia before it fell, and it was there she destroyed her first aircraft. She was later given the task of escorting a convoy through the narrow Sundra Straits, where, unable to manœuvre freely she was subjected to repeated attacks by enemy dive-bombers. But her Indian gunners proved equal to the situation, and kept up a heavy fire from their A.A. armament. This broke up the enemy formations, preventing them from inflicting damage on the ships under convoy. Officers and men were in action the whole day and displayed tremendous courage, skill and cheerfulness. At least three more Japanese bombers were destroyed by *Jumna* in this exciting engagement, which ended in the convoy passing safely out into the open sea at night.

Jumna's Gunnery Officer, Lieut. A. J. V. Lecocq received the D.S.C., while two Indian ratings were awarded the D.S.M. and six were mentioned in despatches.

Jumna was one of the R.I.N. ships that earlier participated in the Battle of the Atlantic. At the British Government's suggestion, these ships helped in escorting convoys approaching or leaving the British Isles. In the course of her duties *Jumna* went to probably the most northerly point that an R.I.N. vessel has ever reached, within the Arctic Circle.

THE SUTLEJ IN FORM

Another of H.M.I. ships that did good work in the waters around Singapore and the Dutch East Indies was H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*.

In the Banka Strait an exciting experience befell one of the last north-bound convoys of which she formed part of the escort. The ships were attacked by 27 Japanese bombers. It was a hot action, in which the Japanese met with effective fire from the escorting vessels. The convoy proceeded unscathed.

Two hours after *Sutlej* had brought the first portion of this convoy safely into Singapore harbour, the second portion, whilst still approaching under escort, was heavily dive-bombed by a large force of enemy aircraft. In spite of the escort's concentrated fire, a large transport, formerly a well known passenger vessel, was set on fire. *Sutlej*, which was protecting the transports in the anchorage, helped to prevent the dive bombers from pressing home their attacks on the incoming ships. At the same time by her accurate fire she checkmated repeated attempts to dive-bomb the crowded anchorage. As a result of this engagement the enemy lost five bombers.

When *Sutlej* went to the help of the stricken transport she found many persons in the sea and promptly set about rescue work in conjunction with units of the Royal Australian Navy.

Meanwhile a party from *Sutlej* clambered into the burning ship to ensure that no one was left on board and to remove the depth charges and ammunition. The job done, all returned safely to their ships. The troops in the anchored transports gave *Sutlej* a whole-heated welcome when they saw her back in harbour.

Sutlej was next ordered to proceed to Batavia on escort duty. On the way the ships were attacked by ten Japanese bombers, but the escort gave them such a hot reception that they fled without dropping a single bomb and left one of their number a mass of wreckage in the sea. Later, *Sutlej* helped in the evacuation of thousands of Indian refugees from Burma.

R.I.N. AND BURMA CAMPAIGN

In the Burma campaign many tasks fell to ships of the Royal Indian Navy, and even now the full story of their magnificent work has not been pieced together. They escorted convoys and patrolled constantly; their gunners helped in driving off Japanese aircraft and shelled enemy positions ashore; and in at least one town ratings assisted in maintaining essential services such as electricity and water. When evacuation at points on the coast-line was decided on, they shepherded to safety vessels containing personnel and valuable stores.

It was while on her maiden voyage from the builder's yard in Australia that one of H.M. Indian ships, *Bengal*, won world-wide renown by a gallant action fought in the Indian Ocean 1,000 miles south-west of Java. A vessel of under 1,000 tons mounting a 12 pounder gun in addition to close-range anti-aircraft weapons, she was escorting the "Ondina", a Dutch tanker armed with one 4-inch gun.

H.M.I.S. "BENGAL'S" DIRECT HIT

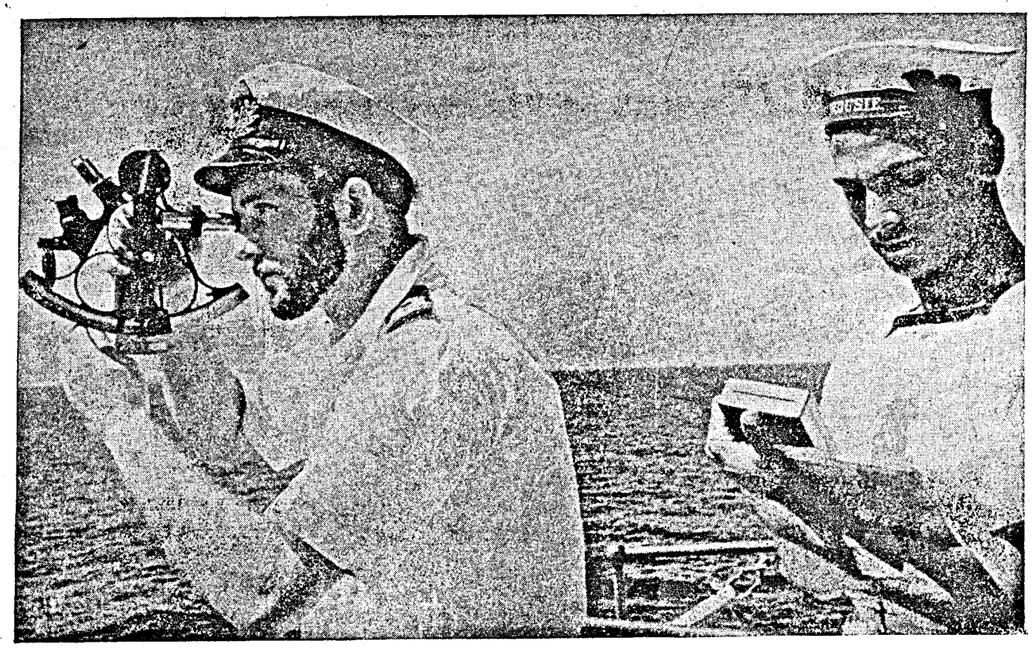
At midday on November 11, 1942 she sighted a large heavily armed Japanese raider, ten times her size. Following at a distance was yet another Japanese ship of almost similar size and armament. The raiders were each able to bring four 5·5-inch guns to bear at any one time. In the hope of diverting attention from the tanker and to ensure hitting the enemy as hard as possible, *Bengal* proceeded to close the range. Firing began at a distance of two miles and a hot action ensued. The Dutch tanker, although given liberty of action, had gallantly stood by *Bengal* and was also engaging the enemy. Sticking grimly to their task, with their sixth round *Bengal's* gun crew scored a direct hit on the larger of the two raiders, causing an explosion in her stern.

Bengal then came still closer to engage both her adversaries. The first raider blew up and sank: the second continued firing but from a distance. As her ammunition was almost exhausted, *Bengal* withdrew under a smoke screen. The tanker had meanwhile been damaged by torpedoes and gun-fire, and her crew had decided to abandon her, but seeing the remaining raider making off, they boarded her again and brought her safely to port. *Bengal* received some damage but suffered no casualties. For this gallant action the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander W. J. Wilson, R.I.N.V.R., received the D.S.O., two Indian ratings the I.O.M., and six Indian members of the gun crew the I.D.S.M. Two officers were mentioned in despatches.

In the early months of 1943 the Royal Indian Navy's Coastal Forces figured in the news of the Burma operations. The vessels employed consist of some of the Navy's smaller units, but though not of great size they are fast and well-armed. To our troops pushing down the Arakan Coast they rendered useful assistance by intercepting enemy craft transporting troops and supplies. The principal scene of their exploits was the Mayu peninsula with the Mayu river running behind it down to the Bay of Bengal. In two night actions at the end of January one of the Navy's little ships chased and drove an enemy coastal craft ashore and later rammed and sank another, at least 50 Japanese perishing. Next month the raid on Myebon was in the news Transported by some of the Coastal Forces' vessels, a small force of our troops landed at Japanese-held Myebon, 60 miles south-east of Akyab, and blew up jetties, godowns and dumps before returning safely with several Indians who asked to be taken back. A few days later, off Ramree island, our vessels engaged two armed enemy launches heavily loaded with troops and ammunition. One launch was destroyed, the other left in a sinking condition, and over 50 Japanese soldiers were killed and a number captured. Patrol duties along the Arakan Coast and in the Mayu river area were constantly undertaken; and as a variation one of the Navy's vessels bombarded the Japanese stronghold at Denbaik. During these months Coastal Forces rendered most useful assistance to our troops and to their task European and Indian Naval personnel brought enthusiasm, skill and initiative.

THE VIGILANT WATCH AT SEA

This brief account outlines a part of the Royal Indian Navy's record in the present war, a part that lends itself to description because it contains exciting incidents. But month after month Royal Indian Navy ships carry out their duties of escorting convoys, patrolling the coast and seas and minesweeping, work arduous in the extreme—and no incident occurs that will make headlines in newspapers. Much of the Royal Indian Navy's work is like that, but the fact that it does not attract public attention does not mean that it is not an essential part of India's war effort. The reverse is the case. Because the Royal Indian Navy does its job thoroughly, ships can enter our ports without fear of mines, convoys can pass to and fro under sure protection, a ceaseless patrol is kept in the waters around India's coast. All this is its daily routine, and the public does not hear much about it because the Navy is by tradition "The Silent Service" and in any event there is not much "news" about routine happenings. But this vigilant watch at sea is a very large contribution to India's defence. So whenever you read of some gallant acion by a Royal Indian Navy ship, think also of the many other Royal Indian Navy ships, officers and men at sea. They are also doing work that is important, even though they are not mentioned in the newspapers.



IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.—An officer of a minesweeper takes a sight. Behind him with a note book, pencil and desk watch, is a fine young specimen of the seamen, the west coast of India supplies to the Royal Indian Navy.

H.M.I.S. "Bengal's" Baptism of Fire

Gallantry Against Great Odds

THE story of H.M.I.S. *Bengal's* battle with two more heavily armed Japanese raiders is one of the most dramatic that operations in the Indian Ocean have so far yielded.

Knowing full well the heavy odds against them, these officers and men of the Royal Indian Navy skilfully took on both raiders in a successful endeavour to save a vulnerable oil tanker.

For H.M.I.S. *Bengal* it was a veritable baptism of fire, for she had been launched only a few months previously in Australia and was on her first voyage to India. She is a vessel under 1,000 tons designed for minesweeping and anti-submarine work. Her armament consists of a 12-pounder gun and some close-range anti-aircraft guns. At the time she was escorting a Dutch tanker, the M.V. *Ondina*, of 6,341 tons, which was armed with a four-inch gun. During the engagement those on board *Ondina* gallantly assisted *Bengal* in keeping the raiders under fire as long as they could.

Ranged against the India warship and the tanker she was escorting were two much larger and more heavily armed vessels of 10,000 and 6,863 tons respectively. Each Japanese raider is believed to have mounted six 5·5 inch guns and to have been able to bring a broadside of four of them to bear at any one time. These guns fired high explosive shells twice the diameter and six times the weight of the shells from *Bengal's* 12-pounder. The raiders were also equipped with torpedo tubes and aircraft.

Against such odds, H.M.I.S. *Bengal's* soundest tactics were to steam as close to the enemy as possible, to make certain that her shells hit the mark and caused the maximum damage. That was the course adopted by the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve).

The first Japanese raider was sighted, eight miles distant, shortly before noon on November 11 in a lonely part of the Indian Ocean. H.M.I.S. *Bengal* was ready for action. A few minutes later, a second speck on the horizon proved to be the other raider. *Bengal's* Commanding Officer made a decision calling for the highest courage and determination.

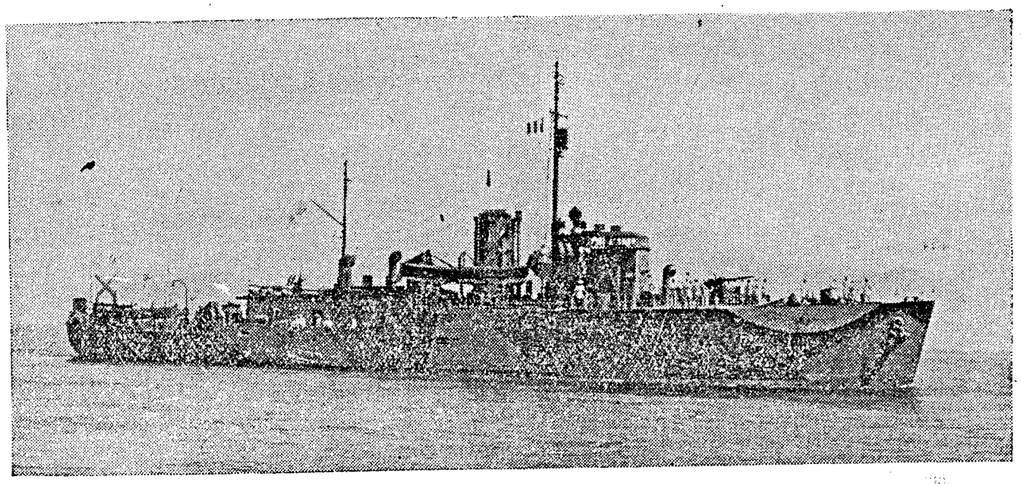
Notwithstanding the odds against him, he decided to steam towards the enemy, hoping by this means to divert their attention and enable the tanker to make her escape. Increasing to full speed, he went straight for the nearer and larger of the two raiders, and at a range of 3,500 yards—two land miles—the firing began. With true seaman's gallantry, the master of the Dutch tanker, although he had been given liberty to take what action he pleased, stood by and also engaged the enemy. Working like men inspired, *Bengal's* Indian gunners maintained a high rate of fire against the four gun broadside of their opponent. After their sixth round they were rewarded by an explosion and a large fire breaking out evidently in the enemy's ammunition magazine aft. The second raider now joined in the fight.

As a single hit might have had serious consequences, H.M.I.S. *Bengal's* Commanding Officer skilfully manœuvred his ship to prevent the enemy from getting the range. With shells falling all round, this was not easy, but by constantly altering course, he puzzled the enemy and saved his ship from damage at this stage while keeping up a steady rate of fire. As a result of these manœuvres the range shortened to 2,500 yards By now, the 10,000 ton raider, hit on the bridge superstructure and stern, was enveloped in flames.

Observing that the second raider was damaging the tanker, *Bengal* went to draw her off. By this time much of the ammunition on board the Indian warship and the tanker had been expended in their brave fight, while the second Japanese raider had plenty left. In the ensuing engagement *Bengal* was herself hit, and her ammunition began to run short, while on the tanker —which had been damaged and whose master had already been killed—all ammunition was soon expended. In these circumstances, the tanker's crew abandoned ship, the Japanese machine-gunning them in the water.

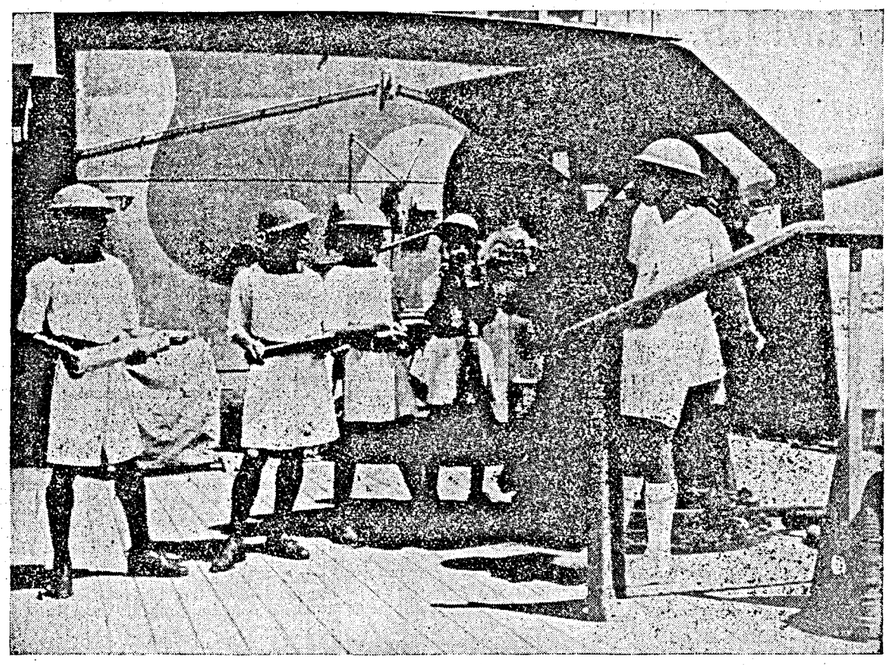
The battle between the Indian warship and her more powerful adversary continued, and eventually seven miles separated them from the *Ondina*. The first raider now sank stern first after a violent explosion, and her consort steamed towards her to pick up survivors. To pursue her was for *Bengal* an impossibility as only a few rounds of ammunition remained. Observing that the *Ondina* was now well out of range, *Bengal* made a smoke screen to cover her own withdrawal. The remaining Japanese raider, however, had had enough and after taking on board the survivors from her consort, made off. Thereupon the tanker's crew returned to their vessel and managed to get her under way again.

The result of this struggle in mid-ocean was the loss to Japan of a 10,000 ton raider whose activities might well have led to serious loss of Allied shipping. She and her consort were certainly equipped to fight anything less powerful than a cruiser, and they must have carried stores to enable them to remain many weeks at sea on the routes linking India with South Africa



One of the most dramatic engagements in naval history was fought in a lonely part of the Indian Ocean shortly before noon on November 11, 1942, H.M.I.S. Bengal, *a vessel of under* 1,000 *tons designed for minesweeping and anti-submarine work, which was escorting a Dutch Tanker, engaged successfully two Japanese raiders which were ten times her size and far more heavily armed, sinking one and driving the other away.*

H.M.I.S. Bengal *entering port after the battle with the Japanese raiders.*



The photograph shows the gallant gun crew of H.M.I.S. Bengal *at action stations at the 22-pounder gun. Three of these Royal Indian Navy men come from Bombay Presidency, two from Madras Presidency and two from the Punjab.*

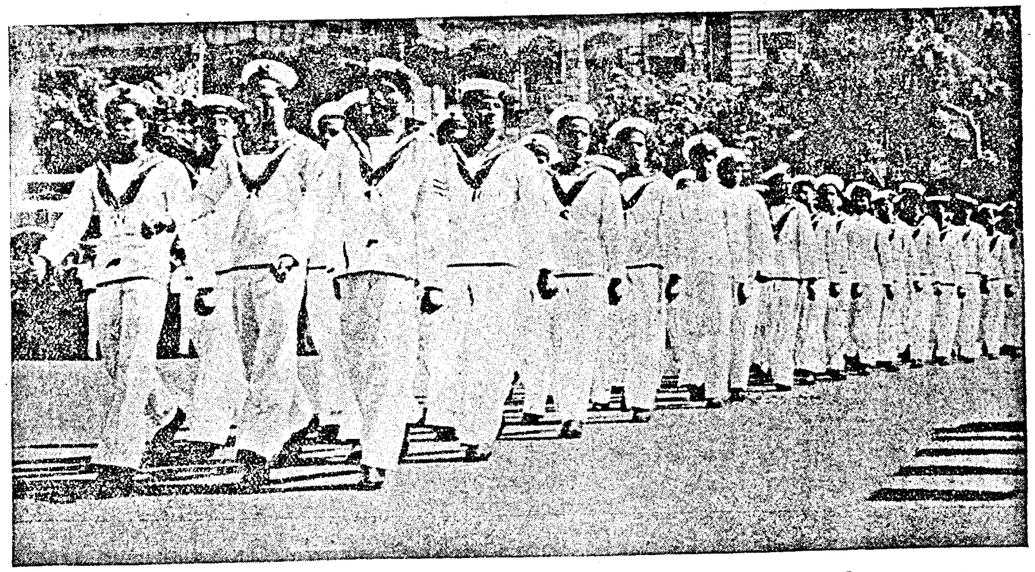
The photograph taken in port after the battle, shows Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve, (third from the right) and other officers of H.M.I.S. Bengal. *This Royal Indian Navy warship engaged two Japanese raiders, which were ten times her size and far more heavily armed, in a successful endeavour to save a tanker she was escorting. She sank one* 10,000-*ton raider. The officers are holding "Souvenirs" of the battle—pieces of shrapnel found on the decks.*

and Australia. It is also possible that they carried supplies for enemy submarines operating in the Indian Ocean. Whichever was their primary purpose—raids on commerce or the re-fuelling and re-victualling of submarines—they had evidently set out on a mission to which the enemy attached great importance.

According to an estimate, two hundred rounds of high explosive shell were directed at *Bengal*. In the face of this barrage her ship's company behaved with resolute courage. They hit back, they saved the vessel they were escorting, they won through. From His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India and the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert, they have received messages of congratulation on the gallant action they fought.

One of the most dramatic engagements in naval history was fought in a lonely part of the INDIAN OCEAN shortly before noon on November 11, 1942. *H.M.I.S.* Bengal, *a vessel of under* 1,000 *tons designed for minesweeping and anti-submarine work, which was escorting a Dutch tanker, engaged successfully two Japanese raiders which were ten times her size and far more heavily armed, sinking one and driving the other away.*

Lieutenant-Commander W. J. Wilson, Royal Indian Naval Reserve, Commanding Officer, H.M.I.S. Bengal.



A public reception was accorded in Bombay to the crew of H.M.I.S. Bengal *which recently made history in the Indian Ocean by engaging successfully two heavily armed Japanese raiders ten times the size of the* Bengal *sinking one and driving the other away. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay took the salute and the men were thereafter entertained to lunch by the Sheriff of Bombay at the Cowasji Jehangir Hall where many prominent people were present. Photo shows men of H.M.I.S.* BENGAL *marching past.*

D.S.O. for "Bengal's" Captain

FOR services during H.M.I.S. *Bengal's* successful action, fought on November 11 last in company with the Dutch tanker "Ondina", against two heavily armed Japanese raiders, the following awards to personnel of the Royal Indian Navy were approved:—

D.S.O.

Lieutenant (Acting Lieutenant-Commander) William Joseph Wilson, Royal Indian Navy Reserve, Commanding Officer, H.M.I.S. *Bengal*.

I.O.M. (2nd CLASS)

No. 2649 Acting Petty Officer Mohammed Ibrahim.
No. 6602 Able Seaman Ragunath Sohae.

I.D.S.M.

No. 4482 Leading Steward Parekal Krishnan Nair.
No. 4646 Able Seaman Ismail Mohammed.
No. 5969 Able Seaman Mohammed Khan.
No. 5303 Able Seaman Ismail Baba.
No. 7839 Ordinary Seaman Balachandra.
No. 4627 Leading Telegraphist M. Dinshaw.

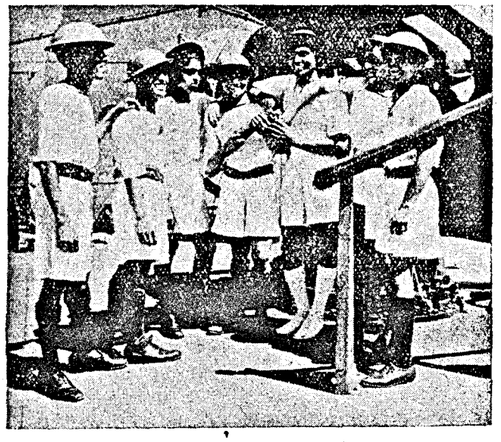
MENTIONS IN DESPATCHES

Lt.-Commander (E) J. Coverdale-Smith, R.I.N.
Lieutenant Jai Shankar Mehra, R.I.N.R.

Lieutenant-Commander Wilson received the D.S.O. for the gallantry, skill and resolution he displayed in action against the two enemy vessels, one of which was sunk. His ship mounted only a 12-pounder gun, while each of his adversaries possessed a broadside of four 4·7-inch or 5·5 inch guns. Despite these odds he at once closed to within 3,500 yards of the first raider in order to cover the tanker, and handled H.M.I.S. *Bengal* with coolness and skill, avoiding serious damage to her.

Petty Officer Mohammed Ibrahim was Captain of the Gun, in charge of the gun's crew, while Able Seaman Ragunath Sohae was the gunlayer, responsible for laying and firing H.M.I.S. *Bengal's* 12-pounder. Setting an excellent example of steadiness and resolution under fire, they used their weapon to the very best advantage, even after an enemy shell had struck *Bengal* under the gun position.

Leading Steward P. K. Nair, Able Seaman Ismail Mohammed, Able Seaman Mohammed Khan, Able Seaman Ismail Baba and Ordinary Seaman Balachandra were members of the gallant gun's crew.



One of the most dramatic engagements in naval history was fought in a lonely part of the Indian Ocean shortly before noon on November 11, 1942. H.M.I.S. Bengal, a vessel of under 1,000 tons designed for minesweeping and anti-submarine work, which was escorting a Dutch tanker, engaged successfully two Japanese raiders which were ten times her size and far more heavily armed, sinking one and driving the other away.

The gun crew of H.M.I.S. Bengal: a photograph taken in port after the battle. "No praise is great enough for their magnificent conduct in face of the greatest danger." In those words the Commanding Officer summed up their shipmates' tribute to the gunners.

Leading Telegraphist Minoo Dinshaw manned the wireless telegraph set throughout the action, clearing all signals promptly and accurately.

Lieutenant-Commander (E) J. Coverdale-Smith did magnificent work while in charge of the engine room and boiler room complements and also with repair parties during and after the action.

Lieutenant Jai Shankar Mehra rendered his Commanding Officer every assistace in his capacity as First Lieutenant of the ship. He displayed coolness and efficiency under fire and in supervising repair parties and keeping his Commanding Officer informed of the situation.

SAILORS OF THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY TRAINING IN ENGLAND.—Royal Indian Naval ratings under instruction at a training Camp in England.

Picture shows Indian ratings leaving the camp with their gear at the end of the training period. They are now ready for service.

H.M.I.S. "Jumna's" Battle with Bombers

First-class Show in Accordance with High Standard

Chief Ordnance Artificer P. C. Mascarenhas of the Royal Indian Navy who was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for the coolness with which he repaired the ship's guns during H.M.I.S. Jumna's action against Japanese aircraft in February last year.

THE part played by R.I.N. ships in the war is illustrated by the following account of H.M.I.S. *Jumna's* experiences in the Java Sea. The story is of H.M.I.S. *Jumna's* day-long battle with Japanese dive-bombers while protecting a convoy in the dangerous waters of the Sunda Straits between Java and Sumatra. Details that have become known have aroused the greatest admiration throughout the Royal Indian Navy, which has been expressed in the following signal from the Flag Officer Commanding, Vice-Admiral Sir Herbert Fitzherbert:—

> "Please convey to all officers and the ship's company my heartiest congratulations on the first class show that *Jumna* put up on 24th and 28th February. It is fully in accordance with the high standard I expect from the Royal Indian Navy and we are all extremely proud of you."

H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, one of our latest sloops, is believed to have been the last warship to leave Batavia before it fell. In her various encounters with the Japanese she destroyed four bombers for certain, and perhaps more. Her work was carried out in conditions of great danger. More than once powerful units of the Japanese Navy were in the vicinity. At this time, elsewhere in these waters, was taking place the Battle of the Java Sea, in which the part played by H.M.S. *Exeter* and other gallant ships is already known to the public.

With this exciting experience *Jumna* rounded off a spell of continuous duty that took her from the far North Atlantic to the Netherlands East Indies. In the Atlantic she was engaged in convoying. She has been to the Faroe Islands, where the midnight sun astonished some of the ratings; the Commanding Officer had to explain the phenomenon in detail.

This was probably farther north than any Royal Indian Navy ship has ever been.

After several months of convoy duties *Jumna* proceeded round the Cape to the Mediterranean Station. There she had an uneventful time until Japan entered the war, when she was ordered to Singapore as part of the China Force. There she was employed in escorting convoys of incoming troopships, and afterwards, when the situation became serious, in getting them away from Singapore to Java. This was exciting work, among minefields and with Japanese air raids going on all the time. These attacks, however, were mild affairs compared with what came afterwards when the enemy started raiding the dock area at Batavia.

It was on the day of her arrival in Batavia that *Jumna* bagged her first Japanese aircraft. This was during a determined dive-bombing attack by waves of naval planes that descended to 1,500 feet dropping bombs and firing incessantly with machine guns. One that her gun crews definitely shot down approached on the port beam and dropped its bombs just ahead of her, but the Royal Indian Navy vessel, blazing away with her main anti-aircraft armament and lighter weapons, put paid to the Jap's account with an high explosive shell that burst just in front of him.

The situation was getting critical, as it was known that Japanese land forces were near. The Commander was given the task of escorting the last convoy to leave Batavia before the invader entered. This left at midnight and proceeded westwards to the Sunda Straits at the northern end of which the "fun" began early the following day.

Enemy aircraft made continuous attacks on *Jumna* and the other escort, H.M.A.S. *Yarra*, also on the line of merchant ships loaded with stores and evacuees. Dive-bombers came over in formations of from three to six at regular and brief intervals, dropping bombs and firing bullets and projectiles from machine guns and cannon. Each attack lasted about half an hour, followed by a pause, and then the Japanese again came in search of their prey. Unable to manœuvre freely in narrow waters the convoy was at a manifest disadvantage and the Japanese airmen pressed home their attacks with determination. Realizing from the volume and accuracy of her fire that *Jumna* was a tough opponent, they concentrated on her. Each wave of bombers dropped both heavy and light bombs, which fell within 15 feet from the ship's side seeming to lift the ship out of the water, but *Jumna* gave back better than she received, her gun crews often drenched with spray keeping up a heavy fire that broke up the enemy formations and prevented them from inflicting any damage on the ships under convoy during the whole time she was with them. *Jumna* herself was straddled by bombs on several occasions but had only slight damage from near misses, and no casualties although the deck was covered with bomb fragments.

The ship's company were in action the whole day, and in the inferno of concentrated fire that the Japanese created for them, their behaviour, in the words of the Commanding Officer, was magnificent. Everyone carried out his arduous duties with the utmost cheerfulness. In particular, the men handling the close range weapons showed splendid discipline in holding their fire until the enemy were close enough to be hit. In the engine room where the battle could not be seen, admirable work was done in executing promptly such repairs as were necessary. *Jumna* used her armament to such good purpose that she had the satisfaction of destroying three more of the enemy aircraft. The first was hit by a 4-inch shell and blew up in the air. Later two others were "bagged" and a fourth was "downed."

An eye-witness said that the last attack "was perhaps the most ferocious of all, Junkers 88s roaring in from three sides bombing and machine-gunning. One flew over the funnel, down which it seemed as if one of the bombs had dropped. It was most unpleasant. You could see *Jumna's* tracer bullets hitting the fuselage. Aircraft zoomed in simultaneously or in quick succession and the combined fire of these churned the sea round the Royal Indian Navy vessel as if a terrific rain-storm was in progress, and the din was ear-splitting."

As night approached, the enemy slackened off, and at night-fall the convoy reached the open sea. Air raids then ceased, but other dangers awaited the *Jumna*. Suddenly out of pitch darkness, a submarine attack developed, and torpedoes were fired at the convoy of merchant ships. The escort promptly went into action with depth charges, with sufficient result to prevent further attack. The convoy only just escaped further contact with the enemy as only two hours after it had passed the northern part of the Straits a Japanese force landed at Banten Bay; and this force was escorted by heavy cruisers.

Jumna left the convoy south of Java as arranged and was ordered back into the Sumatran danger zone on another important mission. However, apart from sighting a solitary Japanese plane, the voyage was without incident.

The Commanding officer ascribes *Jumna's* good fortune in having no damage done to her and no casualties aboard to the presence of a sprig of white heather from the banks of Loch Lomond. That heather was presented to him when leaving Scotland and has crossed the Equator many times. Others on board feel that it was "Blitz," the ship's black cat, who brought them luck. During those exciting hours in the Sunda Straits, "Blitz," who hails from Glasgow, was seen prowling the decks and watching the enemy's proceedings with the disdainful air of one who knows he has nine lives and that it will take more than the Japanese to deprive him of them.

Awards for "Jumna" Heroes

AN officer of the Royal Indian Navy was awarded the D.S.C. and two ratings received the D.S.M. for devotion to duty during Japanese air attacks in February 1942, when H.M.I.S. *Jumna* was engaged in convoy work in the Dutch East Indies. *Jumna* shot down four Japanese aircraft for certain and probably another. The awards are as follows:—

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

Lieutenant Alastair Jaffery Victor LeCocq, R.I.N.V.R., to whose ability as Gunnery Officer, says the *London Gazettee*, the destruction of the Japanese planes was mainly due.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

O. No. 2282, Chief Ordnance Artificer Peter Cajetan Mascarenhas, who carried out repairs to guns during dive-bombing and machine-gun attacks, showing great devotion to duty.

O. No. 3249, Leading Seaman Khan Mohammed, who displayed skill and initiative in engaging individual aircraft with an Oerlikon gun.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES

Six ratings who were serving in H.M.I.S. *Jumna* at the time are mentioned in despatches. They are:—

O. No. 2348, Petty Officer, Mohammed Yaqub.

O. No. 2227, Petty Officer, Mohammed Shamsher.

O. No. 2304, Petty Officer, Sayed Mohammed.

O. No. 2499, Petty Officer, Sher Ali.

O. No. 2871, Electrical Artificer III, Douglas Henry Reeves.

O. No. 432, Chief Stoker, Ahmed Abdul Rehman.

They showed "Devotion to duty during heavy and continuous dive-bombing attacks," says the *Gazette*.

In an interview a member of the ship's company retold the dramatic story of *Jumna's* action in the Dutch East Indies on that eventful 28th of February. Four days previously the R.I.N. warship had shot down her first enemy bomber.

The black menace of attack by the Japanese hung over Batavia at midnight when *Jumna* and another warship left the port with orders to escort six merchant ships carrying valuable cargoes.

We entered the Sunda Straits at 6-30 a.m., he said and we weren't left in peace long. Japanese land-based planes had smelt us out.

At 7-45 thirty of them came over at a low level to bomb and machine-gun us. The air was full of flying lead, and my ears were ringing with the din.

As fast as they unloaded their bombs and emptied their machine-gun belts, back to their bases they went to reload and come at us again.

During the second attack, which started at 10 a.m., *Jumna* drew her first blood.

Planes came hurtling down at us from all quarters, and one of them let go a stick of bombs that looked as if it must fall straight down the funnel. Apparently, however, the enemy was put off his aim by a burst from our machine-guns, for we could see the bullets ripping through the fuselage. The plane straightened out and tried to get away astern. Our gunners let it have a packet smack in the middle, and it dropped into the sea two miles away.

An hour later back the enemy came, and this time it was 'A' gun that knocked one into the sea.

And so it went on, with periodical attacks right up till dusk. By that time we knew that at least four Japanese planes and probably another would never again attack a convoy, while others would need patching up before they would be of much use again. All the ships we were escorting got through the Sunda Straits untouched.

R.I.N. Ship Hunts Submarine

Saves Convoy in Heavy Sea

DETAILS of a Royal Indian Navy vessel's pursuit of an enemy submarine somewhere in the waters around India were lately released.

Earlier this year, one of H.M.I. ships was escorting a convoy in heavy seas and a strong wind that caused her to pitch and roll and ship much water over her bows. Towards evening the weather grew worse, and, taking advantage of this, a submerged submarine torpedoed a ship on the wing of the convoy.

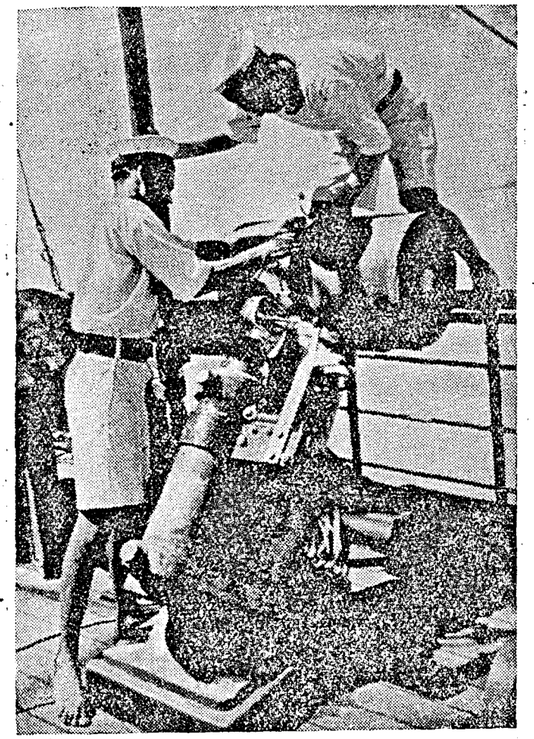
Going into action at once, the R.I.N. vessel turned beam on to sea and wind in order to reduce pitching and conduct the hunt more advantageously. The pounding of the seas caused her to list heavily, but despite the difficulties she made several attacks with depth charges on the lurking enemy.

At the same instant as the second attack a bubble of air, 12 feet in diameter, was observed to rise to the surface of the sea accompanied by a considerable quantity of oil.

In the gathering darkness and bad weather it was not possible to ascertain what became of the submarine, although the R.I.N. vessel searched a wide area; but her prompt counter-attack had saved the convoy from being further molested, and the absence of any more attempts on the torpedoed ship, which remained afloat, suggests that the submarine may have been damaged.

Little Ships' Great Record in the Arakan

Vital Job of the "Wavell's Navy"



IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.—Escort ships of the R.I.N. all carry depth charge throwers for use against submarines. This thrower hurls the charge 40 yards on the beam. It explodes under the surface of the water and damages any submarine within range.

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 roles, 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, in 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.

Five of these were picked up in the Ramree engagement at the end of February. Several launches were on the prowl that night, but only one of them was in action. At the end of an hour and a half, she had riddled with gunfire, set ablaze and sunk a 90 feet long enemy vessel, and badly damaged a similar Japanese ship which was not seen again after catching fire. The death roll among the Japanese troops on their way to Akyab was at least 45.

A few nights earlier Myebon, an important place used as a port of call by the Japs, was destroyed partly by fire from the launches and partly by British troops who went ashore armed with petrol and explosives, which they employed to produce a line of fires three-quarters of a mile long. A beached river steamer and a number of large sampans were also blown to bits that night.

ENEMY LAUNCH RAMMED

The episode in which an enemy launch was rammed in good old-fashioned style occurred about a month earlier. This time only one of our launches was concerned. Slipping down the coast of the Mayu Peninsula one moonlight night, she chased and sent ashore near Donbaik a small Jap vessel which was certainly put out of action for a long time.

Sailing on, the Commander and his men found more adventure when they reached the mouth of the Mayu river and were close to a mangrove-fringed creek in the northern part of Akyab Island. They were exactly on the Japanese ferry supply route between Akyab Island and the Peninsula when they saw what seemed to be a thicket-covered island.

It proved to be a densely camouflaged 78-feet launch, crammed with soldiers. A fierce encounter followed, and an hour and a half later, the enemy was at the bottom of the river after being rammed, raked with fire and set ablaze. At least 50 troops lost their lives, a number being cut up in the water by our craft's propellers. Which gives all the more meaning to the Commander's tribute to his men: "My Indian ratings behaved extremely well in this their first taste of action.".

Of the Donbaik bombardments, one was carried out by a single ship, and two others (coinciding with a land attack on March 18) by larger numbers. They provoked the Jap into energetic response with guns and mortars, but clever manœuvring kept all the launches out of trouble.

Launches of the Burma Navy, smaller craft manned by enthusiastic Burmans and Anglo-Burmans, have proved just the thing for river work, first in the Naf and later in the Mayu, up which they slipped one misty night in January under the nose of the Japs at Rathedaung.

They have been active ever since, patrolling, intercepting cross-river traffic and occasionally taking part in lively encounters. One of their best actions was that in which, during the early stages of the recent enemy push northwards of Rathedaung, they shot up and sank 14 sampans, some of them containing reinforcements. A few days later, when it became necessary to evacuate the village of Htizwe, they were in the picture again, taking off troops and supplies and disembarking them further north.

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. And 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.

R.I.N. and Burma Campaign

Courage and Resourcefulness of Indian Seamen

FURTHER information can now be given about the part played in the Burma campaign by the Royal Indian Navy and Burma Navy. Many officers and men of the Burma Navy are now serving with the R.I.N. Their experience will be of great value both in the protection of this country's coast and in future operations against the Japanese.

When the enemy were coming dangerously close, motor launches of the Burma Navy evacuated civil and military personnel, including the staffs of light-houses, from the islands of the Mergui Archipelago and Moulmein and Tavoy. These operations were often carried out under fire from the enemy's aircraft and forces ashore, and in extremely bad weather. In intervals between their errands of mercy, commanding officers found time to intercept country boats manned by the enemy, and also removed to Rangoon craft that would have been of use to the Japanese.

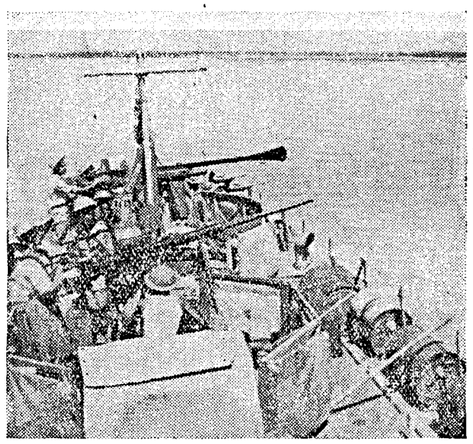
On land operations approaching Rangoon, Burma's naval forces patrolled the delta, swept for mines and gave warning of hostile bombers' proximity. On at least one occasion a motor launch captured a country boat containing Japanese officers and armed Burmese hooligans. Officers and men of the Burma Navy also joined in unloading the cargoes of vessels in port, working continuously for days. Later, when the evacuation of Rangoon was decided upon, they assisted in taking many river craft to sea. This was done in co-operation with the Port Authority's staffs and Indian crews engaged upon the river, and involved considerable risk, as these small craft were not built to stand up to such an ordeal, and might well have foundered in the storms that occur at this time of year. Proceeding, however, in several convoys escorted by motor launches, they made their passage safely along the coast, helping to evacuate personnel from Bassein.

The boisterous wind and heavy seas rendered it necessary for some vessels to proceed very slowly, for if they maintained speed they shipped water faster than they could get rid of it.

A Burma Navy Officer who was in a tug boat described how water was knee-deep on deck.

Larger vessels left Rangoon later, escorted by H.M.I. ships.

Soon after the tug reached Akyab, a strange-looking convoy arrived from Bassein, consisting of flat-bottomed river steamers, barges and launches with large numbers of evacuees. It too had had to brave the perils of the open sea, but the Indian seamen who manned it showed the greatest courage and resourcefulness.



Manned by Indian crews, launches of the Royal Indian Navy keep a constant patrol in Burma waters, incessantly harassing the Japanese. They work in close co-operation with Army and Air Forces, hitting the enemy hard where it hurts most. Courageous men manning the launches are doing splendid work under difficult conditions and are proving the sterling quality of India's Navy.

Photo shows all guns trained on the Burma coast, ready for immediate action.

In Akyab the Burma Navy's personnel helped to evacuate refugees and surplus stores, and while patrolling the coast and inland waterways—in the later stages under continuous enemy surveillence—kept as much control as possible over marauding bands of hooligans. One of their launches stood by to rescue Royal Air Force men who might have to bale out over deep water.

On shore, officers of the Burma Navy, with R.I.N. ratings, assisted in maintaining electric, water and other essential services, and when evacuation was at last necessary, demolished jetties and sank vessels that could not be removed to safety.

Story of a Successful Raid

[Here is the story of the highly successful raid carried out on the Arakan coast on the night of February 21-22, 1942, when a small force of troops entered Hunters Bay, landed on the waterfront at Myebon, stayed ashore for five hours, during which time they blew up jetties, godowns and dumps and came away safely accompanied by several Indians who asked to be taken back.]

OUR troops embarked in vessels of the Royal Indian Navy Coastal Forces which left their base about dusk, stole past Akyab standing well out to sea, and entered Hunters Bay, some 60 miles south-east of Akyab. They made straight for the head of the bay where lies Myebon, a port which has been used by the Japanese as a supply base and line of communications centre.

Once ashore, the troops got busy on a carefully worked-out plan. The only two Japs they encountered were soon disposed of. Local inhabitants did not interfere and soon the raiders were dynamiting stores, godowns, jetties and key buildings.

Hand grenades helped to make the party go with a bang and soon the waterfront was devastated. In addition, several craft in the harbour, sampans and coastal vessels, were sent to the bottom.

Meanwhile, other troops had penetrated into the town. News of their presence rapidly spread, aided by the noise of explosions. A trickle of Indians began to come in, hailing our men as brothers and deliverers. When they heard that the attackers were leaving shortly, they asked to be allowed to go along with them—anything rather than live under the galling Japanese yoke. Their request was granted.

When the job was completed "according to plan" the landing parties withdrew to their ships in good order. Soon they were under way, sailing past Akyab and cocking a shook at it, and were safely home shortly afterwards.

The operation was a complete success. It entailed no casualties, inflicted considerable damage on enemy installations and brought in valuable information. Troops and crews were highly elated by the clockwork precision of the show and the results obtained.

R.I.N. Vessel Shells Machine-gun "Nests"

HOW a Royal Indian Navy ship bombarded Japanese machine-gun "nests" near Akyab during the Burma campaign of last year after beating off a heavy dive-bombing attack was revealed on her return to an Indian port.

Normally engaged in mine-sweeping, the vessel was from March to May 1942 employed on voyages of patrol and reconnaissance off the enemy-occupied coast of Burma. On May 3 four air raids were made on Akyab, one stick of bombs dropping close to her starboard quarter, and after the third raid her Commanding Officer was ordered to shell the Japanese positions along the right bank of a river just south of the port.

Three quarters of an hour after she had left her anchorage seven Japanese bombers swooped on the R.I.N. ship, diving repeatedly from different directions as she zigzagged in the shoal-strewn channel and blazed away with her A.A. armament. The nearest bomb fell only five feet away, but so effective was the fire maintained by the ship's company that the airmen became more cautious and released their bombs from a higher altitude. At times during the attack the vessel was almost hidden by fountains of water raised by the bombs, and a rescue launch actually started from shore in the belief that she had been sunk.

An 18-year old midshipman and two Indian signalmen were among those manning her machine guns. After adjusting the steering gear, which had suffered some damage, the R.I.N. vessel, her deck littered with fragments of bombs, proceeded up the river and shelled enemy positions stretching nine miles along the bank. Having silenced the machine guns and destroyed the buildings from which the Japanese were attacking our river traffic, she steamed back to Akyab, and shortly afterwards embarked a large number of troops and put to sea as escort to a convoy.

In Hospitable Scotland

On the Banks of Loch Lomond

LONDON is the place for sight-seeing, but give us Scotland for hospitality. Members of the ship's company of H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, one of the Royal Indian Navy's latest sloops, thus sum up conclusions on their stay in the British Isles, though they add in fairness to England that they spent only a few days there. *Jumna* is now in Eastern waters, engaged like her sister ships of the Royal Indian Navy in the defence of India.

One of the ship's company recently described in an interview how officers and men made the voyage from India in a palatial liner and on reaching their destination in Scotland, in the early hours of a cold February morning, were cheered by the sight of an ample meal of Indian curry and rice. The men were accommodated in a castle on the banks of Loch Lomond, famous in song, and had spacious living quarters in surroundings whose beauty is world renowned. After their duties in the dockyard, he said, they usually had the afternoon and evening at their disposal for trips into the neighbouring town, cinema-going, walks and boating on Loch Lomond.

"The people in the neighbourhood," he added "were most hospitable and used often to invite us to their houses. Food was strictly rationed, but they stinted themselves to provide us with a substantial meal. They showed great interest in India, and we had to answer many questions about our country. Everybody was working hard, cheerful and confident of victory, no air raid ever damping the people's spirits. On Sundays we returned their hospitality at the castle."

News of India was received at night through special B.B.C. broadcasts.

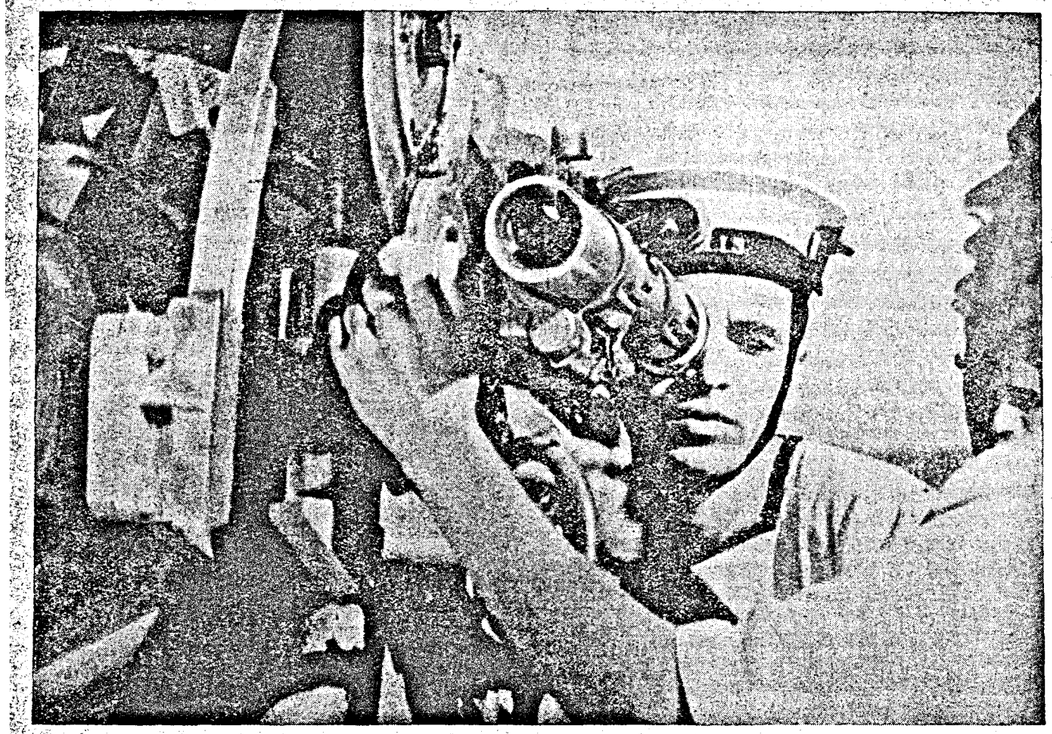
For her trials *Jumna* went to the North of Scotland, where the ship's company raised a football eleven to play an R.I.N. team. During all this time correspondence was kept up with friends in Scotland.

Early in July they were back in Scotland, and leave in any part of the United Kingdom was granted. Some ratings went to Edinburgh, but most preferred London thinking that they could not return to India without a visit to the metropolis of the world. In London they had a great time sight-seeing, and people made them feel at home, but the city was too vast to be properly appreciated in a short tour. Signs of air raid damage were surprisingly few.

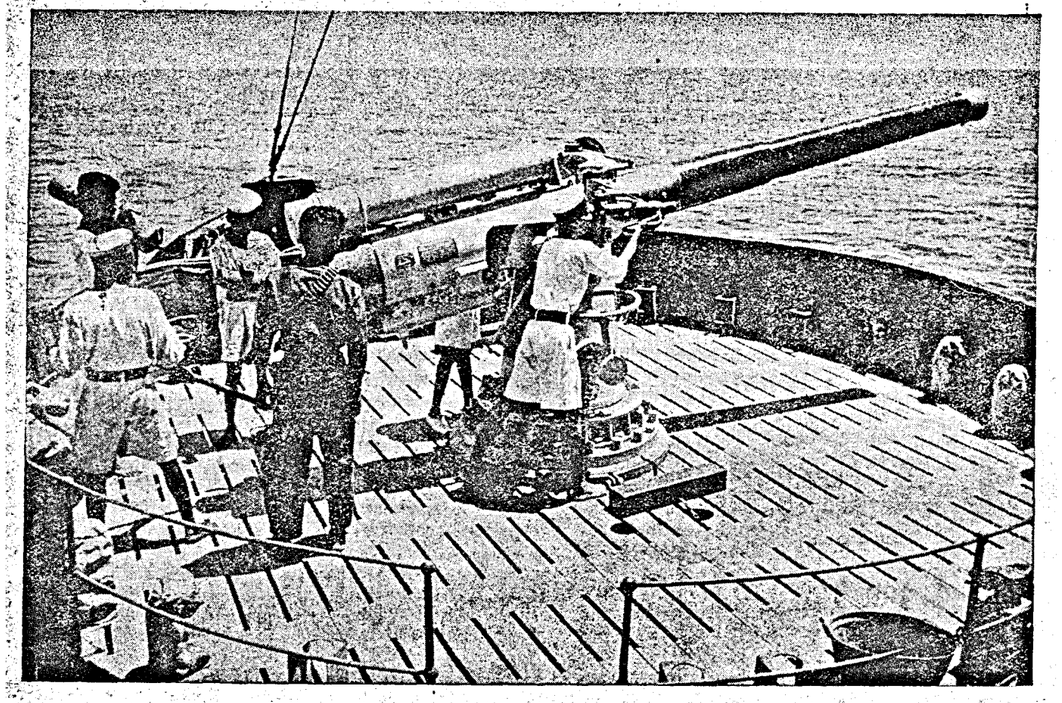
Jumna helped to escort several more convoys, and then after returning to Scotland, where the ship's company said goodbye to their many friends, started for the East.

In the opinion of some aboard, her good furtune in escaping serious damage was due to a sprig of white heather. If that is so, it is one more kindness to her from hospitable Scotland.

A happy group of Royal Indian Navy ratings photographed with an officer in camp.



SEAMEN OF INDIA ON DUTY.—A still from the Film Advisory Board production "Seamen of India" showing how sailors of the Royal Indian Navy are defending the shores of their country. A sailor of the Royal Indian Navy at the range finder of a gun.



IN THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.—Men of a minesweeper of the Royal Indian Navy with a breech-loading gun.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL IV FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1943 No. 44

Complete Confidence in Successful Outcome

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

The time has now come to carry the war into Italy, and into the continent of Europe. The Italian overseas empire has been exterminated. We will now deal with the home country.

To the Eighth Army has been given the honour of representing the British Empire in the Allied force, which is now to carry out the task. On our left will be our American allies. Together, we will set about the Italians in their own country in no uncertain way. They came into this war to suit themselves, and they must take the consequences.

I want to give a hearty welcome to the Canadian troops that are now joining the Eighth Army. They are magnificent soldiers. The task in front of us is not easy. In all our operations, we have always had the close and intimate support of the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, and because of that support, we have always succeeded. The combined effort of the three fighting Services is being applied in tremendous strength, and nothing will be able to stand against it. I have complete confidence in the successful outcome of this operation.

The eyes of the whole Empire will be on us once the battle starts. We will see that they get good news, and plenty of it. To each one of you, I would say: Good luck and good hunting in the home country of Italy.

GENERAL MONTGOMERY, *in a message to his invasion troops on July 14*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Sicily—The Beginning of the End	5
Elegy for A.G.	6
Chemicals in War: There is romance behind their production	8
Allies now Calling the Tune	9
In a Bomber on an Operational Flight	10
Indians deliver the Goods	11
German Railways pounded by R.A.F.	11
Maker of Modern China	12
Chinese Industrial Co-operatives	13
Progress in Free China	14
China Goes "Co-op"	15
Life in China's Wartime Capital	16
Aerial Spearhead of Invasion	17
Bombing to Shorten War	17
Germany faced with Crucial Decision	18
Germans to adopt Defensive Policy	18
Indian Blinded Soldiers to be Trained	18
War Diary	19

THE FIRST STAGE

"To Frenchmen of Metropolitan France: United Nations armed forces have to-day launched an offensive against Sicily. It is the first stage in the liberation of the European continent. There will be others. I call on the French people to remain calm and not to allow themselves to be deceived by false rumours which the enemy might circulate. The Allied Radio will keep you informed of military developments. I count on your *sang froid* and on your sense of discipline. Do not be rash, for the enemy is watching. Keep on listening to the Allied Radio and never heed rumours. Verify carefully the news you receive. By remaining calm and by not exposing yourselves to reprisals through premature action, you will be helping us effectively. When the hour of action strikes, we will let you know. Till then, help us by following our instructions. That is to say, keep calm and conserve your strength. We repeat, when the hour of action strikes we will let you know."

General EISENHOWER, in an announcement to Frenchmen in Metropolitan France on 10th July 1943.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

FRANCE WILL BE LIBERATED

"I think we can almost say that this action to-night is the beginning of the end. We are going to be ashore in a naval sense, air sense and military sense. Once there, we will have the opportunity of going in different directions and I want to tell General Giraud we have not forgotten that France is one of the directions.

"One of our prime aims, of course, is the restoration of the people of France and the sovereignty of France. Even if the move is not directed at the moment to France itself, General Giraud can rest assured that the ultimate objective—and we will do it and in the best way—is to liberate the people of France, not merely those in the southern parts, but the people of northern France—Paris—and in this whole operation, I should say that in the enormous planning, we have had complete co-operation with the French in North Africa, and gradually the opposition has cooled.

"The older regime is breaking down. We have seen what has happened or is happening at the present moment in Martinique and Guadaloupe. That is a very important point towards the big objective. We want to help rearm the French forces and build up French strength so that when the time comes from the military point of view and when we get into France itself and throw out the Germans, there will be a French army and French ships working with the British and ourselves."

—Mr. ROOSEVELT, at a dinner to General Giraud at Washington on 9, July 1943.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

INDIAN TRAINEES IN ENGLAND

"The people of India have always shown very great natural technical skill, chiefly in art. Those same hands which have shown such skill in art will now, in an increasing measure, be devoted to India's industrial development, to raising the standard of life for your fellow-men.

"We believe that the more prosperous the four hundred million people in India are the more prosperous we ourselves will be. We think that it is a great opportunity with our scientific and industrial development here—and which you can spread in India—to raise the economic status of India, so benefiting us and, in the end, helping to make the great partnership between India and ourselves work and more smooth."

—Field-Marshal WAVELL in an address to Indian Trainees in London on 10th July 1943.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1943 No. 44

RUNNING COMMENTARY

MAN BEHIND ALLIES' AIR VICTORIES IN PACIFIC—Lieutenant-General George C. Kenney, under whose command the Allied Air Farces in the South West Pacific are taking a heavy toll of Jap planes, has a long record of achievements in aviation. He is credited with being the first to instal machine-guns in airplane wings and also with being the inventor of parachute bombs.

India and the South-West Pacific—General MacArthur's Offensive.

What is happening in the South-West Pacific is of direct interest to India and her safety. For Japan's plans of mastery of the whole of Asia will remain a mere midsummer dream of madness, unless and until she defeats the Allies in the string of islands which skirt the north and eastern littoral of Australia. Japan's one great desire is to complete an outer chain of defences stretching from the Celebes in the West to the Solomons in the East. That desire has been shattered to the dust by the blows dealt by the Allies to the Japanese at Buna in New Guinea and at Guadalcanal in the Solomons. And now General MacArthur has launched a great offensive which is intended to strike at the very heart of the Japanese defence system. This was started on the last day of last month (June 30), but only two days previously, Major-General Yahagi, Director of the Japanese Army Information Bureau, said in a speech at Kyoto,

"Japan is ready to swing into a new major campaign."

Tokyo radio continued to broadcast summaries of Yahagi's speech even when Allied transports were approaching Rendova Island, Nassau Bay, the Trobriand and Woodlark groups. On June 29, an English summary of the speech broadcast by Tokyo ended by saying,

"These were the *words of reassurance* coming from the spokesman of the Japanese Army."

The next day when the Allied offensive started, Tokyo gave out in English the declaration of another Japanese military observer that

"the Japanese forces have now completed all necessary preparations from strategical bases from where an *all-out offensive against Australia* can be carried out at any moment. It is recalled that the Japanese forces, since February, have been carrying out readjustments of their operational bases for new actions."

Where are these operational bases? Nobody knows. It may be recalled that it was in February that the Japanese evacuated Guadalcanal. On February 10, Tokyo said, evidently with the object of softening the Guadalcanal blow, that the Japanese forces had secured, "several firm footholds further down towards the south." Five months have passed, and yet Tokyo has not given the exact location of these footholds. It can never give—because they do not exist anywhere except in the imagination of Tokyo propagandists!

* * * * *

Recent Operations—Japan Now Talks of "Defence System!"

Coming to recent operations in the South-West Pacific, it is of interest to note that Japanese broadcasts made no mention of the capture of Woodlark and Trobriand groups of islands, or of the landing at Nassau Bay, for four days, though the Tokyo Imperial Headquarters issued a brief communiqué on the Rendova Island operations on the evening of July 1. Tokyo has completely ignored the New Guinea operations and has referred only to the fighting in the Solomons area. The first comment, as distinct from the communiqué, came from the Japanese-controlled Batavia radio on the evening of July 2. Batavia said in an English broadcast,

"Characterising the Rendova development as typical American guerilla operations, military circles stated that others would be made in future from island to island in the Solomons area. They added, however, that the enemy invariably would find the

operations not only exceedingly difficult, but also highly costly, as the *Japanese defence* throughout the South-Western Pacific was impregnable."

The emphasis of Japanese broadcasts now is on the defensive rather than on the offensive. They do not refer nowadays to the "imminent" invasion of Australia, but rather draw attention to the likelihood of the Allies "inching forward" from island to island and penetrating the Japanese defensive zone. In a typical broadcast in English on July 3, Tokyo said,

> "Although the enemy might be intending to penetrate into our occupied areas in the south by their stepping-stone tactics over the Pacific islands, the enemy should remember, that they would always fall a good prey to our Imperial air forces."

As usual, Tokyo has put exaggerated claims in support. It told the world on July 2 that Japanese navy planes *alone* had sunk or damaged 81 cruisers and 86 destroyers since the outbreak of the war in the South-West Pacific area. In the Rendova island fighting, its claims are one cruiser, 5 destroyers and 3 transports sunk, one cruiser, one destroyer and 3 transports heavily damaged, and 77 planes shot down. It is the same old technique of exaggeration which was previously followed in the case of Guadalcanar and Attu. Tokyo says that the Japanese are holding air and naval superiority and inflicting diastrous casualties. But one may ask why the Japanese High Command thought discretion was the better part of valour, and ordered evacuation or surrender of the islands attacked by the Allies!

* * * * *

Three Months and Now—Perceptible Change in Pacific Situation.

The perceptible change in the Pacific situation from that of offensive to the defensive deserves further emphasis. Only three months ago, that is, in the middle of April this year, leaders of public opinion in Australia made public statements referring to the danger of a Japanese attempt to strike at the Australian mainland from the ring of island bases in the north and north-east. Mr. CURTIN, Mr. DRAKEFORD and General BLAMEY discussed possible enemy moves in the South-West Pacific. And these were made much of by Japanese propagandists and held up as indications of Australia's helpless and panicky position. If Australia was really helpless, why did not the Japanese attack it then and neutralise the biggest base for the counter-offensive of the Allies against Japan? One would have thought from the tone and trend of Tokyo broadcasts that the Japanese Military Administration was almost very near control at Canberra or Melbourne! It was no doubt true that large forces of enemy troops and aircraft were concentrated in the islands in the Arafura Sea off northern Australia. But at the time, Col. KNOX, U.S. Navy Secretary, pointed out that the distance between Port Darwin and the Arafura islands was about 315 miles, and doubted whether the Japanese would be able to find the necessary shipping to cross the distance, and preserve it from Allied attacks during the course.

* * * * *

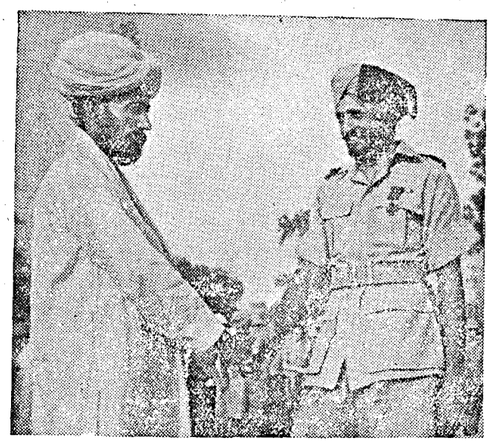
General MacArthur's Analysis—Air-Power, Strongest Counter.

In a sound analysis of the strategical situation, General MACARTHUR stated that Allied air-power in the area was the strongest counter to the Japanese threat. It was this air power particularly which enabled the Allies to pin down the Japanese and prevent them from consolidating their conquests. The whole strategy of the United Nations was to restrict themselves to a holding war in the Eastern hemisphere, while nourishing Russia and hitting at the Axis in the West. They wanted to avoid dispersing their chief resources at widely-scattered centres of danger, because they would have then run the grave risk of piecemeal reduction. This wise policy has brought in the rich dividends of Stalingrad and Tunisia. Not merely that, it has also robbed the strategic initiative of the Japanese in the Far East and strengthened the defence position of Australia.

The Australian Minister for External Affairs, Dr. EVATT, has paid a great tribute to the tremendous job of mobilization accomplished by Australia in the face of the deadly menace and the great help she has received from Britain and America. In a speech in London on June 28, he said,

> "The last twelve months have been months of stress and strain for the Australian people, but today there is a notable improvement in the situation. . . . The position in the Pacific has changed from one of deepest gloom to one of hope and reasonable confidence . . . What we have done we could not possibly have done alone."

In recent statements of Australian spokesmen also, there has been a marked note of renewed confidence. This is largely due to the fact that there has been a steady increase in Allied air reinforcements going to the South-West Pacific.



INDIA'S THIRD V.C.—At a ceremony held in the shadow of the massive walls of the Red Fort built in Delhi by Shah Jehan, His Excellency the Viceroy on July 1 presented the Victoria Cross to Havildar Parkash Singh of the 8th Punjab Regiment. The ceremony was attended by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and other high military and civil officers, and was watched by large numbers of the public.

Havildar Parkash Singh on three separate occasions recovered several Bren carriers in the face of heavy enemy gunfire at Donbaik in the Mayu Peninsula, Burma.

Photo shows Havildar Parkash Singh's father congratulating his son after the ceremony.

"SUBEDAR OF SWING"

Every night in a jungle clearing on the Burma border dance music played on a piano comes drifting melodiously from a soldiers' bamboo canteen—but the pianist is not the usual British soldier. It is an Indian V.C.O. who is known as the Subedar of Swing.

Before the war he was in a dance band in India—now he is in the office of an R.A.I.S.C. unit.

Every night British troops gather in their canteen to play the sentimental popular tunes which remind them of home. One night the Subedar shyly asked if he could play the piano. When he sat down they expected Indian music, but instead he struck up the latest syncopated hits. He was easily the best pianist among them.

SICILY—THE BEGINNING OF THE END

IN his topical talk in English from Berlin on July 5, Lord Haw Haw said, "I think that in Britain many people are sick and tired of the promise that a Second Front will be set up in 1943. . . . In Germany the subject commands very little interest. It is realised and understood that the toughest, the best armed and the most experienced troops in the world are perfectly ready to destroy any expeditionary force that lands, and the result of any attempt to carry the war on to the European soil is taken as a foregone conclusion." But barely five days after this boast, an expeditionary force has landed in Sicily and an attack on Hitler's *Festung Europa* has begun. Allied forces under the command of General Eisenhower are operating in Sicily from the early morning of July 10. Allied assault troops preceded by air and naval attacks began what is considered to be the greatest and most harzardous and daring operations ever undertaken since the battle of Gallipoli in 1915. The Battle for Europe has started in right earnest; and the Second Front about which Axis propagandists were making fun has now come into being. In a broadcast to the people of France, General Eisenhower said that the invasion of Sicily was "the first stage in the liberation of the European Continent." It may be said to be the beginning of the end of the Axis-infested Europe.

THE downward trend in Axis fortunes is now more perceptible than ever before. From triumphant offensive Germany has come to inevitable defensive action. Three years ago, in June 1940, there was Dunkirk, and then the collapse of France. Next year, June 1941, saw the German invasion of Russia. In June 1942 Berlin entertained dreams of conquering the Middle East and reaching India by way of the Caucasus and Egypt. But June 1943 saw the lull before the storm. The Germans were kept guessing and were waiting with feverish impatience to see where the Allied blow would fall. They did not know whether the Allies would land in Norway or the Low Countries or in the Bay of Biscay, the Riveira, Corsica, the Italian islands, or the Balkans.

End of Axis Suspense

THEIR suspense has ended, and the storm has broken out where it was naturally most expected—on Sicily. After the great victory in Tunisia, the first natural stepping-stone to Europe is, of course, Sicily. And the Allied forces have not only landed there, but also advanced inland and captured three air fields. The Italian naval base of Syracuse has been occupied, and the important naval towns of Licata, Avole, Pozzallo, Ispica, Noto and some coastal towns have also been captured. The Allies have occupied the entire Floridia district and have fanned out into the Central Katania plain. The G.H.Q. of the Axis defence forces in Sicily has been completely demolished.

IT is of interest to note that strong British, American and Canadian forces are engaged in the Sicilian operations, and General Montgomery, who won everlasting fame in the North African campaign, is now in command of the British forces in the area. General Eisenhower who visited Sicily, paid a great tribute to the co-ordination of the Allied forces. He said, "It could not have been better if it had been one and the same nation."

Wrested the initiative

THE Allies are making progress in the Sicilian operations and the great point to be noted is that in Europe they have definitely wrested the initiative from the hands of the enemy and carried the war into the enemy's camp. The German mind which has become accustomed to victory by offensive action is now reconciling itself to the idea of protective defence. A typical line of argument used in German propaganda is followed in an article in the official Nazi journal *Schwarze Korps*. "No other country," it says, "can endure the war so long as we can. Actually we have nothing else to do than defend ourselves, and in defence inflict the hardest blow on the enemy and continue this until he collapses. He will collapse at a stage of the war when his offensive power weakens." This is a vital doctrine which compares almost word for word with statements of French and some British commentators during the winter of 1939–40. It was this which wrecked France and brought Britain to the edge of destruction.

GERMANY has been showing a definite change of policy and outlook in regard to its propaganda. This is intended to be an effort to maintain German prestige abroad. The basic argument is that Germany has the immense advantage of interior lines of supply, and so can put up an unbreakable defence until the Allies are exhausted. It was stated that the strongly fortified belt around Europe could prevent the establishment of a bridgehead, but the landings in Sicily have established a bridgehead which may well be the beginning of many similar offensive approaches to the heart of Europe.

German Defences and Allied Air Tactics

THE point that should be noted in this connection is that whatever may be strength of the German defences in Europe, the new air tactics, which have borne such fruitful results in Tunisia, are capable of neutralising the strength of the fortified positions. The Germans expected that their coastal zones would hold the invading troops long enough to inflict heavy losses till their own forces at carefully selected points would concentrate their attack before the invading troops have time to consolidate their position. But direct air support to the assaulted troops can help to break up armoured formations of the enemy and overrun the whole of the coastal area before he can gather and concentrate his forces for attack.

IT is significant that Dr. Goebbels who was harping on the impossibility of Allied troops landing on Axis territory at the present time has been forced to admit its possibility. Writing in *Das Reich* very recently he said,

> "THAT the Allies possess enough tonnage and forces to land at some point or other in Europe, we do not want to doubt, nor can we . . . We are perfectly aware that a British-American invasion attempt can, under certain circumstances, lead to the decision of the war."

THIS admission stands in glaring contrast to Lord Haw Haw's cynical reference to the possibility of Allied landings in Europe. Now that the largest amphibian operations ever attempted have met with appreciable success, it would be of interest to watch the future trend of Axis propaganda about their "impregnable" defences.

ELEGY FOR A.G.

[The Officer in whose memory this elegy is written, was killed in action with the Fourth Indian Division in Tunisia. He was born in Ootacamund.]

Was it for this, my brother, that you were born and bred
So large of heart, so fleet-foot, so clear of eye and head,
That you should lie so early among the unstirring dead ?

Your brow was yet unlaurelled, your major's crown still new ;
Your day was in its morning and stars still shone a few
When burning Death passed by and scorched the lifting dew.

No more you lead the battery you trained and led so well ;
No more your men will follow through storms of earth or hell.
The house of man the hopeful falls crumbling to a shell.

No more your laughing children shall run to take your hand,
No more the wife you cherished on windy quayside stand
To welcome you, long looked for, home to hearth and land.

Remembering now our childhood, when on the Nilgiri steep
Your foot was ever foremost to climb or run or leap
And we would rise together, together fall asleep.

Remembering too our schooldays, when your long tireless pace
Won prize and cup and trophy in many a hard-run race
Yet modesty still wreathed prowess with brighter grace.

Remembering oars in summer swinging down Severn tide,
Or lithe threequarter swerving untouched through half a side,
Or horseman one with hunter of earth-disdaining stride.

Remembering last the snatches of time when we would meet,
Whom years and seas had sundered, and the old names repeat
With which so long before we two were used to greet.

I see the sinewy figure, the mouth a trace awry,
The broad and steady shoulder, the frank and cheerful eye,
A pattern for the living, that was so soon to die.

A pattern of men English who choose the soldier's trade,
Not passionate for glory nor vain of sword and braid,
Afraid of staining honour, not otherwise afraid,

He in the day of judgment, when tyranny was grown
From chick to monstrous eagle and England fought alone,
Glowed brighter as the gold glows when touched upon the stone.

No fear nor doubt nor question his resolution marred ;
Beside his peers he battled with fortitude ill-starred
To cleanse the world of horror and all its good to guard.

The vultures of the Atlas wheeled down the battle lines
Where rows of clamouring cannon challenged among the vines
And ere the echoes answered bombs roared the countersigns ;

Behind the hastening columns, beside the pitted road
They laid him with his fellow dead, a lifeless load,
And for a solemn tombstone a little cross bestowed.

Though thousand times ten thousand in year-long fighting fall,
Some darlings of their nation, and many brave and tall,
Death will not noose a better among those thousands all.

If after death, my brother, is any sight or sound
And you can hear our voices in your Tunisian ground,
Or any consolation in memory is found,

Take this our latest greeting, sharp-voiced with sadness sore
And endless bitter yearning for you who come no more,
No more to lovely England nor any human shore.

Remembering hearts shall be your enduring monument
To mark the life you borrowed and in your duty spent.
You quit you well, my brother ; farewell, and sleep content.

—*R.G.*

THE FIRST MOUTHFUL !

CHEMICALS IN WAR

THERE IS ROMANCE BEHIND THEIR PRODUCTION

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 water 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 dependant 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 without there first having been manufactured the chemicals with which they carry out their work.

EQUIPMENT OF THE FIGHTING SERVICES

I am going to go back to that list of equipment I mentioned and show you just what I meant. Briefly the list was composed of the following: cotton cloth, woollen cloth, dyestuffs, leather, metals, explosives, rubber and paint. Those can be taken as a basic list of the materials which form the equipment of an army, a navy or an air force, and I want to show you briefly just how chemicals play their part in the production of those things.

My first example is actually the least important. Cotton cloth which is later to be dyed a colour has less to do with chemicals than any of the other items, but remember, if cotton cloth is required white it has to be bleached and bleaching is done only with chemicals. There are various ways, though the most common is by using bleaching powder, chloride of lime solution.

In the case of wool, things are different. The natural wool when taken from the sheep is extremely dirty and also contains a very large quantity of natural grease. The dirt and a large proportion of the grease must be removed before the wool can be spun and woven. This is done again in numerous ways, but rinsing in a solution of soda, which is sodium carbonate or soda ash, is the simplest.

Next I come to dyeing. I know that to the housewife who is tired of the colour of last year's frock the dyeing of that frock with another colour is a simple business; either she sends it to the dyers or she buys a little packet of powder which she dissolves in a basin and then she pops the frock in. Now real dyeing—the dyeing of millions of yards of cloth with a colour which has to be reasonably fast to fading from sunlight, is a very complicated business. To start with, the manufacture of the dye colours themselves is one of the most intricate chemical processes known, but once the dye is produced the dyeing of the cloth becomes intricate too. To explain this I think I must turn to something quite different to give a parallel example.

You know that when you are developing a photographic negative you first wash the film in a developer solution—chemicals again—and then, when you have got the right degree of development you must 'fix' the film by washing in yet another solution or, on exposure to light, you would lose all the developed picture. In the dyeing of some dyestuffs there needs to be a very similar process. In others the dye is applied in a certain way and gives a certain colour and then the right colour originally wanted is developed by washing in a chemical bath.

The process of dyeing is intimately wound up with the use of chemicals such as hydrosulphite of soda, sodium sulphate, sulphate of alumina, caustic soda and a dozen others.

LEATHER

Now I come to leather. I suppose you all know that leather is the tanned hides of animals. Well, let me start with the skin of a cow which has just been killed. It has got hair on it which must be removed. Cutting it off will not do as there would be bristles left, so a chemical is used. The hide is soaked in a solution of sodium sulphide which rots the hairs off quickly. Then the hide is ready for tanning and there are a variety of processes by which this is done, all of them depending upon chemicals. The most popular now-a-days is probably that which is known as chrome tanning which depends almost entirely on the use of bichromate of soda or some other chrome compound. Then, of course, after tanning we come to just the same processes of dyeing as I have described with cloth.

Next come metals and there is scope for hours of talk upon each one of those in turn. But I must dismiss the subject with only a brief reference to the most important—iron from which steel is made. In the refining of iron chemicals play a large part and, curiously enough, that same sodium carbonate I have already mentioned comes into the picture again. In the final production of finished metal goods even more chemicals play their part.

RUBBER

Next comes rubber. As we know it this is the sap of a tree which grows in India, Ceylon and Malaya. That sap is suitably treated with various chemicals such as ammonia and is then passed to the factories where it is processed—again the chemicals—to make tyres and a thousand other important war materials. But with the loss of Malaya the United Nations have had to turn more and more to synthetic rubber to replace all the natural production which was lost. Synthetic rubber is entirely chemical, made with chemicals in chemical factories. Germany has relied upon this synthetic rubber for the greater part of her requirements in this war.

In all cases, both German and Allied, the process is secret. So I cannot tell you much of the chemicals used, but I have given you yet one more example of how vitally important chemicals are in war.

EXPLOSIVES

Now explosives. Surely I hardly need to tell you anything about the use of chemicals here, because explosives are chemicals or chemical mixtures and nothing else. Take the simplest gunpowder that everyone knows, it is a mixture of chlorate of potash, sulphur and carbon. Going up the scale there is the famous T.N.T. which is short for Tri Nitro Toluol—a nice chemical name for you. To-day there are the new and secret explosives which are blasting the towns of Germany off the map—these are all results of the chemical industry of Britain. And here let me interpose a curious fact, the main artificial fertilizer known in India—sulphate of ammonia—is an immediate necessity to the production of certain explosives in war time.

Lastly paint, a not very important item on the list, but most certainly not unimportant. You just think of how many of the things around you and of the things used by an army, that are painted, and you will see what I mean. Paint is a colour, fixed into a basic material which is mixed into a liquid in such a way that it can be applied to any surface and will then stick there and not change.

When you look at it in that way paint becomes a pretty complex business, and let me assure you that the manufacture of paint certainly is complicated. Like everything else it is dependent upon chemicals. To start with, it obtains a great majority of its colours from the dye-makers, but the mixing of these colours into paints is not just a matter of a little white lead and a little linseed oil. Without the aid of chemicals paints would be a sorry set of messes; and mind you, I refer to the ordinary oil paints here. The cellulose paints and lacquers which particularly interest the air force in war are entirely chemical in composition, cellulose being a particularly obstruse chemical compound.

BASIC CHEMICALS

Well, there is a brief statement of the use of chemicals in the basic needs of war, but I wonder if anything had struck you about the names of the chemicals which I have mentioned. Have you noticed how sodium, sulphur and carbon seemed to crop up in nearly every name in one way or another, with chlorine tagging along very close? Sodium carbonate, sodium sulphate, sodium sulphide, chloride of lime, those were the names which kept cropping up.. There is romance behind the production of these important products.

You might never believe that the most important basic chemical in the world, the one from which nearly all the others are eventually manufactured, is that common salt which you eat with your food, the salt which is in the sea, sodium chloride. It is from the vast accumulation of salt throughout the world that the great chemical industries have been built. Upon that foundation is based all the great manufactures of to-day. Caustic soda, without which you cannot make soap, and most of the more important chemicals have as one ingredient sodium which has been extracted from the sodium chloride which is salt.

Mind you, it is not only the sodium of common salt which is a valuable. I have said that salt is sodium chloride, that means that it is a compound of sodium and chlorine. The chlorine is also a vital product. It is a poisonous gas which was used in the last war, but more important still it is gas which is used to purify drinking water supplies. Wherever our armies go they carry chlorine to make the water they find fit for human consumption. It is the chlorine which is the important part of the chloride of lime, or bleaching powder. Chlorine does the bleaching and yet, in this same form as bleaching powder it is the great disinfectant in unhealthy districts and is used by the army everywhere to combat disease.

Next in importance is another natural product, sulphur, the valuable gift of those deadly things, volcanoes. Next to sodium, sulphur probably appears in one form or another, more often than anything else, in the important industrial chemicals. Sulphuric acid, which is a necessity to almost every industry is the first example which jumps to my mind. Yes, there is a romance behind the production of the world's industrial chemicals and I hope, too, that you will realize that there is more depending upon the production of those chemicals than meets the eye in these days of war.

Perhaps what I have said may help you to understand why some of those simple chemicals which you are accustomed to using in your own home are not now available. They are being conserved as they are vital necessities. Therefore, by going without them you, too, are joining in the common cause.

—A recent broacast from A.I.R., Madras.

ALLIES NOW CALLING THE TUNE

By WICKHAM STEED

MANY signs now suggest that large-scale Allied operations are impending. From London, New York and Algiers all Frenchmen have been warned by the Inter-Allied High Command to be ready to assist Allied forces at the moment of invasion and meanwhile to watch over their own safety and the safety of their families. Similar warnings have been addressed to Belgians living near factories working for the Germans.

Destructive Allied raids on Le Creusot, Friedrichshaven and Krefeld in the Ruhr continue to cripple Germany's war industry. Sicily and Southern Italy are being intensely bombarded. In the Atlantic German submarines are being destroyed with unprecedented thoroughness. The Allied armies in North Africa await the next move. Equal eagerness prevails among the large Allied armies in Britain.

Hardly less significant are authentic reports of underground resistance in occupied Europe. In the first four months of this year more than 500 Gestapo agents noted for their crimes against subjugated peoples were condemned to death and executed by resistance organizations in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Belgium, Holland, France and Bulgaria. These organizations are now linked together and united under a central leadership in contact with their exiled governments. German-occupied Europe is threatened not only with invasion from without but with effective opposition from within.

NOT BY AIR ATTACK ALONE

Competent British opinion agrees with General Marshall, United States Chief of Staff, that heavy blows by land forces will be needed to make these threats effective. Aerial bombardment is a preliminary to invasion, not a substitute for it. Yet examination of the results achieved in the Ruhr, at Pantelleria and elsewhere encourages the belief that no material barrier will be impregnable to land attack after concentrated bombardment.

Where and when the invasion of the European continent will begin is a riddle which Hitler is most anxious to read. Until invasions actually begin Allied commanders and Governments will not help him. Nor is he likely to know which of the several possible points of attack will be the most important.

Three years ago Hitler missed his first and greatest opportunity by failing to attempt an invasion of Britain immediately after the fall of France. Two years ago he believed that the overthrow of Russia must precede the destruction of Britain. The Russian counter-offensive in December 1941 upset this plan. Simultaneously the Japanese assault on Pearl Harbour ruined the prospect of a German victory by bringing the immense resources of the United States to the support of the Allied cause.

The crushing Russian victory at Stalingrad, the counter-offensive in the Caucasus and the British and Allied triumph in North Africa progressively demolished the whole German strategic conception. To-day the Allies hold the initative. The Axis is on the defensive against the Allied strategic conception. Coming weeks and months will show whether Germany now possesses enough strength to resist it.

NO LIGHTHEARTED OPTIMISM

Confident though the Allies are of complete final victory they are free from lighthearted optimism. They expect a struggle long, hard and costly. No losses or obstacles will deter them from pursuing to the end their supreme object, which is the total annihilation of Nazism and Fascism as an indispensable preliminary to the creation of peace and freedom. Among them there is no warweariness. There is a grim determination sustained by overwhelming strength.

Nor is this strength intended for military purposes only. It is meant to nourish and succour stricken peoples when Allied arms shall have liberated them. These humane and redeeming aspects of war are even now receiving careful attention and are being provided for as thoroughly as the needs of the armed forces. Vast fleets of merchant shipping will be required for these purposes. Allied successes in the Battle of the Atlantic are, therefore, pledged both to swifter military victory and wider and swifter succour to famished and ravished peoples when fighting ends.

British opinion understands the necessity of maintaining international forces for police work after victory. But it foresees an equal need for international peace forces to help in rebuilding the welfare of the countries and peoples shattered by the war. The scheme for relief and rehabilitation contains the germ of those peace forces. If armed victory has still to be won a greater victory over war itself beckons the Allied peoples even while they prepare for the decisive onslaught on the evil foe.

IN A BOMBER ON AN OPERATIONAL FLIGHT

[*The Editor of the* Madras War Review *had the privilege of flying with the Royal Air Force on a practice bombing raid during recent Air Force and Army exercises somewhere in South India. The following are his impressions of the flight :*]

PEOPLE talk of getting a kick out of life. I always had some hazy idea what it really meant till I got into a bomber of the Royal Air Force on an operational flight from Madras. It was during the recent Air Force and Army E ercises in South India.

It happened on a Sunday—June 20, 1943, and I shall never forget the date. How can I? I got a real kick out of life that day. When I returned home, and told my people—whom, of course, I had kept in blissful ignorance of my bold adventure—they cursed me—and blessed my stars—implying "You got a kick out of life all right! But supposing you got kicked out of it?"!

When I got back, I felt as if I had a Victoria Cross pinned on to my chest for bravery! So proud was I. And who wouldn't be? It was my first flying experience —and it was in a bomber of the Royal Air Force! Moreover, it was not just a joyride for journalists, but a practice operational flight in which pressmen were given the privilege of participating—the first time such a thing has been done in India, and therefore, an historic occasion for Indian journalism!

True, pressmen have flown before. On Tunisia Day, for instance, Madras journalists were taken in a plane and shown what Madras and the Tunisian Victory celebrations looked like from the air—a conducted tour in convenient, cushioned seats and without the slightest inconvenience. But not so with us. "Our" planes were to carry out "bombing operations" somewhere in South India, and we were "part of the show"!

AT EARLY DAWN

At early dawn, two officers of the Public Relations Directorate of the Royal Air Force came, and took us in a motor truck to the aerodrome. The ride in the moonlight, with the early breeze was bracing and exhilarating and I took in deep draughts of the cold morning air.

When we arrived at the aerodrome, it was light. Everybody was up—observers, pilots and gunners, seated in armchairs around tables chatting, smoking and laughing. The C.O. was seated on the front mudguard of a stationary military car, blotting out with a 'hanky' the sanguinary effects of an early morning shave—a nice man with a genial face, to whom everyone took. While we waited anxiously the leader of our press squadron, Flight-Lieut. Perry, went and spoke to him. Was all "right"? Could we go? Yes, we were to fly! —but in our happiness there was also a tinge of nervousness, almost real fear. When strange adventure comes near, they do bring fear, and I am not ashamed to admit it.

We sat down on the steps in one corner of a verandah—and waited. Nothing happened. The pilots smoked and chatted. Some whiled away the time, till the "Zero Hour" came, at dice. I watched them with great interest. They seemed to have not a care in the world. Yet there *was* an air of expectancy all round, as we waited for the word "Go"!

Then came coffee—that sweet-smelling drink of the gods, and the world took on a rosier appearance! And then that sound from the east! Right out of the morning sun came a fighter plane,—with a white band on its tail. We were "Whites", and it was one of our plane come to report. It circled over the aerodrome a few times, and then landed. The C.O. and one or two other officers rushed off to talk to the pilot. Fast in the flightsteps of the fighter came other fighters, one after the other, and soon the place was alive with the whirr of engines and the noise of trucks moving hither and thither to meet the landing pilots.

Throughout the exciting scene, my attention was on the C.O. Having called the Wing Commander and one or two others near where we happened to be seated, he held a short discussion, and then shouted, "Everybody in!". Whereupon all the pilots and other Air Force personnel present there disappeared into the Operations Room, evidently to discuss the report just received. When they came out, someone said, "The weather is against us", and we soon came to know that the flight had to be delayed, since weather conditions were not favourable to bombing operations.

PARACHUTE TECHNIQUE

So off came the parachutes—we had put them on before the fighters came. One of the officers had initiated us into the mysteries of this apparatus. It's a funny looking thing—the parachute! When I put it on I had the feeling I was tying *myself* into a knot. It's quite a job—but once you learn the technique—1, 2, 3, 4—it's as simple as ABCD.

We took a couple of minutes to get into the harness, but in a second we could free ourselves by simply banging the gadget attached to our chests. Visions of jumping into space from the realm of the clouds gave us alternating feelings of fear and fun. Later, the fun predominated, but I'm not sure that I was ever quite free of the fear!

Then began the waiting game—waiting and watching. We loitered and loafed around. I wanted to play "patience", but there were no cards. I thought some paper or periodical would help pass time, but there were none. I sat in a chair and gazed at the bombers in the distance. On one of them, I had to fly alone, for the other journalists would each go separately in a bomber. Of course, there would be the bomber crew, but a feeling of my own loneliness was rather oppressive.

Chewing the cud of loneliness, I suddenly missed my parachute! Who could have taken it? Had I put it somewhere else? All the three assigned to my brother journalists were there, but mine had gone! Actually it had flown to the clouds ahead of me, and later it flew with me—one of the flight-sergeants had taken it up. When he returned, I retrieved it . . . . and hid it in a safer place!

"ZERO HOUR" AT LAST!

"Zero Hour" came at last. At about 12-30, we were asked to stand by. We hurriedly put on our parachutes, looked ourselves over to see that everything was O.K.—and were ready to fly! There was another Royal Air Force "confab". In the Operations Room. And then they all busted out and got into the waiting trucks in groups of three—observer, pilot and air-gunner, with myself in one of the groups.

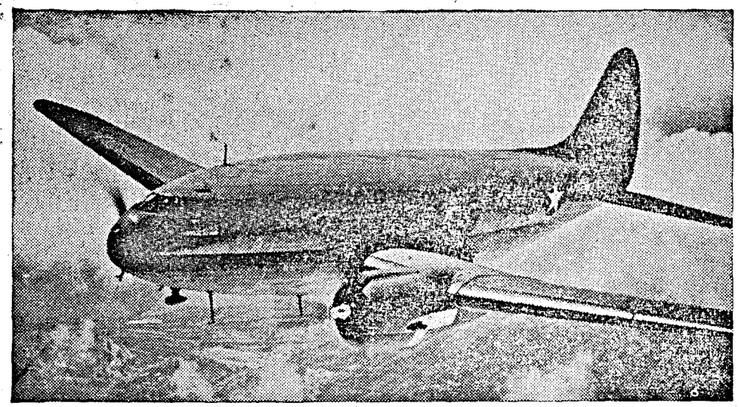
To get down from the truck and then get into the bomber didn't take more than a couple of minutes, but by that time, two of my comrades were already in the air. Before getting in, I surveyed the bomber basking in the noonday sun. She was a beauty!—a vehicle of dignity and grandeur, of hauteur and calmness, of confidence and strength. The observer was the first to get in—his seat was in the nose of the bomber—then the pilot and then I. The air-gunner gave me a lift up and I settled in beside the pilot's seat. The air-gunner must have got in behind, but I didn't see him during the whole course of the flight, which took almost exactly two and a half hours. The pilot shouted "contact," the engines roared, and then we were off! It was exactly one o'clock when we took off. I looked at my watch and noted the time. I looked up. The sun was right over my head.

As the bomber was moving along the runaway, somebody came up and spoke to the pilot, "You are ten minutes late. Two bombers have already taken off. You've got to catch them up. You're the leader!' So I was in the leading machine of the whole squadron, beside the Squadron Leader of the bomber flight! Here, on the first occasion in India when journalists were taken on an 'operational' flight, I was in the first batch to go; and I was in the first bomber—leading the rest against the 'enemy'! I congratulated myself (and thought I deserved a D.F.C.!).

A NUTSHELL IMPRESSION

The bomber went up, and up, into the blue. The mere earth rolled away. The world became a crossword puzzle; plots of land, small squares or rectangles; big trees, small bushes, huge buildings, dolls' houses, roads, ribbons; and rivers, snakes. How's that for a nutshell impression?

When I had filled my eyes with the wonder and beauty outside, I deliberately studied the inside of the bomber. The observer was busy jotting down some points in a notebook and marking the direction of the flight. Then he said something to the pilot through the 'inter-com.' tube. Of course, I couldn't hear a word. The noise of the engines was terrific in spite of the fact I had struck two pieces of cotton-wool into my ears. We had all been asked not to 'disturb or hamper' the work of the bomber crew in any way. I decided on a test. I coughed mildly, nothing happened; then loudly, I couldn't hear the slightest sound—and certainly the attention of the pilot beside me was not attracted!



GIANT UNITED STATES' PLANES CARRY 90 TONS OF SUPPLIES TO INDIA IN FOUR AND A HALF DAYS.—A flight of C-46 Commando troop and cargo planes such as the one shown hero recently flew from the United States to India in four and a half days, delivering 90 tons of supplies at an Indian base. They made the 15,000-mile flight from America by way of Africa without a loss or mishap. This plane can transport more than eight tons at an average speed of 200 miles an hour or carry 50 fully equipped soldiers. It has a wing span of 108 feet and is powered by twin 2,000-horsepower engines. United States Pilots called them "Dumbos" after an elephant of that name in a recent motion picture cartoon.

The observer clambered up from his seat and put on an electric switch near where I sat. I said to myself, "The moment has come. We are going to bomb an 'enemy' target,"—and looked at my watch. It was 2-15, an hour since we started. Suddenly, the Squadron Leader dived the plane. Down we went. My heart stood still. I caught my breath. I made an attempt to clutch something to hold on to—but there was nothing at the sides except some mechanical devices and gadgets,—and it would be dangerous to touch them! So I just leaned back. I saw the Squadron Leader stretch his hand across my neck, and my heart struck work for a split second. He released a clutch at the side of me . . . and my heart resumed its functions!

WE HIT THE TARGET

The observer looked below, then smiled at the pilot, and at me. Evidently we had hit the target, an aerodrome which was the 'enemy's' headquarters. At this moment, 'enemy' fighters came up, attempting to intercept and disperse our bombers, but they failed, and a number of them were "accounted for" by our rear-gunner.

Time and again we dropped our bombs on the 'enemy's' aerodrome and every time our bomber dived below, my heart applied for leave to stop work. Sometimes a row of coconut trees would suddenly grow bigger and taller, as we drove roaring towards them—and once I really thought the end had come!

The C.O. later told us that the type of low-level attack we carried out that afternoon was the same as that of the Royal Air Force in its bombing operations on France and the Low Countries and on some of the industrial towns in Germany. Talk about being thrilled to the marrow of one's bones!

The bombing was over. Soon I could see the sea again and knew we were nearing home. The runaways and the buildings came into sight, but what was that patch of white thick smoke trailing across the ground? Had *our* aerodrome been bombed? No, it was just a trail to show us which way the wind was blowing, and help us safely down—and we made a perfect landing—after a perfect bombing!

Our plane was the first to land. The others followed later, at intervals of a few minutes. We had been up in the air, on top of the world, for more than two and a half hours.

I thanked the C.O. on behalf of his visitors for his kindness in giving us all facilities and we all, including the C.O. posed for a photograph. I shall treasure that photograph as long as I live, as a memento of two and a half times "one crowded hour of glorious life."

A talk broadcast by Mr. T. A. V. Nathan, from A.I.R., Madras, to-day, July 16.

INDIANS DELIVER THE GOODS

FROM a rail-head somewhere in Iraq, Indian drivers of the R.I.A.S.C. serving in Persia and Iraq have been helping to carry vital supplies to Russia.

Laden with food and military stores convoys of heavy army trucks, driven by Indians from all parts of India, from districts as far apart as Madras in the south, to the North-West Frontier in the west start their long journey through Persia to a point far north in the country where the Russians take over the goods. The trucks then return to their starting station, reload and begin again their long journey to deliver to the Red Army weapons which have enabled them to hold the Germans and will eventually enable them to smash Hitler's war machine.

Operating over a route recently brought into use expressly for the transport of Russian supplies, over some thousand miles of rough mountainous country, the work of these Indian drivers is long and arduous.

GERMAN RAILWAYS POUNDED BY R.A.F.

RAILWAYS are vital to Germany for the defence of her vast "fortress." It is unfortunate for her that they are, since they are peculiarly vulnerable from the air—far more than any system of road transport, writes "Scrutator" in the *Observer*. Not only do wrecked rail tracks take longer to repair or to bypass than wrecked roads, but railway engines and rolling stock cannot be "dispersed" as lorries can, whether in movement or at rest. A single bomb on a moving train may derail the whole, and destroy not only the vehicle hit but most of the others. The locomotive itself can be disabled, even totally ruined, by a few shots from an aircraft's cannon.

There is the direction in which Allied aviation, both over western Europe and in the Mediterranean, has during 1943 developed a crescendo of planned and sustained pressure. Besides constantly devoting sorties to attacks on railways and trains, it makes special targets of factories where engines and rolling stock are produced and repaired. Since the thaw ended, the Russians at the opposite end of the "fortress" have started a similar policy.

It is impossible to measure the results statistically, but they must already be substantial. If railway facilities are diminished beyond a certain point, the "fortress" cannot be held save on a shortened perimeter. But that would mean evacuating territory and enabling the Allies to conduct their general bombing attack on Germany at a shorter range.

Already this general attack seems to be overshadowing all else in German imagination. While nights are short round midsummer, the Royal Air Force has been concentrating on the nearest big targets, that is, industrial cities of the Ruhr and the lower Rhine. One by one these hives of war industry and population are reduced to rubble and ashes. Places spared hitherto—Krefeld, Mulheim, Elberfed—are added in methodical succession to the list of ruins. The Germans can be under no illusion that any will escape. But their fears go further. They divine that, as the nights lengthen, the Royal Air Force will work east and the ruin of the Ruhr be extended step by step across the central Fatherland.

The effect of such alarm is to render it very difficult for the German military authorities to shorten the "fortress" perimeter. Supposing, for instance, they abandoned two-thirds of Italy, as there might be good military grounds for doing, they would expose to the Royal Air Force cities like Leipzig, Dresden and Vienna, hitherto unscathed. Can they afford to do that? But equally can they afford, with ever-lessening rail transport to risk their armies on fronts so remote from each other? That is their dilemma. Our business seems to be to go on sharpening both horns of it till by one or both of them they are fairly transfixed.

MAKER OF MODERN CHINA

CHIANG KAI-SHEK

DETERMINED from boyhood to help free China from Japanese aggression, Chiang Kai-shek was encouraged and inspired by his widowed mother in his decision to become a soldier. In 1906, at the age of 19, he entered Paoting Military School. SOLE QUALIFICATIONS OF A CHINESE OFFICER THEN WERE SKILL WITH SABRES, ABILITY TO LIFT AND SWING HEAVY WEIGHTS!

Since Japan gloried in war, even as China detested it, Chiang, to learn from his enemies took an advanced course at Tokyo. There he met and became the disciple of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Father of modern China. But in 1911, Imperial Chinese troops rose against the decadent Manchu war lords. Chiang asked for 48 hours leave, bought a civilian suit, posted uniform and sword to Tokyo Academy —and returned to Shanghai.

In 1923, Chiang went to study the Soviet military system, then returned to China to establish the Whampoo Military Academy. Working from early morning to late night, he planned courses for his men, trained them and turned them into first-rate officers well-versed in modern methods of warfare. Now the Academy produces splendid commanders for China's army divisions.

CHIANG'S GREAT CRUSADE

Elected to the Central Executive of the Kuomintang (China's People's Party) in 1925, a year later, Chiang led a great crusade of the Chinese people in their struggle for freedom. They swept the country. Nanking fell. Shangai was about to come to terms—when suddenly the People's front collapsed, Chiang's followers believing that he was about to compromise with the enemy. Actually, he was on the point of raising a loan from the bankers, who, sick of plundering war lords, looked to him to establish peace and order.

For the next ten years Chiang set about a tremendous task—unifying China, which for thousands of years had been split into factions ruled by quarrelsome war lords. A man of iron will, supreme moral and physical courage, he succeeded.

Japan, dreading a united China, struck in 1937. Much territory was seized by the enemy, but Chiang never wavered. Every political group in the country was united behind Chiang, the one man who could command the loyalty of the whole Chinese people.

Great towns fell to the enemy—one after another. But despair never entered Chiang's mind. "My armies will bend but not break, he said. To Japanese peace overtures he replied characteristically: "When I started 15 years ago. I had only 2,000 cadets . . . And I had no money; and I licked the war lords. Today I have half of China and the friendship of America and England . . . Let the Japanese come."

MAN OF SIMPLE TASTES

China's great man has simple tastes, lives in a ten-roomed house in a Chungking suburb. Chiang is optimistic, patient, imperturbable. He is one of the hardest working of the Allied war leaders. His day begins at 6-30; at the end of the day, which may be midnight or three in the morning, he writes his diary. He has kept a diary for 27 years.

His wife—formerly Mei-Ling, beautiful, American educated daughter of the famous Soong family—is his constant companion. He says she is "worth ten divisions of troops" to him. Married in 1927, they have rarely been parted. Chiang adopted Christianity—his wife's faith—soon after marriage.

Madame Chiang has proved an invaluable helpmate, devoting her remarkable intelligence, organizing ability and brilliant social gifts to the service of the nation. Thanks to their efforts, China, once undeveloped, now ranks with Britain, America and Russia as a world power.

Generalissimo and Madame Chiang, at Britain's invitation, visited India in February 1942, for conferences with other leaders.

Chiang Kai-shek is far more than a great general and administrator. He is the living symbol of China's epic fight for freedom, he is one of the makers of modern China.

THREE REMARKABLE WOMEN

The Soong sisters are the three most remarkable women in China to-day. They are very distinct personalities, and each has made her special contribution to China in her own way.

Mei-Ling, the youngest and most versatile sister, is known and admired all over the world as Madame Chiang Kai-shek. Her energy, courage and practical ability have been tested in many different fields. She has reorganized the Chinese Air Force, she deals with all the Generalissimo's foreign contacts and correspondence, she directs women's war work, and personally trains teachers to go into the country and organise health centres. She has started war orphanages where thousands of homeless children are growing up in safety and being cared for and educated. Her recent address to the United States Congress has been acclaimed as one of the best speeches ever made by the representative of a foreign power.

Eling, the eldest sister, is the wife of Dr. H. H. Kung, China's Finance Minister. An expert on finance in her own right, she has perhaps a more severe practical outlook than the other two. When the Japanese attacked China in July 1927, Madame Kung threw herself into war work, discovering her marked talent for organization and business. She provided ambulances and trucks for the army out of her private funds, started well-equipped hospitals on her own initiative, organized the sale of Liberty Bonds. When the Industrial Co-operatives were started, Madame Kung gave the movement her full support, and she takes a keen interest in textile and other manufactures. She hopes that in time Chinese women may find greater freedom and leisure when their household work is lightened by running water and mechanical appliances.

Chingling, the second sister, is an idealist, beautiful in character and appearance, who has devoted her life to carry on the work of her husband, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen. She married him at the age of 20, when he had only a few more years to live, strenuous years spent in the political education of his people. Chingling worked hard as Dr. Sun's secretary, dealing with his French and English correspondence. After his death she continued his work in the Kuomintang School and served on the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang. When the breach came between Chiang Kai-shek and the Communists, she retired from public life, urging in her farewell message that the new China must be built on the foundations of the people and peasants. The guerilla warfare which the country people are waging everywhere today has justified her prophetic words. Madame Sun was the first of the three sisters to take an active interest in, and give her support to, the Industrial Co-operatives.

SHE GAVE THE JAP A HEADACHE

Somewhere among the Japanese at the foot of the Chin Hills a soldier nurses a very sore hand. He was with a party who entered a village and because the villagers refused to render assistance the headman was tied to a chair while a sentry was posted to guard him.

The sentry walked around, yawned and finally went to sleep. The headman's wife crept up to the Jap, snatched his rifle away from him and hit him over the head with it. She then untied her husband and together they fled into the jungle. The sentry was left unconscious.

CHINESE INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES

By J. HENRY CARPENTER

Chairman, American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Co-operatives

THE Japanese have destroyed or now control 90 per cent of China's factories and have made refugees of 50,000,000 of her people. How have the Chinese been able to stand up under all this? How can they continue to do it until the United Nations relieve them by reconquering Burma and reopening the Burma Road?

I learned the answers to these questions during my recent trip to China as Chairman of the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Co-operatives.

Eight Chinese refugees were living in a cave outside of Shillipoo. By eating roots and foraging for scraps of food, these men were barely able to keep alive. They were given a loan of 3,000 yuan (about $150) by the Industrial Co-operative Division of United China Relief. With this they bought wood and made a loom, but then they were stuck.

"Now", they said, "we have to get metal to make the wheels that throw the shuttle and the gears. There was no gray iron available, no steel of any sort. They solved the problem by melting down brass Chinese coins (the kind with the hole in the middle), taking such excellent wheels that their loom proved twice as efficient as an ordinary one. In two years' time, they had built eight buildings with their own hands, had constructed 22 looms, and were feeding 92 other refugee members. They made blankets, canvas, cotton cloth and silk cloth. They had cut schoolrooms in the cliff, and many of the refugees still lived in caves. They also had a clinic with emergency medicines and doctor within call.

Give a Chinese a few scraps of metal, some bits of wood and wire and string and, in no time at all, he'll have a defence factory going full blast and growing all over the place. China's 1,600 co-operatives are strictly bad news for Japs.

They had a playground for the children, with swings and slides, and a basketball team that played in sectional tournaments. They have long since paid back the original loan, and their co-operative now has a net worth of more than $11,000.

ONCE A TEMPLE

At a place called Garden City outside Paoki (pronounced Pow-gee) stands a Buddhist temple. A stone in the entry-way bears witness that it was rehabilitated in the second century, A.D. A robed Taoist priest still remains in the holy place but it has been given over to a co-operative of wounded soldiers. There were originally 35 men cared for there, some with a leg off, a few blind, others with arms missing. They were given a loan of $1,200 and began weaving. In the course of time, five men recovered sufficiently to go back to the army. Each departed with $50 as his share of the profits. The co-operative has paid back half the original loan and has added steadily to its equipment.

The greatest of all examples of ingenuity is found on the hill on the edge of Chungking, the present capital. The direst of all Chinese needs, next to food, is gasolene. The Chungking Co-operative found an old marine boiler on the bank of the Yangtze river. It was rusted and corroded and seemingly worthless, but the Chinese began cutting the boiler up by hand. Having no cutting torches, they used cold chisels and sledge hammers.

What they intended to make were cracking plants to transform tung oil into gasolene. They eventually made five cracking plants out of that old wreck.

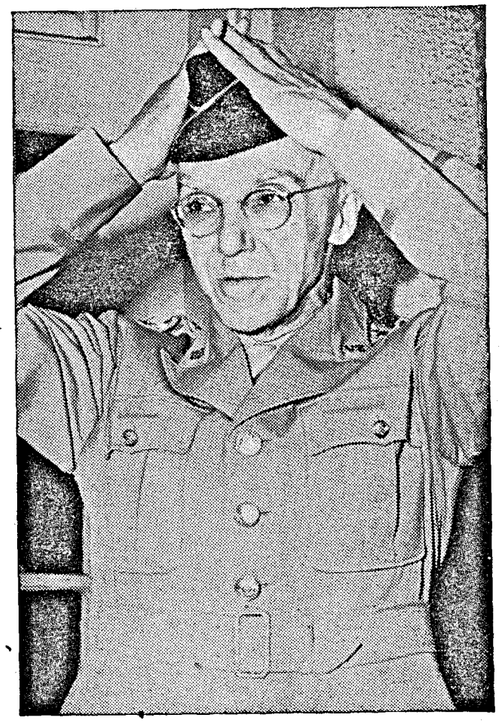
A TOUGH BLACKSMITHING JOB

The hardest job was to bend the iron. They dug a hole in the ground, started a fire, ran a bamboo tube to the hole and forced in air through handmade bellows. Over the fire they placed the plate they were going to bend, heated it to a white pitch, and then hammered it into shape by hand, using main force and sledge hammers.

"Those five plants now provide 10,000 gallons of gasolene a day," I was told proudly.

Gasolene costs from $10 to $20 a gallon, for the poorest quality. Often it is mixed with alcohol. The value of the plant can be measured by these figures.

I rode 1,700 miles through northwest China on a truck. The first carried wool from Lanchow to Paoki. Then from Paoki, I travelled to Chengtu in another truck, this one carrying cotton. The wool had a value of $500 in Lanchow. It was sold in Paoki for $1,500. The trip cost $1,000.



Lieut.-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander of United States Forces in China Burma and India, adjusts his cap as he arrives at the White House in Washington for a lengthy conference with President Franklin D. Roosevelt. General Stilwell returned to Washington from the Far East with Major-General Claire L. Chennault, Commander of the 14th United States Air Force in China, to confer with Mr. Roosevelt and General George C. Marshall, United States Army Chief-of-Staff.

700,000 BLANKETS

The Chinese co-operatives provided the army with 700,000 blankets last year, made on hand-constructed looms under the worst possible conditions. When the big thread-twisting plant at Sian was bombed out of operation, there followed a great need for cotton thread for the warp of the blankets and cloth.

At Hanchung a young Chinese workman made a thread-twisting machine out of wood, the only steel used being two pieces supplied by the "wishbone" of a wrecked American car. The greatest need was for steel for the spindles that held the bobbin, and when that wasn't available, the young genius improvised two small wooden bobbin-carriers that lay flat instead of upright and allowed the thread to come off without the use of a spindle. The machine handled 24 bobbins at a time, doing an estimated 20 per cent better job than was possible with the former equipment.

In practically all cases, the machines made of sticks and bits of wire operate more efficiently than the original installations.

SHANGHAI WORKMEN'S FEAT

When Shanghai was evacuated, one group of workmen carried a planer and a drill on their backs for hundreds of miles until they could get it to a river. Then they carried it by sampan to Paoki—a 1,500-mile trip. When they got to Paoki, they set up the equipment. For power they used an old wooden wheel which was turned by two boys.

"We are about to embark on the most momentous enterprise of the war, striking for the first time at the enemy in his own land. Success means the opening of a Second Front with all that implies and the first move towards the rapid and decisive defeat of our enemies.

"Our object is clear; and our primary duty is to place this vast expedition ashore in the minimum time, and, subsequently, to maintain our military and air forces as they drive relentlessly forward into enemy territory.

"In the light of this duty, great risks must be and are to be accepted. The safety of our own ships, and all distracting considerations are to be relegated to a second place, or disregarded, as the accomplishment of our primary duty may require.

"On every commanding officer and rating rests the individual and personal duty of ensuring that no flinching in determination or failure of effort on his own part will hamper this great enterprise.

"I rest confident in the resolution, will and endurance of you all to whom this momentous enterprise is entrusted."

—ADMIRAL SIR A. B CUNNINGHAM in a message to all the ships in the Allied Fleet taking part in the Sicilian expedition on 9th July 1943

Later, they took an engine out of an old automobile and geared it to the power shaft. A charcoal burner, made in their own shop, furnished gas to run the motor. The old hand-turned wheel had furnished only enough power to run one machine at a time. The new installation supplied more than enough to run the planer and drill together.

A TRIUMPH OF MANPOWER

When trucks break down, men come forward to carry the loads. Men bear burdens of as much as 150 pounds on trips of 500 miles. With sticks across their shoulders, allowing the load to be evenly distributed, they trudge steadily on as long as daylight lasts, often averaging 15 hours a day. Ancient four-wheeled carts, each carrying about a thousand pounds, are pulled by ropes in front and pushed from behind. They cover amazing distances.

At Shuang-shih-pu is a co-operative coal mine which is 9 miles from the nearest road (in fact the only road in north-west China). The coal is transported that distance, in wicker baskets carried on men's backs, over a mountain pass and by fording two rivers.

Since there is no wood pulp in many sections, paper is being made out of straw. A great source of straw is old straw sandals, and piles of discarded shoes are to be seen around a paper-making plant. The paper-makers put the straw in a large mixer vat with chemicals to soften the fibres. Then a silk screen held by two wooden handles is lowered into the vat. A thin layer of the dissolved mixture is deposited on the screen. The layer is picked off the screen by use of a piece of felt and then placed on a hot stone slab. When it dries, it is peeled off, piece by piece. This is newsprint, upon which a one-page paper is turned out on a small hand press.

CARDING DEVICE

When the supply of replacement material for the wool-carding machine was cut off from the only source, England, they made a substitute of their own. The original carding device was small wires held in a heavy belt. It combed out the wool being drawn through it. Lacking this "card clothing" the Chinese took the steel bands that often come on packing cases, hacked notches in them and substituted them for the carding wires. Then they needed nails to put these strips on a revolving drum—but had none. They sent from Paoki to Chungking, 1,200 miles, to get 10 pounds of nails. The finished machine was a triumph. It was entirely hand-made and highly efficient.

There are 1,590 co-operatives in China and this year the Government of China is appropriating $5,000,000 for their promotion and loans. The co-operatives produced $30,000,000 worth of goods last year and will far exceed that in 1943. Instead of attempting the hopeless task of feeding the refugee Chinese, the co-operatives give them money for tools and equipment, and they feed themselves. At the same time they are producing needed war and civilian supplies during the period of China's greatest need.

PROGRESS IN FREE CHINA

THE Chinese Ministry of Information recently published a review of Government achievements in 1942 wherein noteworthy progress is recorded in administration, education, economic reconstruction, and other fields. Internally, the Government gave special attention to increasing administrative efficiency. The programme of planning, execution and examination which was first tried out in 1941 was improved upon last year. Overlapping organizations in the different provinces were mostly reorganized and incorporated. Eighteen provinces and one special municipality had People's Political Councils for advising the Government on administration.

In 1942 judicial administration was centred on the preparation of handling of law cases involving foreign nationals after the abolition of consular jurisdiction. The Ministry of Justice was transferred from the Judicial Yuan to the Executive Yuan for closer co-operation with other Ministries. Universities were asked to help, train judicial personnel in their departments of law, and translators were enlisted to interpret for foreign nationals involved in law suits. The Ministry reports that in Free China in the past year there were 24 higher courts, 97 branch higher courts, and 400 lower courts.

Outstanding change in China's financial administration during the year was the taking over of provincial finance administration by the National Government and the strengthening of hsien (county) finance. State monopolies of salt, sugar, tobacco and matches proved successful during the year.

Progress was also noted in education and production among other fields. Free China had 232,145 primary schools with 22,343,484 students. In July 1942, in spite of unforeseen handicaps, Government enterprises completed from 60 to 80 per cent of their 1942 production programme, the Ministry reports. Free China farms yielded 48,640,962 piculs (one picul equals 110 lb.) of foodstuffs more than ordinary harvests as a result of the "Increased Production" campaign launched at the beginning of last year, while the nation had 28,747 co-operative societies under the new hsien system with 2,848,642 members.

CHINA GOES "CO-OP"

By ERNEST O. HAUSER

[*China's 2,000 co-operatives have brought new hopes and a new spirit to her workers and peasants. Women as well as men have shown enthusiasm for these small industrial plants whose equipment is owned by the workers themselves.*]

ONE of the main reasons for China's survival as a nation after six years of her defensive war against Japan, is the fact that peaceful reconstruction has been going on in her backyard while the frontyard was occupied and devastated by the aggressor. People, capital and machinery hurriedly evacuated before the enemy's advance were carefully collected in the rear, to function there and to promote construction and reconstruction so that China might fight on.

In this process of constructive reorganization China's industrial co-operatives have played a prominent part. In fact the "Indusco" line stretching from one end of Free China to the other is great importance to-day.

Along this line the Chinese people with the assistance of a handful of enthusiastic foreigners have built some 2,000 individual co-operatives with a total membership of 25,000 and with something like half a million seasonal workers in their employ.

BRAND NEW IDEA

Co-ops, a time-honoured institution in Europe and a going concern in America, are a novelty in China. After the outbreak of the Japanese war when a few progressive people suggested the establishment of co-operatives in the rear to stimulate production and to counteract Japan's economic warfare, the idea was brand now.

Although industrial co-ops were something new in China, the Chinese had their own co-operatives in the form of the Chinese family. The family numbering hundreds of members is based on the idea that the rich have to support the poor and anyone who has ever entered a Chinese store, where dozens of nephews, cousins, sons, sons-in-law are working or loafing behind the counters, will know what I mean.

The co-operatives, as set up under Chinese law, are made up of unrelated members; in fact two members bearing the same family name are seldom accepted in the same co-op. But the idea of pooling all resources and benefiting collectively from the results of the collective effort is as old as the history of China.

TWO DISTINCT FORMS

There are at pesent two distinct forms of industrial co-operatives—the workshop and the rural working community.

"Most of us are refugees from Shanghai," a Chinese woman told me when I visited a co-operative machine-shop in Szechwan province. "We worked in the same factory there and we were friends. When the Japs took Shanghai we set out together—all we wanted was to settle down in Free China as far as possible from Japanese gendarmes and Japanese factory management.

"Well, we got what we wanted. There are 20 of us working in this shop. We hold meetings every month and elect our own foreman and accountant and we room together in the dormitory across the way. We don't make much money—but we get enough rice for ourselves and for our babies."

TYPICAL WORKSHOP

The typical workshop is a small size factory where everything is under one roof and where the members either live in a dormitory or individual shacks around the main building. A large percentage of these members are skilled labourers, workers from the once busy treaty ports where practically all of China's industries were concentrated.

It is not difficult to find among these refugees someone willing and able to serve as manager and a small workshop can be set up overnight, sometimes with the most primitive means. The C.I.C. is headed by central headquarters in Chungking and it is the job of the central organization to solicit orders as soon as a new unit has been set up.

RURAL CO-OPS.

In contrast to the compact workshop co-operatives the rural co-operatives are decentralised organizations without a common establishment. The rural co-ops, which have sprung up all over the country, are cottage industries whose main purpose is to give the farmers something to do between crops and help them eke out their meagre incomes.

Wherever there are a few farmers' wives and a few looms a co-operative can be established. The workers will buy their cotton co-operatively, will hold meetings and decide upon the when and how of marketing, but their profits will not be equal. As the production varies from the time and industry of each worker the co-op will buy the yarn piecemeal and pay each worker according to his or her production.

"Our co-ops now turn out a vast variety of products," a Chinese university graduate told me at headquarters in Chungking. "C.I.C. production ranges from soap and candle-making; printing; wool, cotton and silk textiles; machinery, leather work; alcohol; to small arms and medical supplies for the army. There is hardly an article I could think of that will not eventually be produced by co-operatives."

NO ONE IS BOSS

Already the Chinese army is taking advantage of the co-operatives and orders for hundreds of thousands of army blankets and cotton padded uniforms have been placed with the co-ops. Other army orders call for medical cotton, bandages, stretchers and the like.

A co-operative is a self-governing body; the members themselves run the show, no one is the boss and no one has to take orders. The members do an equal amount of work, have equal stakes in the establishment and draw equal profits. In order to thrive and to do their jobs well co-ops must rely on the activity and enterprise of their members rather than on protective tutelage from above.

China's Minister of Finance, Dr. H. H. Kung, brother-in-law of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, in his capacity as president of the C.I.C., has given an increasing amount of time, money and attention to the development of co-ops. He expects the movements to assume vast proportions, if not during the war, surely in the post-war reconstruction period.

USHERS NEW HOPES

At present the C.I.C. is not marking time. While the total production is still modest—according to reliable estimates it amounts to 25,000,000 Chinese dollars a year—the co-ops have brought a new spirit and new hopes to China's workers and peasants. Wherever a co-operative functions, it functions satisfactorily and the co-operative stores, set up to display and market the output of individual co-ops, have come to be the most popular stores in their communities.

In the north-west where the co-operative movement is particularly strong, thanks to the pioneering nature of all work undertaken in that newly developed region, individual co-ops have gone together forming "super co-ope" which run their own trucks, to purchase raw materials collectively and do their own hauling and marketing. In many rural communities the C.I.C. cottage industries have already raised the living standards of the farming people.

POST-WAR PLANS

In post-war China, according to present plans, heavy industries will be owned and operated by the Government, while light industries will be the domain of the Chinese people—individually and collectively.

It is in the filed of light industry that the co-ops will make their major contribution to the well-being of the Chinese nation which, as a nation of farmers, needs a new impetus to provide an outlet for untapped energies and to bring in the sorely needed cash. Seen in this historic perspective, the "Indusco" line is one of the most important developments in China, and it holds a bright and shining promise for her future as a democracy.

Recruiting Record in Peshawar

Inspired by the Allied victory in North Africa, the largest batch of men to be recruited in one day presented themselves at the Peshawar Recruiting Office on the Monday following the Tunisia Day celebrations.

The actual figure was 24, which is a 100 per cent increase on the normal figure for Mondays—the best day of the week for recruiting.

LIFE IN CHINA'S WARTIME CAPITAL

By MARTIN MOORE

CHUNGKING is the gayest and the gloomiest place I have ever visited. Gaiety is in the faces and bearing of the people. Gloom is in the grim, grey, shattered city, a ruined slum rising on steep cliffs above the confluence of two muddy rivers.

Europe can show no devastation to compare with what Chungking had seen. Coventry and Rotterdam have had more savage raids, but no city has suffered such continuous punishment as China's wartime capital. It has been destroyed piecemeal, not once but several times.

One of its raid alarms lasted continuously, day and night, for two weeks, during which the "All-Clear" was never sounded.

BUILDINGS REBUILT

Some of its buildings have been destroyed and rebuilt four and five times. Because of the likelihood that there will have to be more reconstruction they have not been re-erected with any idea of permanence.

Such brick buildings as remained repairable have almost all been taken over by military and Government bodies. The better dwelling-houses are of mud and bamboo, roofed with thatch. Tens of thousands of people are living in homes that are a patchwork of salvaged timber and matting.

Every strip of vacant ground is cultivated in the scrupulous Chinese way. These green crops and the mounds of tangerines in the fruiterers' shops and the flags and banners hanging in the streets are the only splashes of colour in grey Chungking.

There are 420,000 people living in the central area of the capital. All of them dress in black or blue or brown, and your first impression is that everybody not in uniform is engaged in selling something. Every street is lined with shops so small that there are 20 or 30 of them in a hundred yards. Hawkers, moreover, squat beside their trays on the pathway.

The shops are open-fronted booths in which domestic life proceeds as a background to commerce. At whatever time you pass there is always a meal in the dark recesses of the shop. Shutters are put up so late at night and taken down so early in the morning that the city seems perpetually awake.

Chungking is a difficult city to get about in. The streets were shattered with the houses, and though main thoroughfares have been repaved, many are only tracks of trodden earth which turns to ankle-deep mud after a shower.

The infrequent motor-buses, running on vegetable oil, are yet frequent enough to keep the windless air constantly heavy with the sickly odour of their exhaust. There are no trams and no taxis. The few cars to be seen belong to Government officials or foreign diplomates.

Most people walk. The alternative is some aged rickshaw, its parts tied together with bits of string and wire. Rickshaws are expensive, and a few fares a day enable a coolie to earn as much as a university professor. Many of Chungking's roads are too steep for a rickshaw and the conveyance is a litter, carried by two coolies.

The most remarkable feature of the Chinese capital is its famous system of air raid shelters. The hillsides are honeycombed with tunnels, which can accommodate the entire population.

TUNNEL-SHELTERS

The head of the A.R.P. organization showed me round one of the largest of these dugouts where 6,000 people can sit in perfect safety with 100 feet of solid rock between them and the Japanese bombs. The cave has three entrances as well as a ventilating shaft, through which electric fans draw fresh air. Every resident in the locality has his appointed place in the tunnel and there is a special section for passers-by or strangers.

A long-range warning system gives people several hours' notice of impending attack, so there is no excuse for anyone not to go to his proper place in his own shelter.

While there are half a dozen of these huge shelters the later policy has been to dig smaller caves accommodating 500 people. Even the smallest has two entrances, because in the early raids on Chungking debris often blocked the doors and people were imprisoned until a way could be dug through. Apart from these public shelters, most offices and Government departments have their own dugouts. Altogether there are about 700 tunnelled into the hillside.

Like London, Chungking has had a long respite. Thanks to the growing Allied fighter strength in China, a raiding force would now almost certainly be destroyed or turned back before it could reach the capital. The enemy is too much occupied elsewhere to make the attempt.

The mist which descends on the sunbaked city at the end of September is its surest protection. People know that the pall will scarcely lift before May and that until then they are safe from raiders. But though danger is not imminent and may never come again, the A.R.P. organization, with its 20,000 volunteers, is kept in a state of constant readiness. At an hour's notice bakeries can be turned on to produce millions of special "iron ration" cakes in case the city's population should be confined for days on end in the shelters.

When you leave the capital and go out into the country districts you realize how thoroughly China is being mobilized. Everywhere small detachments of soldiers are on the march. In 700 miles' driving I was hardly ever out of sight of soldiery.

ENORMOUS MANPOWER

Military lorries are almost the only mechanical transport to be met with, but they are not enough to satisfy the needs of the armies. Great quantities of supplies have to be moved hundreds of miles by manpower—carried in handcarts, each pulled by half a dozen Labour Corps coolies.

China claims to have an army of 10,000,000 men. Not all of them are under arms, because there are not enough weapons for all. Foreign observers estimate that the immediate effective strength is between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000. But the country's potential manpower if the arms were available, is enormous.

Every man between 18 and 45 is liable for military training. From the reservoir of trained men the actual call-up is by lot. A district is ordered, for example, to send 1,000 men to the army, and the luck of the draw decides who is to go. Even under the urgency of war China's immemorial cult of the family is respected. Every man is entitled to perpetuate his line, so an only son is never called to the colours.

Almost everything seems against happiness in China, a long war, uncertainty about what will happen afterwards, the nearness to the bone of daily life now, high prices, high taxes and the shortage of almost all manufactured goods. Yet China is cheerful. Never anywhere have I seen so many faces in which laughter was the habitual expression.

In the main street of Chungking one day I saw a man riding a bicycle—a rare treasure he was lucky to possess. He ran over a brick and the bicycle frame snapped in two.

In a country where a second-hand bicycle costs the equivalent of £50 to £100 this was more than a misfortune. It was a tragedy. Yet the gathering crowd laughed—and no one laughed more heartily than the victim as he picked himself up out of the mud.

That scene seemed to typify China. Devastation and want and war hang over her like Chunking's unlifting cloud, but underneath she is smiling.

—*Condensed from "The Daily Telegraph."*

ENTHUSIASM

America's Air Transport Command men fly everything in the air, from tiny pipers to huge four-engined bombers. They fly food and refuge s and generals going to confer quickly with other generals and guns and medicine and engines and clothing. Mostly they fly high.

"Except one pilot I flew with," said a sergeant, "he would always come down low over cemeteries and yell 'Wake up and fight for America!' He never missed a cemetery."

—*The Buffalo Evening News Magazine.*

AERIAL SPEARHEAD OF INVASION

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

THE formation of a Tactical Air Force of the Royal Air Force in Great Britain adapts in the northern European zone and as the aerial spearhead for future invasion of the Continent, a method of air fighting that was born in the sands of the Western Desert and developed to complete victory in Tunisia.

Germany thought she had the answer to the problem of co-operation between air forces and armies in the field of battle. Immense fleets of Stuka dive-bombers acted as "aerial artillery", extending the range of big guns and bombing wherever the army commander wanted any part of the battlefield softened up. Against almost defenceless Poland and unprepared France this method worked well. Against the puny Royal Air Force in Greece it was costly, but it still worked. From many points on the Allied side there were loud demand that similar fleets of dive-bombers should be built for work with Allied armies.

NEW CONCEPTION OF THE USE OF AIRCRAFT

But over the sands of the Libyan desert a new idea was formulating, a new conception of the use of aircraft in battle was growing. A few scattered squadrons of the Desert Air Force fighters and bombers were being built into a unified striking power. This new air idea was already working, but not in sufficient strength, when Rommel broke through at Gazala on June 17, 1942. It was just sufficient to tip the scales and enable the Germans to be held at Alamein by July 6. The following October it was a major factor in the great victory at Alamein and the chase that followed across the desert to Tripoli.

When the two Allied prongs began to grip Tunisia from the west and south, the air forces were overlapping. After the Casablanca conference they were co-ordinated. All the air power used in the immediate battlefield was combined into one force and placed under the command of Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, former Desert Air Commander. For the first time this air battle power was called Tactical Air Force, though it was no more than an extension of the idea which had grown up in the Western Desert without that name.

In North Africa the Tactical Air Force was in two sections. In the west it consisted of fighter groups (British and American) and a tactical bomber force which was predominently American. In the south it was simply the old Western Desert air force with its fighters, fighter bombers and day bombers augmented by the powerful night bomber force of the Middle East.

The whole force was a boxer. Its left fist was the section in Tunisia, its right fist the Desert air force. The former worked in collaboration with the British First Army and the Second United States Army Corps, the latter with the British Eighth Army.

The idea of tactical air forces had completely justified itself. Born in the hard battles of the Western Desert, it was brought to perfection in Tunisia. It was a weapon forged from experience, mightier than any air weapon the world had hitherto seen, mightier far than any air forces which the enemy organized "in support" of their armies. It was the quintessence of the Royal Air Force's experience of air fighting in the field of battle.

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

Historians may rate the emergence of this tactical air force idea in this war as highly as that of the tank in the last. Now an idea that was conceived and developed in the African battle has been transferred to the northern European zone. The Royal Air Force in Britain has a Tactical Air Force, to be the spearhead in the air when the Allied armies debouch on the Continent. It will not use the same tactics as its counterpart in Africa, for tactics continually change. But it will have as its basis this great conception of the role of the air in modern battle, that of concentrated power striking from its own element. On such basis there is sound confidence in its future.

Colonel General Jurgen von Arnim, supreme Commander of German and Italian forces defeated by the Allies in North Africa, steps from an auto at the tent of Lieutenant-General Kenneth A. N. Anderson, British First Army Commander, after a 100-mile ride from the scene of his capture in the Cap Bon sector. This picture was transmitted by radio from North Africa to the United States.

—U.S.O.W.I.

BOMBING TO SHORTEN WAR

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 recognize 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 realize 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 demoralize the enemy. Hence Duisburg 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 sympathize 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 civilization. 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.

—*Daily Mail.*

GERMANY FACED WITH CRUCIAL DECISION

GERMANY must very soon take a crucial decision. At present Kesselring, commander of the Luftwaffe in the Mediterranean area, is charged with providing air cover for the whole of the South European coasts from the Pyrenees to the Aegean with 2,000 frontline aircraft

His losses in North Africa were so heavy that this frontline force has had to be replaced several times over. Aircraft production and supply is so organized in Germany that a fixed frontline strength can be maintained even under heavy losses. One must envisage as it were a queue of new aircraft extending from factory to operational airfield through a chain of supply depots. When an aircraft is brought down in combat, the queue moves up one.

This means that commanders of Lftflotten have credit accounts of aircraft upon which they can draw. All Luftflotten are now stretched to the limit and are drawing on their credits to the limit—and that is particularly the case now on the Russian front. The Allies have compelled Kesselring to become a spendthrift. He has heavily overdrawn his account on several occasions, notably after the fall of Tunisia, and because German organization is good, his demands have been met.

But it cannot go on. Kesselring's position is like that of a young man who is living on an allowance. Special circumstances compel him to go to his bankers and ask for quarters money in advance. He gets it. He then finds himself obliged to go back in a month's time and demand another quarterage. The reaction of the banker (that is to say Goering and his people in Berlin) must very soon be: "Your next instalment is not due for another two months." Where is this leading to?

BANKRUPTCY OF LUFTWAFFE

The answer is that it is leading to bankruptcy of the Luftwaffe. By bankruptcy it is not meant that the German air force will shortly go out of business, but it will not be able to honour fully all its commitments. A decision which must be beginning to press with increasing urgency upon the authorities in Berlin is whether they can afford to go on cutting down replacements for their Luftflotten in the east, north and west, when invasion is threatening from all sides, in order to keep the expensive Kesselring going in Italy.

If they decide to conserve their air resources by withdrawing from Italy and her islands, and if the Allies follow up with invasion, the industries of South Germany and Austria will be exposed to devastating bombardment by the Allies from airfields on the plains of Lombardy, and the Allies will have secured a first-class invasion platform for striking east across the Adriatic or west from Genoa. If, on the other hand, they decide to stay in Italy and risk a weakening Luftwaffe on other fronts, they must then do as they have promised and help defend Italian soil. That would involve a very heavy diversion of troops, equipment and supplies, for Italy would then become a poor relation par excellence, demanding more and more as her patron becomes more deeply committed. And the more German divisions there are in Italy the more essential will it be to maintain adequate air cover, for one of the lessons of the Tunisian collapse was that the German soldier cannot fight without air cover on which he has always hitherto been able to rely.

The decision which Berlin will be driven to make in the near future is well calculated to give the individuals concerned a severe headache, and its consequences will be of vital importance to the future course of the European struggle as a whole.

GERMANS TO ADOPT DEFENSIVE POLICY ?

AS time passes chances are increasing that the Germans will adopt a defensive war policy henceforth and start a war of attrition in the hope that the Russians and their allies will sooner or later grow tired or even quarrel and some compromise peace will result. While a German offensive in the next few weeks cannot be excluded—and the Red Army is in a complete state of readiness to meet it—there are a number of indications suggesting that the German army genuinely proposes to "consolidate" its rear and communications, particularly throughout the occupied territories of the Soviet Union.

One such indication is that the Germans have for the first time engaged in a really large-scale campaign aiming at wiping out powerful Russian and Ukrainian partisan movements. What they are doing now is not merely in the nature of the old "punitive expeditions" but large-scale military operations involving large numbers of infantry, tanks and aircraft. It is aimed at mopping up numerous areas in Western Russia virtually controlled by guerillas as well as numerous smaller islands of partisan activity. A "softer" policy towards Ukrainian and other peasants is likely to accompany the "extermination" of partisans.

All this is a sign of weakness, just as was the extraordinary phenomenon of belated Nazi humanitarianism when, before a recent raid on Gorki, they dropped leaflets urging the population to take women and children away.

INDIAN BLINDED SOLDIERS TO BE TRAINED

THIS month a St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen, is to be opened at Dehra Dun.

Hitherto, our blinded men have returned to their villages, there to sit about in idle darkness for the rest of their lives. The blinded Indian soldier of the past took it for granted that he could do nothing. So did his fellow-villagers.

Fifty years ago the first school for the blind was opened in India. Now there are some 33 schools, mostly for children. They teach reading, writing, music, basket-making, weaving, knitting and chair-caning.

Founded by a blind man, Sir Arthur Pearson, owner of a number of London newspapers, St. Dunstans does not confine itself to training men; but, if they do well, it helps to look after their families, contributes towards the cost of houses, supplies them with amenities like gramophones, records, musical instruments and indoor-games. To its able student, it gives the equipment and the raw material necessary to work at home in his village. It keeps in touch with him.

The Society is run entirely on contributions given by the public. It is not a government concern.

The Medical Directorate will transfer to the Military Hospitals in Dehra Dun all blinded soldiers' cases. While they are in hospital, St. Dunstans will interest itself in them, and they will later be transferred to it from the hospital. Soldiers' families will be allowed to stay with them. They will be given an allowance of Rs. 8 a month in addition to pension or army pay.

The course of training aims at three things—

(1) To train the man to have confidence in getting about and doing things for himself.

(2) To have games and social interests to fill his spare time, and

(3) To have a useful job he can do at home.

The number of blinded soldiers is still small, 30 at present. How many there will be ultimately depends on the fighting to come. But blindness is no longer the permanent handicap it used to be. Blinded early in this war, men have been back in 18 months at such occupations as massage, assembly work in aircraft factories, inspection of aircraft in the course of construction, operating telephone exchanges, lecturing to trainees in army and navy and weaving camouflage nets. One is a film actor. He makes propaganda films. In short his life will not be a burden. He can now live usefully.

But let a blinded soldier speak for himself and of his friend.

"My job was journalism, editing an army newspaper. Thanks to St. Dunstans, these 28 years, since I fell foul of a shell in Gallipoli, have been full of action, work and pleasure, farming, a Member of Parliament, reconstructing blind welfare work, organizing public appeals working for the war effort in Britain and the U.S.A." Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Ian Fraser, the Chairman of St. Dunstans, was blinded in France at the age of 18. He is an M.P., a Governor of the B.B.C., and a director of two large industrial and trading companies.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND THE COMMONWEALTH

10TH JULY.—Lord Wavell addressed Indian trainees of the Bevin Boys' Group in London, and said that in the new post which he was shortly going to occupy, he would do something to repay the debt he owed to India.

Mr. Bevin, Minister of Labour, announced that there was under consideration expansion of the training scheme so that more men might come from India and their stay be prolonged from six to nine months.

11TH JULY.—Mr. Henry L. Stimson dined with Mr. Churchill at 10, Downing Street. His visit to England is interpreted as intended to arrange definite time-table for launching new campaigns at the close of the Battle of Sicily. Greece is high up in the list for liberation.

12TH JULY.—An air-raid on the east coast of England took place and high explosives and incendiaries were dropped.

14TH JULY.—Mr. Churchill refused to agree to a suggestion in the House of Commons for amending the Atlantic Charter.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

11TH JULY.—Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary of War, has arrived in London.

14TH JULY.—President Roosevelt has issued a message to France on the "Bastille Day," the anniversary of the French Revolution.

* * * * *

ITALY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

7TH JULY.—Bomber squadrons of the Allies, supported by swarms of fighter bombers carried out unremitting night raids on the Axis airfields in Sicily and Sardinia, and the air assault on the Italian islands must be considered to have reached the peak of intensity. Opposition was insignificant.

8TH JULY.—According to a German news agency, German estimate of the Allied Forces in the Mediterranean include several units of the Anglo-American fleet, including two battleships of the King George class, American cruisers, and several aircraft carriers. There are also concentrations of several hundred thousands of transport shipping in Port Said. The Allies in the Mediterranean area from North Africa to Syria have some 44 infantry divisions, and fifteen to twenty tank formations. They include Anglo-American parachute battalions and two airborne divisions and two Polish divisions brought via Persia to Syria and Palestine. These formations also include Greek, Czech, Serb and Syrian immigrants. Excluding the large forces available for garrison purposes, the forces available for an offensive against Southern Europe are only a fraction of the entire Allied Forces in the Mediterranean.

9TH JULY.—Two waves of Liberators attacked Catania in Sicily, dropping a quarter of a million pounds of high explosives.

10TH JULY.—The Pope has been promised by Mr. Roosevelt that the status of the Vatican would be respected during the invasion of Europe by the Allies.

Powerful Allied Forces under the command by General Eisenhower, began landing operations in Sicily this morning on the rock-studded Western tip of Sicily with the support of the British and American Naval Forces and Allied aircraft are hammering road communications. Italian Naval Forces are in action and there has been a violent air battle south of Sicily. The place of landing is only 260 miles from Rome. Axis troops in Sicily number 300,000. The battle of Africa is over; the battle of Europe has begun.

11TH JULY.—Allied advance troops are driving inland into Sicily. There are more than 2,000 vessels involved in the Sicilian landing operations.

12TH JULY.—The Allies are now in possession of all major Italian ports and airfields in south-east corner of Sicily—*Syracuse, Avola, Pachino, Pozallo, Scoglitti, Gela, Licata, Ispica, Rosolini* and *Noto. Cape Passero* at the south-east corner of Sicily, is now firmly in Allied hands. General Montgomery is now in command of the British forces in Sicily. Military objectives towards *Catania* is now a sea of flames as a result of Allied air pounding.

Bitter battle is raging for *Ragusa*, near the south-east corner of Sicily. This town is defended by 30,000 Germans under the command of Marshal Kesselring. On the whole, enemy resistance is less than expected. Liberators of the Ninth United States Air Force have started attacking aerodromes in Southern Italy.

13TH JULY.—Three more places, Augusta, a naval base, Florida, eight miles inland from Sysacuse and Ragusa have been taken by the Allies in Sicily. Enemy resistance in Sicily is stiffening and Allied troops come across more Germans and more 75 m.m. guns. American and Canadian forces have linked up at Ragusa and the whole invading force is knitting itself together. Allies have captured an Italian General. The forces attacking Sicily is the Fifteenth Army Group and is under Command of General Alexander. It includes the British Eighth Army under General Montgomery and the Seventh United States Army under General Paton. Sicilians welcome the Allies.

A united anti-Fascist Front has been formed in Italy.

14TH JULY.—The defences of Catania in Sicily are being stormed. The American troops are advancing towards Agrigento.

* * * * *

GERMANY AND OCCUPIED EUROPE

8TH JULY.—Heavy raid by the Royal Air Force took place over Cologne. More than 1,000 tons of bombs were dropped.

9TH JULY.—Cologne, Capital of Rhineland, the most bombed city in the world, had its 118th raid by the Royal Air Force, and the United States Army Eighth Air Force. German aircraft bases in enemyheld France were also pounded.

10TH JULY.—General Kazimierz Sosakowski has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces of Free Poland (functioning in London) and acting Premier Stanislad Mikolajozyk has been asked to form a new Cabinet.

The Axis are reported to have 70 regular divisions in the Balkans exclusive of air and naval staffs. This force is made up of approximately 14 German divisions, 33 Italian, 21 Bulgarian and some Croats and Hungarians. It is estimated that there are two Italian and two German infantry divisions in Crete, excluding air and naval personnel which may represent another two divisions. Rhodes has three Italian divisions and some Germans.

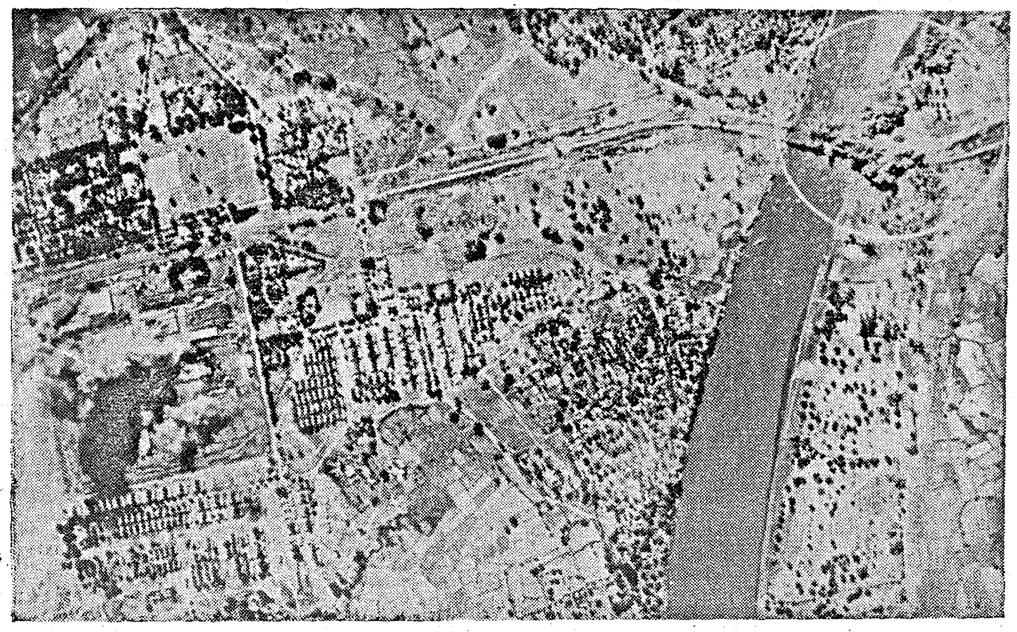
* * * * *

RUSSIA

8TH JULY.—Fourth day of the offensive. Russians for the first time throw in their own medium weight tanks to stem the Nazi onslaught with heavy German Tigers in the north and south of the Kursk bulge. The Germans have struck at the two ends of the bulge in an attempt storm the town. Orel is the northern end of this front. The German offensive has made "some advance" in the Byelogorod area on the southern road to Kursk. The German plan was to start the offensive with the Central Army Group attacking in Byelogorod-Orel-Kursk area, break through both to north and south of Kursk, and attack Kursk itself to open the gateway across the black earth country towards Voronesh which is the key point for a switch northward round the neck of Moscow. Soviet Command has not yet revealed who is commanding the Russian army. German forces, according to Moscow radio, taking part in the offensive consist of fifteen panzer divisions, one motorized division, and fourteen infantry divisions. Numerous *Luftwaffe* formations from other sectors of the Russian front and also from Western Europe have been thrown into the offensive.

9TH JULY.—Fighting is developing on a still larger scale along the Orel-Kursk front. A specially intensive struggle is being waged for a town south of Orel. Soviets have captured air initiative over the Byelogorod front. They are using the Stormovik bombers with their big calibre guns.

10TH JULY.—Fierce battle rages for a vital town south of Kursk in the Byelogorod sector where Germans are increasing their pressure after driving a wedge into Soviet lines. This is the main danger point at the moment. Another fierce battle has developed in the Orel sector. Across Kursk plains Germans are throwing in 1,000 tanks and several infantry divisions. In the first five days Soviet lost heavily, but German losses have been much heavier with 2,306 tanks knocked out and 904 planes destroyed. A new type of tank possessing undreamt of manœuvreability is being used by the Germans.



TWIN AIR ATTACKS BLAST JAPANESE INSTALLATIONS IN BURMA.—Two United States Army Air Force bombing missions, arriving from different directions simultaneously, successfully carry out attacks only a mile apart to score direct hits on twin bridges (upper right) and the Japanese railroad yard (lower left) at Myitkyina, Burma. The surprise two-way raid, carried out from different bases, completely baffled the enemy fighter defence, which was split up and rendered ineffective by the manoeuvre.

10TH JULY.—In the Byelgorod sector the biggest battles since the start of the German offensive were fought out today. In the first six days of the offensive the German losses in tanks totalled 2,601 and in planes 1,037.

12TH JULY.—Furious tank battle is raging during the last 24 hours on the Orel-Kursk front. Germans are losing one tank every three minutes.

13TH JULY.—Soviet troops have recaptured part of the ground lost in the earlier days of the offensive in the Byelgorod sector. Soviet K. V. tanks are reported to be superior to German Tigers.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

8TH JULY.—Government of India's decisions on the recommendations of the Food Conference which has been in session in New Delhi since July 5 were announced to-day. Rationing in urban areas is to be taken up in a progressively increasing measure and almost immediately and free trade is not to be considered except as an objective for the return of normal conditions. Announcement was made by Sir Azizul Haque, Food Member, in the course of his address to the Conference.

11TH JULY.—This day was observed in all churches as a day of remembrance for the Royal Navy, the Royal Indian Navy and the Merchant Navy.

12TH JULY.—Heavy bombers of the Tenth United States Air Force dropped more than 12 tons of bombs on enemy railroad installations at Ywataung, Burma. On the same day our fighters armed with medium and fragmentation bombs attacked the Japanese base at Nanyaseik in Northern Burma.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

7TH JULY.—Chinese War Minister and Chief of General Staff, General Ho Ying-Chin, speaking at an international gathering at Chunking, said that Japanese casualities in China since the start of the war up to June 1943 totalled 1,930,639. The Japanese Navy since the outbreak of the War lost 124 war ships out of 230 first-line naval craft.

According to Mr. L. W. Brockington, Empire Adviser to the Information Ministry, China has lost, during the six years of War, five to six million Chinese soldiers and seven to ten million civilians by famine and flood, while fifty million were homeless refugees.

There was an air raid on Port Darwin, being the 58th.

8TH JULY.—American forces made two new landings on vital points in the Solomon islands and of New Georgia and are converging on the key airfield at Munda which is now threatened from four sides. Rendova and Vangunu islands are firmly in American hands, and Viru Harbour on the south-west coast of New Georgia has been captured.

The naval battle in the Kula Gulf broke off, but may be renewed any time in the Central Solomons whose waters the American ships are now sweeping in open challenge to the Japanese fleet.

9TH JULY.—American forward patrols are reported to have reached the outskirts of Munda air port. Munda is now blockaded by land and sea and will fall to the Allies in the very near future.

More than a hundred Allied bombers pounded the Japanese positions on New Georgia island and American destroyers bombarded Japanese base at Munda in New Georgia. Japanese positions in Salamaua in New Guinea were also strafed by medium bombers supported by ground troops.

12TH JULY.—Blockaded by land and sea Japanese garrison at Munda is faced with the alternative of death or surrender. Once Munda falls, the Allies will have a line stretching in an arc for 700 miles from New Guinea to New Georgia, with the Japanese air, land and sea base at Rabaul only 300 to 400 miles north of that line.

Kiska in the north-east Pacific was bombed and bombarded by American Air and Naval Forces.

* * * * *

FREE FRANCE

8TH JULY.—French Committee of National Liberation met in plenary session in Algiers under the presidency of General de Gaulle.

9TH JULY.—At a press conference General Giraud announced that complete agreement has been reached with President Roosevelt for the equipment of a French invasion force numbering 300,000. To a question whether U.S.A. was prepared to recognize the Committee of National Liberation, President Roosevelt said that there was only about 5 per cent of France outside the Metropolitan area.

13TH JULY.—In Martinique Admiral Robert has given up his post of High Commissioner and M. Alpino of the French Military Mission in America has succeeded him. Mr. Alpino has given an assurance that the resources of Martinique will be mobilised against the Axis and that all French warships and merchantmen will be made available to the Allies.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

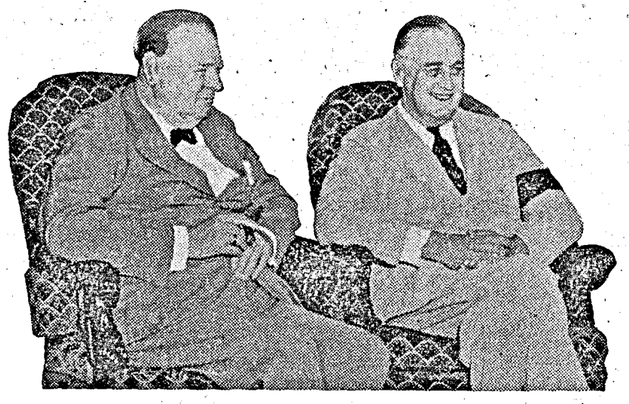
REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL IV FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1943 No. 45

Message to the Italian People



MR. CHURCHILL MR. ROOSEVELT

At this moment the combined Armed Forces of the United States, Great Britain, and Canada, under the command of General Eisenhower and his Deputy, General 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**

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 battlefield in Africa, from El Alamein to Cape Bon**

In a joint message from Mr. ROOSEVELT and Mr. CHURCHILL, broadcast from Algiers to the people of Italy, 16th July 1943

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Running Commentary	3	China's Great Strategist	10
Sicily: Axis Retreat	4	Wartime Food Production	11
This Week—In Retrospect	5	Japanese Plans Misca ry	12
The Man who leads the Attack on Orel Front	7	The Burma Road to Japan	13
A Blow against Stalemate	7	A Wartime Experiment in Democracy	14
The President of China	8	Modern zing Agriculture	16
New Trend in China	8	Blockade	17
Generalissimo Chiang	9	War Diary	19

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras or staying for a few days in the City on leave - -

Recreation: Ping Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

CHEAP CLOTH is available in the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Sales Emporiums

AT CONTROLLED PRICES which are clearly stamped on each article

DO NOT BUY from unauthorized dealers at ***higher prices***

It is an offence under the Defence of India Rules to sell Handloom cheap cloth at higher than marked prices

Issued by the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, 1/159, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

SERGEANT ENJOYS INDIAN NEW YEAR'S DAY

It was New Year's Day—although not the one in Harry Vanston's calendar, but this Sergeant from Bolton, Lancashire, was determined to make a day of it.

The celebration was a South Indian New Year's garden party to which the Sergeant contributed an "Aunt Sally" for the coconut shy, a radiogram, a wireless set, a considerable number of cigarettes and two bags of coconuts. The Padre went along too, although he was certain this New Year's Day was not the one he usually observed.

Several Army trucks and a Bren carrier carried the party to the scene of "operations". Two hours of speeches introduced the proceedings and then the fun began, soldiers and civilians fraternizing in the most friendly way.

Cigarettes, a rarity among these villagers, were accepted with the air of men who usually smoke a double Corona after dinner, while the children satisfied their curiosity by a close inspection of the carrier and the trucks.

After dark there was a firework display with a difference—Verey light pistols providing the illumination.

"Happy New Year," called out Harry Vanston as he drove the carrier back to camp. "Same to you" replied the cleric absent-mindedly.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1943 No. 45

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Russia—Battle of the Kursk Bulge—German Plan

Reuter's Special Correspondent in Moscow says that the great battle for the Kursk bulge has entered its most intensive stage so far, both north and south of the bulge. The Germans launched new attacks on a large scale following the regrouping of their forces and the arrival of reinforcements of tanks, planes and ground troops. Though VON KLUGE, the German Commander, hurled in fresh reinforcements, he has not achieved any important operational success. This battle for the Kursk bulge may be stated to be mainly a duel between the latest type of German tank and the latest type of Soviet anti-tank weapon. The result of this battle is bound to have very great repercussions on future tactics in other theatres of war also. The Germans have not made any gains, but if they carry out their object of ironing out the Kursk salient without much loss, they may launch an encircling thrust with the object of taking Moscow from the rear. The main weight of the German attack was directed against the two shoulders of the Kursk salient, north-east from Byelgorod and south-west from Orel. The German plan was that their two claws should meet somewhere behind Kursk, an important centre of communications. They threw a considerable amount of armour, which has not produced the results they expected so far. Encouraging news continues to come from the Russian front. *Reuter's* Moscow Correspondent says that the breach in the German line north of Orel is being widened and that the constant stream of German reinf rcements has failed to stop the Russian progress. The *Red Star* also reports that the Russian offensive is developing successfully east of Orel.

* * * *

The Flare-up—Nazi Story to Serve Double Purpose

The flare-up of hostilities on the Russian front has been given a meaningless explanation by Nazi propagandists. They hint that the Soviet High Command tried to anticipate the German offensive. It seems the German High Command decided not only to bring the Russian thrust in the Byelgorod-Orel sector to an end, but also to follow it up by an offensive of th ir own. They claim to have beaten off Russian attacks and occupied important positions north-west of Byelgorod and north of Kursk. But facts are quite otherwise.

Why did the Germans put out this kind of strange report? They seem to have been inspired by political rather than military considerations. Whatever happens the story can serve their purpose. If the Germans succeed, the story will enhance the reputation of the German army which went to battle against its will, but managed to bring off major successes. If the Germans fail, the explanation is that they did not launch any serious offensive, and that what the German army sought to do was only to blunt the Russian attack. Germans wanted to achieve a complete surprise victory, and having failed, they are now trying to make the best story out of a bad bargain.

It is interesting to note that Nazi propagandists are now very cautious, and they are soft-pedalling the significance of the present fighting. The object of the Germans was, as we said before, to flatten out the Kursk bulge, effect the junction of their forces in the northern Orel sector and the southern Byelgorod sector and short-cut their way to Moscow. But they have not announced their objective with their usual fanfare of trumpets. Their idea is to achieve success if possible, but if they fail, to pretend not to have failed!

* * * *

The Third Summer Offensive—Two Causes of Delay

The German attempt, which is their third summer offensive in Russia, was started on the morning of July 5, which was twelve days later in the year than the offensive of 1941, and about fifteen days later than the offensive of 1942. What was the cause of this delay? It was their Tunisian defeat. The unexpectedly early victory of the Allies in Tunisia forced HITLER to concentrate on the defences of the southern walls of his European fortress, and thus prevented him from launching the offensive in Spring. There was also another equally important factor which delayed the German offensive. It was the violent air activity of the Red Air Force behind the German lines. This has considerably dislocated the Nazi transport system and damaged their aerodromes and supply depots which were feeding the German forces in the Front.

* * * *

Hitler's Offensive—Two Years Ago and Now

It may be asked why did HITLER launch an offensive in Russia at all this year, when he knew full well that his Atlantic and Mediterranean flanks were threatened by the Anglo-American invasion. One reason was that HITLER had to launch the attack to safeguard German prestige. In November last year, the great Russian counter-offensive had already dealt a blow at German prestige. Another reason was one of strategy. The position of the German battle-line on July 5 was pregnant with uncomfortable possibilities for HITLER. Heavy Russian concentrations in the Kursk salient threatened enemy positions in the Orel sector and the Red Air Force raids on Orel, Bryansk, Karachev and Uneycha clearly showed that the object of the Russians must be to soften up the Orel salient before beginning a major assault.

In such circumstances, it was necessary to forestall the Russian break-through in the Orel bulge and straighten-out the Kursk salient. The German High Command was anxious that when the Allied invasion began, it should not hold untenable positions in the Russian battle-front. A strong defensive line in Russia would enable them to be in a better position to meet the Allied invasion. In 1941 HITLER attacked Russia because he wanted to remove a potential threat to his rear before launching his invasion against Britain, but the present offensive is intended to remove an actual threat to his rear before meeting the Anglo-American invasion of Europe.

Two years ago the initiative was in HITLER's hands Now it is in the hands of the Allies.

SICILY: AXIS RETREAT

COMMENTING on the Sicilian operations *The New York Times* says, " Conscious that this is one of the turning points in history, the whole world to-day watches the battle in Sicily with bated breath. There is confidence and elation among the Allied nations as they watch the widening strips of territory, which their sons are conquering along the Sicilian shores, for every additional strip is a further guarantee of the ultimate success of the whole enterprise." In a single week's fighting the Allies occupied one-third of Sicily, and the latest reports say that half of Sicily is now in their hands. Reports reaching London on Wednesday night stated that a general Axis retreat to the north-east tip of Sicily at Messina has begun. Reconnaissance aircraft report that, after the capture of Enna, there is an eastward movement of all Axis troops who appeared to be taking part in a general retreat to the north-east. Prisoners taken by the Allies in their magnificent drive northwards have revealed that the Germans have retired to the east to make good their get-away into Italy. The position of the enemy defenders of Sicily, it is reported, now looks desperate, for the Catanian plain has been sealed at both ends and Axis troops are in a critical plight.

SUMMING up the general situation on Wednesday evening, General Eisenhower said that, on account of the nature of the terrain and the location of the enemy forces, the task of the Eighth Army, including the Canadians, was one of bitter fighting with generally slow advance. This, he said, gave the Americans a chance of more rapid advance against less resistance to overrun substantial portions of the island and confine the enemy progressively to smaller areas.

EARLIER STAGES

IN the earlier stages of the Sicilian campaign, the enemy was not quite sure of the objective of the Allies. He was, therefore, waiting for the Allied plan of attack to crystallize into shape, as he wanted to be sure where the main blow would fall, before he brought in his reserves. When the British Eighth Army captured Augusta on the east coast and the American Seventh Army occupied Naro in the west, he seems to have made up his mind that these two extremities of the line were selected for the main Allied pressure. That was the reason why Axis resistance which, till then appeared to be feeble, hardened as a result of the flow of the throwing in of reserves of men and material. It was when the Allies were in possession of the entire south-eastern tip of Sicily that the enemy counter-attacked with considerable force. The attacking forces included the 60-ton German " Tiger " tanks and the Hermann Goering Panzer Division. They succeeded in their attempt to regain some of the lost ground, including the port of Augusta, but later, the Allied forces rallied and drove them out.

NOW the task of the Allies is to push wider and deeper into the island, as they have secured certain bridge-heads. The enemy has to try to hold up our advance and drive us back, and finally to throw us off Sicily altogether, if possible. But the last objective is not at all likely to be realized, though the Axis would make a desperate attempt to resist our forces.

IMPORTANCE OF HOLDING SICILY

THERE is considerable evidence to show that the German High Command have realized that the Allied landing in Sicily is a very big business and that its conquest would have serious military and moral repercussions on the Continent. The pro-Axis Turkish Newspaper *Tasviri Efkar*, referring to the importance of holding Sicily, said two weeks ago :

> " If the Allies succeed in getting a firm foot-hold on Sicily and the Southern European Fortress, the totalitarian front may collapse unexpectedly."

THE German High Command know this only too well, and, therefore, it would be rash to assume that the Axis is either militarily " impotent " or that it would let Sicily go undefended. They have the advantage of mountainous terrain in the north and north-eastern regions, and as the battle for Sicily deepens, the Axis defence is bound to grow more and more fierce.

AS usual, Axis propaganda wants to minimize, to the outside world, the importance of the Allied invasion. They emphasize two points. Firstly, that it is not important because it does not constitute a " Second Front," and secondly that it does not answer Russian requirements. As regards the first, it may be pointed out that no responsible Allied leader has referred to the Sicilian operations as the opening of a " Second Front." As regards the second, we have the statement of M. ANDREV ROTVESTEIN, the Chief London Correspondent of the Russian Tass Agency. Addressing a Foreign Press Association luncheon meeting in London, he said, " The Soviet warriors have been heartened by the news that their Allies have taken a great step to a Second Front in Europe."

ATTACK ON HITLER'S STRONGHOLD

NEUTRAL Turkish press opinion has been reflected by M. Atay, Editor of the *Ulus*. He wrote, " The landing in Sicily is not like the one in Crete or in any single island, but means an attack right against the stronghold of Europe." *The New York Times*, to whose comment we have referred at the outset, also says, " Although the Allies have made only a breach in its wall, it is already evident that Hitler's whole European fortress is trembling under the blow."

THE blow has been well-timed and well-executed. But the retreat of the Axis forces, which recalls similar " exploits " in North Africa and Russia, must be taken, not as an indication that the Allies would have an easy walk-over, but as a warning that the real struggle which will take place in the interior will be all the harder and fiercer.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT

Great Britain at War with Germany as from 11 a.m. on the 3rd September 1939

1940

July 16.—The Japanese Cabinet under Prince Konoye resigned and a new Cabinet was formed. Prince Konoye continued as the Prime Minister.

July 17.—A new Anglo-Japanese Agreement about the use of the Burma Road was concluded.

Mr. Roosevelt was nominated Presidential candidate for the Democratic Party in United States for the third time.

July 19.—Hitler addressed the Reichstag, asking Britain to accept his terms of peace in preference to a war of annihilation.

July 21.—Field-Marshal Smuts replied to Hitler's challenge.

July 22.—Estonia, Lithunia and Latvia joined the Union of Soviet Russia as a measure of safety against threatened German aggression in the Baltic.

July 23.—The second war budget was presented in the House of Commons. Britain was spending at this time £57,000,000 a week on war.

1941

July 15.—This was the end of the third week of the German campaign in Russia. The Russians had fallen back fighting inch by inch in perfect order on the Stalin Line, stretching roughly from the Lake Peipus on the Estonian border in the north, through Ostrov, Polostak, Lepel, Robruisk and Novograd, Volynsk to Podolsk and thence to Bessarabia, where the Soviet troops, retiring beyond the river Pruth, were falling back on the river Dniester, the 1939 boundary.

Russia and Britain were formally proclaimed as Allies by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons. This announcement came in the wake of a joint agreement signed on 13th July at Moscow between Molotov and Sir Stafford Cripps, Russia and Britain undertaking to render support of all kinds to each other in the prosecution of the war, and neither to negotiate nor conclude an armistice or treaty of peace except by mutual agreement.

Allied armies, mostly Australians, were ordered forward for entry into Beyrout, following an Armistice Agreement, containing 22 points, signed at Acre, capital and seaport of Syria, on 13th July by Allied and Vichy delegates. Before France fell, Weygand had built up a great army in Syria. Even after the Franco-German armistice, it was expected that Weygand would come back and lead his autonomous command to the side of the Allies. And when that failed to happen, Syria was bombarded with propaganda from every direction and riven with factions. The Arabs wanted independence, the Turks wanted Aleppo, Vichy wanted to maintain its mandate, the British wanted an ally, the Germans wanted a springboard in the Middle East and the restless people of Syria wanted fifty different things and set about intriguing for them. Vichy tried a succession of administrators and lastly General Deutz as Vichy's High Commissioner in Syria. Every one made a mess of it, and the worst mess was made by the Italian and German Armistice Delegations in Beyrout, who were the real masters of the place. When Crete was being fought, German aircraft were passing through Syria to assist Rashid Ali against the British in Iraq. It, therefore, became obvious that the country was going to be occupied by one side or the other. Accordingly occupation of Syria began on 8th June 1941 by the Empire forces and the Free French. The French were fighting back for sometime, but in the end they were compelled to sue for terms. The agreement secured the independence of Syria and its strategic and military occupation by the Allies.

July 16.—International tension in the Pacific was underlined by the resignation of the Konoye Cabinet, ostensibly to make room for a stronger government. Pending formation of a new Cabinet Prince Konoye was asked to continue as Premier until at last on October 16, 1941, his " wait and see." Cabinet resigned *en bloc*, and General Tojo, the War Minister, became Premier and formed a Cabinet.

July 23.—Japan imperatively demanded of Vichy cessation of strategic bases in Indo-China.

1942

July 16.—The British Eighth Army under General Auchinleck launched a new offensive against General Rommel's German army at El Alamien. The El Alamien line, 165 miles from Alexandria, was established on 1st July 1942 as a base of operations of the German army when Rommel began the Battle for Egypt on 26th May 1942.

On the Russian front in the second summer offensive of the Germans, the battle for the City of Voronesh reached " paroxysms of battle fury."

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester arrived in Karachi.

General de Gaulle went to the House of Commons for the first time and addressed the members of Parliament.

July 23.—Fighting flared up again in the battle for Egypt.

COMBINED OPERATIONS PRAYERS

Forces engaged in combined operations have had the following special prayer written for them :—

O ! Lord God, Our Father, Our Saviour, Our Might, we pray Thee take into Thy keeping us who are joined together in a trinity of arms on sea, on land, and in the air in this our special service for King and Country.

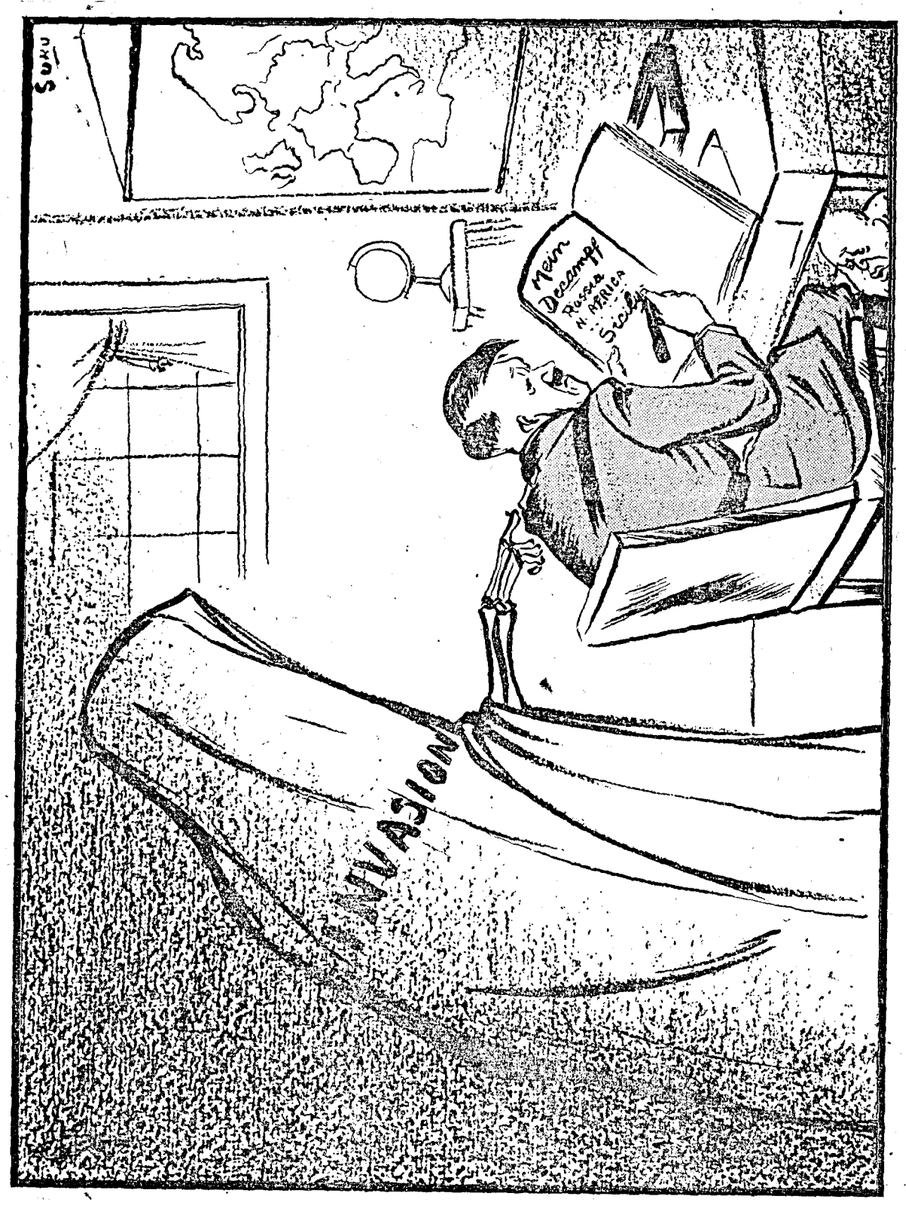
We pledge ourselves to do, to dare, to die, that others may live, believing in Him who said : " Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Grant us faith, courage, and determination that we fail not in whatever duty may lie before us, and may we be enabled by Thy Divine Grace to bear our part in establishing peace on earth and goodwill amongst men.

This we ask for Jesus Christ—His sake—Amen.

"Axis Sicilian headquarters have been moved to Reggio in the toe of Italy according to a Berne dispatch to the Stockholm newspaper *Svenska Dagbladet*"

—*Reuter*



THE MAN WHO LEADS THE ATTACK ON OREL FRONT

MARSHAL TIMOSHENKO

MARSHAL Timoshenko has a way of appearing from obscurity whenever the Russian army is in need of a particularly dynamic leader.

Almost nothing has been heard of him since he was transferred from Russia's South-western Front last fall until this month, when he popped up again, leading the Soviet offensive against Orel. *In the meantime*, however, he is credited with having planned and led the Red Army's successful February-March drive in the north, an offensive which, in eight days, recaptured more than 300 villages and towns.

It was Semyon Konstantinovich Timoshenko who recaptured Rostov in the fall of 1941 when some sort of a *military* success was essential to Russian morale after the big German drive through the Ukraine. That winter the Marshal led the Russian offensive which came within 12 miles of taking Kharkov. He was again in command the following May in the big drive which, though *unsuccessful in itself*, threw Hitler's plans for a big spring advance completely out of gear. And he is generally given credit for organizing the defence of Stalingrad, although his transfer from that front came before the autumn crisis.

Timoshenko's friendship with Stalin dates from their first defence of Stalingrad (then Tsaritsin) after the revolution. Son of a Bessarabian peasant, he was once a conscript in the Czar's Army.

—*P.M., New York.*

A BLOW AGAINST STALEMATE

By SAMUEL GRAFTON

WHAT does the invasion of Sicily mean? It means that there is no Fortress of Europe any more. What can be done at one point can be done at another. It means that a year of Hitler propaganda about the European Fortress is thrown out of the window. The roof of the Fortress has leaked for a long time. Now we see that its doors can be kicked open. . .

Oddly enough, Sicily has as much meaning for the Pacific and for Japan as it has for Europe. The attempted *Axis excuses, its explanations* that Sicily is only an island, will not greatly hearten its island ally in the east. Only an island, is it? So is the main body of Japan only an island and her most important possessions are only islands.

But these, so far, are surface meanings, obvious effects *of a great event*. Let us dig deeper.

Sicily has ruled out the danger of a stalemate. A stalemate was Hitler's last hope. Prime Minister Churchill warned us of this last May 20th when he said, in *the ominous terms*: '. . . *it is in the dragging out* of the war at an enormous expense, until the democracies are tired or bored or split, that the main hopes of Germany and Japan must now reside.'

Sicily is a blow against a stalemate. Hitler's loss of the hope of a stalemate is his most stunning defeat in Sicily, far more important than the ultimate loss of Sicily itself.

EXCELLENT TERRA-COTTA FIGURES BASED ON THIS CARICATURE ARE BEING MADE BY

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL CHINGLEPUT

and are on sale at HIGGINBOTHAMS.

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL ARE DONATING ALL PROFITS TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S AMENITIES FOR TROOPS FUND.

THE PRESIDENT OF CHINA

By ANN SITWELL

LIN SEN, President of the Chinese National Government, is one of the experienced statesmen in China. Born nearly 80 years ago at Foochow in Fukien, he has lived through some of the most crucial years in Chinese history. He has known China in the nineteenth century, weak and disunited. He worked with Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the Father of the Chinese Revolution, during the earliest days of revolutionary activity and remained loyal to his leader during the difficult years of civil war, intrigue and disappointment. After Dr. Sun's death, Lin Sen became a member of Chiang Kai-shek's Government and has risen to the highest political office in the country. The whole of his long life has been devoted to public affairs and to the building of modern China.

Lin Sen received his education in China and the United States. He joined Dr. Sun Yat-sen's revolutionary movement in America. This movement among the Chinese living abroad was extremely important during the critical years before the Revolution of 1911. Though Dr. Sun was an exile, pursued by the vengeance of the Manchu authorities, and he and his adherents in China lived in daily danger of their lives, they were able to draw moral and financial support as well as sympathy from the Chinese patriots abroad. Lin Sen joined Dr. Sun's party, the Teng Min Hui—later the Kuomintang—as one of its original members.

ELECTED TO FIRST PARLIAMENT

He returned to China shortly after the Revolution of 1911 and was elected a senator of the first Chinese Parliament. From then onwards all his time and energies were used in political activity. The actual rule of the Kuomintang was restricted to Canton and its surrounding neighbourhood, but the influence of the Kuomintang and the Three Principles of Dr. Sun Yat-sen spread rapidly over the country, reaching the most distant provinces, disseminated by students, teachers and political workers.

To the Chinese people suffering from the extortions of rival warlords in the northern and central provinces these young patriots brought the message of the Three Principles, Nationalism, Democracy and the Welfare of the People. The moral influence of the Kuomintang was far more powerful than its material resources, for it represented all the most progressive elements in China; and its intense propaganda prepared the way for the march of Chiang Kai-shek's army in his successful campaigns of 1927–28.

Lin Sen proved his loyalty and ability as head of the Fukien administration from 1922 onwards. In 1924 he was elected to a post of higher responsibility, becoming a member of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang and head of the Foreign Affairs branch.

LIN SUPPORTS CHIANG

When the breach in the party appeared in the years following Dr. Sun's death, Lin Sen decided to support Chiang Kai-shek and the right wing and centre of the Party. He believed that this course was in the best interests of the Chinese people; he had worked with Chiang when they were both attached to the military headquarters and had formed a high opinion of the young general's ability. The triumphant success of the Northern expedition against the war lords seemed to justify his choice.

During 1927 all the Yangtse provinces were freed from the oppressions of the warlords, and by 1928 Peking, the Northern capital, had fallen and the shadowy Peking Government came to an ignominious end. A new National Government of China was constituted in Nanking, and Chiang Kai-shek, as its head, chose Lin Sen as one of his key men.

Lin had been appointed as a member of the Chekiang Division of the Central Political Council in 1927 and he now resigned this office to serve on the Overseas Affairs Commission in Nanking. His special knowledge of international affairs and his experience in organizing the Foreign Affairs Branch of the Kuomintang fitted him admirably for this new work. He also became a member of the State Council of the National Government and Vice-President of the Legislative Yuan. This is one of the five Yuans, recommended by Dr. Sun as the framework of the Chinese constitution, the others being the Executive Yuan, the Examinations Yuan, the Judicial Yuan, and the Central Yuan. On the resignation of Hu Han-min from the presidency of the Yuan in 1931, Lin Sen was promoted to this office and in the following year he became President of the National Government, the position he holds to-day.

A REVERED STATESMAN

In this highly responsible capacity Lin Sen has been closely associated with the constructive work of the National Government and has taken an active part in promoting China's war effort. The work of the National Government in the years of peace before the Japanese attack is well known. A National Economic Council was formed and under its guidance, agricultural methods were much improved, irrigation extended, land reclaimed and measures taken to prevent flood and famine. Communications were advanced, thousands of miles of railroads were laid, and civil airways started. Hospitals, health centres and schools were extended on the advice of the League of Nations experts who were invited to China by the National Government.

Lin Sen, as President of the National Government, is one of the most revered and experienced statesmen in China. The old revolutionary leader who shared the hopes and dreams of Sun Yat-sen is seeing those hopes gradually being fulfilled to-day.

China as one of the four great progressive powers in the world to-day will play an important part in reconstruction in the Far East after the war. She has attained the full stature of a nation: she is making strides towards democracy and freedom from want for her people. The events of one man's life are only a brief chapter in the long history of China; but it may prove to be the most heroic chapter of all.

NEW TREND IN CHINA

By GUENTHER STEIN

ONE of the most important ideological developments in China in recent years has been an effort to revive the application of the political wisdom of the ancient Chinese sages.

The retreat of the Government to the interior and the growing difficulties of practically everybody in Chungking in getting foreign newspapers, journals, and books have further contributed to the increase of the popularity of the Chinese classics.

Many of the leading people who were so overwhelmed with flood of modern, mainly Western, literature before the war and during its first years that they spent relatively little time on re-reading the ancient philosophers and historians, are now taking a greater interest in them than they did for a very long time.

It is the habit of many of China's leaders and high officials to devote a quiet early morning hour and some time at night to serious reading. The Bible plays a surprisingly large role in it with many, but the old sages seem to be getting their full share once more even with those who had given relatively little attention to them since they were young.

This trend is strongly reflected in public speeches which seem to quote the sages to a considerably larger extent than normally. The Chinese tradition of basing criticisms of present-day affairs on quotations from the classics is again in greater evidence in the press, and Government officials in private conversations with Chinese as well as foreign affairs often tell of their latest discovery of interesting parallels to topics of the day in their readings on ancient philosophy and early Chinese history.

Moreover the great aesthetic values of the traditional literature exert a great influence on those who have spent much of their lives on more prosaic Western studies and routine work.

The beauty of the language, the high ideals of the sages and their remoteness from the strain and stress of wartime life provide a pleasing contrast to the ways of the present and the uncertainties and grim problems of the future.

Even many of the younger generation are turning more and more to the classics of which they learned relatively little in the modernized school. The new trend makes it necessary for them once more to be well versed in traditional learning.

They are thus laying the foundation in their own mind for some measure of success of the Government's effort to revive tradition and to direct political thought into the channels of ancient Chinese wisdom.

The masses of the people among whom modernism never really replaced the old ethics are more than ever exhorted in newspaper articles and pamphlets, by speeches and orders and through the "New Life Movement" to follow the precepts of the sages.

—*Christian Science Monitor.*

GENERALISSIMO CHIANG

By TSUI CHI

[*M. Tsui Chi, a graduate of Peiping National University, is the author of "A History of Chinese Civilisation" (Gollancz, London) and "Biographer of the Worthies of Kiagsi" (Wanchang). In Peiping he was one of the editors of "The Great Chinese Encyclopædia."*]

GENERALISSIMO CHIANG

WE did not discover our national leader, Chiang Kai-shek, before he was discovered by our enemy, Japan. The Japanese have always feared, hated and blamed him. But an enemy's words usually produce the opposite effect from the one intended, and Japan made herself our unpardonable enemy after her occupation of our Manchurian provinces in 1931.

In the pre-war years, therefore, when the diplomats at Tokyo insisted on the removal by China of Chiang Kai-shek as her national leader, the Chinese people inevitably developed a passionate affection for that great man. This affection has since increased and become permanent in our hearts. Had our enemy been wise he would have refrained from abusing a man who, though he disliked, we held dear.

Chiang Kai-shek is a statesman for whom the haughty Japanese dare neither show contempt nor neglect. Although Wang Ching-wei, the appeaser, was "babied" by them, they never honoured him by assailing him with words.

FIRM AS ROCK

Chiang Kai-shek gets his name from a quotation in the Confucian classic, "The Book of Changes." The Chinese take names for their children from old sayings which indicate the child's virtues in the future. Thus Chiang's parents desired for him the virtue "kai shek," that is to say, as "firm as rock." The child, destined to become in the future the leader of four hundred millions, was also given another name, less well known to foreigners, namely, "chungcheng"—"uprightness." The Generalissimo is a man of uprightness, with will-power as firm as a rock.

A friend of Chiang Kai-shek, named Tai, has written an essay "On the Foundation of Chiang Kai-shek's Successes in his Brilliant Career", which gives us some insight into Chiang's character. "We," writes Tai, "who have been friends of Chiang for more than 20 years, have never seen him drink a cup of wine or smoke a cigarette." Tai tells us that Chiang was able to appreciate the delicacy and flavour of tea, wine and tobacco as much as any other person. But he was determined never to be enslaved by the habits of drinking or smoking, and he never touched them.

WORTH HIS WORD

According to Tai, Chiang always kept a diary. He has written it for more than 20 years without a break, even in his busiest or most perilous moments. He writes with great sincerity, recording every meditation and plan. "He conceals his diary from no one. When a friend walks into his room, he can pick up a volume of the diary from the desk and read it freely," writes Tai.

A man with a disciplined mind like Chiang would never allow danger or difficulty to stop him. Because of this quality, according to Tai, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the founder of the Chinese Republic, had specially picked Chiang from the senior revolutionaries to succeed himself as the leader of the nation, and "entrusted him with the responsibility of the deliverance and reconstruction of the country."

Before and during the war, Japan has frequently waged a "nerve war" on Chiang, but has failed to induce him or force him to make peace terms. The Western merchants all know that when a Chinese tradesman says "Yes," it is as good as a signed contract. When Chiang Kai-shek says to our friends, "I will not conclude a separate peace with Japan," they can trust him not to make such a bargain, no matter what may happen in the world.

A national leader of Chiang's disposition cannot allow his officers to be inefficient. In the present life-and-death struggle China cannot afford any priority to considerations of personal comfort or personal security. "The meritorious receive reward; the guilty, punishment" is our golden precept through our long tradition.

"INTELLECTUAL PARENT"

Most of the Chinese high officers have been educated in the Whampoo, or Central, Military College, which was created by Chiang. In our tradition, the students regard their principal as their "intellectual parent" and he in turn regards them as "intellectual children." In spite of this affection, Chiang would never spoil a "child" by violating discipline. China cannot afford it. Discipline alone has saved ill-equipped China from collapse. If Chiang loves his youngsters, he must allow them to die as dutiful soldiers.

In the early years of Whampoo history, a cadet, having received some punishment for a small offence, committed suicide in his dormitory. When Chiang was informed of the matter, he instantly summoned the staff and students together and gave the following commentary: "To commit suicide for nothing is a degenerate act, the meanest of deeds. He who does this shows that he is a man of weak will-power. A strong man would not do it; a revolutionary, never."

To his students, however, he used to quote Dr. Sun Yat-sen's epigram: "He who sees the success of the Revolution has achieved a career. He who does not see it but sacrifices his life for Revolution has achieved a virtue." "I think," the Generalisimo would continue, "one who really works for the bliss of the human race and for the doctrine, can scarcely hope to complete his career in his lifetime."

CHIANG'S PHILOSOPHY

Nor would he himself shrink from making sacrifices, if necessary and justifiable. "Our life," he says, "does not exist in sections, but in continuation. Dr. Sun Yat-sen has died, but we still live. His work will be continued, hence his life has not passed away. Again, if I were to die now, but you, all of you, lived to continue my work, my life would not pass from the world. If you can understand this, you will never fear death." Chiang's perilous life gives even more value to these words.

Many of his Whampoo students have died in battle. Others are high officers in the field in China's struggle against the Japanese invaders. For their services, the nation is grateful. I have read many soldiers' memoirs of the war. A soldier dying in hospital paid homage to the Generalissimo's name. "Fanatical" may be some gentlemen's adjective for these feelings. But we Chinese call them Faith.

CHINA'S GREAT STRATEGIST

By T. S. CHEN

GENERAL Pai Chung-hsi is an outstanding figure in the Government of Free China. He is a member of the Supreme Defence Council and Vice-Chief of the General Staff in charge of war strategy under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who consults him in all military matters before any orders are sent to the fighting fronts. He is also Director-in-Chief of military training.

The American Press has often called Pai China's leading strategist. As for the Chinese, they admiringly refer to him as "Siao Chu-ko Liang," after a master strategist of the third century noted for his great ability and prophetic vision.

General Pai is a Mohammedan, and on three occasions he has served as special representative of the Generalissimo on important missions to the north-western provinces, which are largely Mohammedan. The Japanese have made every effort to induce the Mohammedans of North China to enter the camp of the "New Order in East Asia," but through the influence of General Pai, these efforts have proved fruitless.

A SCHOLAR OF REPUTE

Contrary to the popular conception of Chinese "war lords," Pai is not wealthy. He is a self-made man. When he first came to Chungking, he lived in a small, unpretentious residence and used an old Ford Sedan. His car was so battered that he was often held up at the entrance of Government offices because the sentries refused to believe that a high military officer would ride in such a vehicle. But as time went on and his reputation in Chungking grew, he was identified by this same old Ford Sedan.

General Pai does not speak or understand English, but is a Chinese scholar of some reputation, and is an expert in penmanship. He is a profound student of history, both Chinese and foreign. Indeed, his knowledge of international affairs is remarkable in one who has neither been abroad nor studied foreign languages. He is constantly broadening his knowledge and his understanding of the views of others by engaging in conversation with people of all classes.

He is a good listener, but is also a good public speaker. He holds frequent reviews of his troops and at such times likes to deliver a short speech. And he frequently addresses not only his own troops, but also public gatherings and student groups, sometimes speaking for as much as two and a half to three hours or even more. He speaks slowly and enunciates clearly. His words are carefully chosen, and his subject is usually well prepared.

AUSTERE HABITS

General Pai, who is 52, walks with a slight limp, which, however, is barely noticeable. Pai is tall for a Chinese.

Pai neither smokes nor drinks, and he condemns gambling in any form; in his administration of the province of Kwangsi he offered high rewards for information leading to the arrest of Government officials found gambling. When meeting strangers or when engaged in official business, the General has a serious manner, but in talking to those with whom he is well acquainted on matters other than official, he is pleasant and jokes frequently.

General Pai was born in 1891 in a country village near Kweilin, capital of Kwangsi Province. His father, a farmer, died before this fifth of his six sons started on the road to distinction.

As a boy, General Pai attended a school in Kweilin. At the age of 17 he attended a teachers' college. Pai taught in small schools for several years.

RAPID RISE

Without the knowledge of his parents, he subsequently left Kweilin and proceeded to Paotingfu, in North China, to enter the Military Academy there. Just prior to his graduation, he applied to the Government to appoint him to the new province of Sinkiang, thus indicating his love of pioneering and adventure. This was shortly after the Revolution of 1911, and conditions in the north-west were chaotic. The Government felt that his services could be better utilized in his home province of Kwangsi. He was duly given a commission as lieutenant under the provincial Governor, General Lu Yung-ting, in command of the General's bodyguard.

This was a very fine opportunity, since it not only gave him a direct contact with the highest authorities but also influence with the officers and troops, and an intimate knowledge of the intricacies of the political organization of that time. His rise was rapid. He was soon appointed a captain of the Elite Guard.

MEETS Dr. SUN YAT-SEN

This was the period when local war lords wielded great power in China. Pai, meanwhile, had been promoted to the rank of major. While in Canton for treatment of his left leg, which he had broken in a fall during a night engagement against bandits in the mountains, he met Dr. Sun Yat-sen, whose teachings he had been studying. He also for the first time met General Chiang Kai-shek. This was in 1921, when these two leaders were already planning the overthrow of the Northern war lords.

Two years later Pai joined with Li Tsung-ren and Hwang Shao-shung in the overthrow of the administration of Governor Lu of Kwangsi. Li became Commander-in-Chief of the Kwangsi army, Hwang, Vice-Commander and Pai, now a general, became the Chief of Staff.

LED SPEARHEAD OF ATTACK

Just about this time Dr. Sun died in Peking. The new regime which he had set up in Canton, however, continued to function. But it was Pai who protected it from an attack which might well have eliminated it permanently from the stage. General Tang Chi-yao, of Yunan Province, had been invited by Dr. Sun to act as Vice-Premier of the new Government, but had refused. He now endeavoured to march from Yunan through Kwangsi to attack Canton.

His forces advanced in two columns. Under General Pai's direction, the Kwangsi forces, while directing their main attack against one column, sent small bodies of scouts and irregulars to harass the other and prevent a junction of the two. By firing crackers and moving about quickly and continuously, these irregulars created the impression that their main forces were in the neighbourhood and held one enemy column inactive until the other had been destroyed, after which all the Yunan forces were driven out of the province.

This victory not only preserved Kwangsi from conquest and Canton from attack but also established General Pai's reputation as a strategist. The following year he was invited to Canton, and he subsequently participated in the plans for the Northern campaign which swept away the old political system and established a Central Government at Nanking in 1927. During these operations he was Vice-Chief of General Staff and concurrently commander of the Eastern Route Army. From Nanking, he led the spearhead of the attack all the way to Peking.

THREE-POINT PROGRAMME

General Pai was in favour of continuing the invasion into Manchuria against the Mukden forces of Chang Tso-lin. But his enemies and also certain military leaders who were jealous of his growing power and popularity incited General Chiang and others of the Southern group against him, insinuating that he would attempt to seize supreme power. Chiang was even urged to apprehend Pai. Being aware of these developments, Pai escaped by steamer to Shanghai and subsequently to Hong Kong. After living there for two months, he was invited home by the Kwangsi armies. He reached Nanking without a penny.

On his return to Kwangsi, Pai was appointed Vice-Commander-in-Chief under General Li Tsung-ren, and set to work immediately on a programme of rehabilitation and reconstruction in the province. He took as his slogan "Reconstruction in Kwangsi and Rehabilitation for China" and based his policy upon a three-point programme of provincial self-defence, government by the people and economic self-sufficiency. Under his administration, Kwangsi became the model province of China.

INTO THE FOREFRONT AGAIN

For 10 years, Pai did not go to Nanking or take any part in the affairs of the Central Government, though often invited by Generalissimo Chiang, who had discovered that the charges laid against him were fabrications of enemies jealous of his ability and high reputation. However, he had always assured Chiang that in the event of war with Japan, he would come immediately.

On the outbreak of war in 1937, in response to an urgent request from the Generalissimo, General Pai Chung-shi flew to Nanking in a special plane sent for his use. He was met at the airfield by all the leaders of the Central Government, and was welcomed by all ranks of the army. General Pai was in favour of immediate action against the Japanese, and as Vice-Chief of the General Staff he proceeded to Lungwa, Shanghai, to direct operations. When the German Ambassador presented Japan's peace terms through Wang Ching-wei, General Pai was bitterly opposed to any suggestion of negotiations, and demanded complete withdrawal of Japanese troops from Chinese soil as a pre-requisite to any such discussions.

PUT HEART INTO THE NATION

As Vice-Chief of Staff, Pai collaborated with General Li Tsung-ren in the great victory at Taierchwang, which did so much to put heart into the Chinese nation in the early days of the war. Later the Japanese succeeded in cutting the communications behind the Chinese positions. Generals Li and Pai were forced to disperse their troops through the mountains and extricate them in small units through Japanese-held territory. The Generals themselves, after destroying their motor transport, walked for several days and nights through wild territory in order to escape capture.

General Pai was in command during the retreat up the Yangtse, during which he administered a severe repulse to the Japanese forces endeavouring to outflank the Wuhan cities, and saved Hankow for a period of over two months. After the fall of the Wuhan cities, when Generalissimo Chiang retired to Chungking, Pai was appointed in charge of all armies south of the Yangtse, with headquarters in Kweilin. The first great victory at Changsha was achieved under his strategic direction, and during the Japanese advance on Nanning he planned the counter-attack which destroyed the crack Japanese Fifth Division at Kwen-len-kwan.

MILITARY TACTICS

General Pai's military tactics have always been based on careful planning and the use of small and effective forces under proper leadership, rather than on mass attacks, poorly directed and weakly led. His objective is always to do the most damage to the enemy at the least possible cost. He is a man of great determination and tenacity, and once he is convinced of the correctness of his strategy, he will pursue his course with the greatest energy and enterprise, often turning defeat into victory.

His strategy is usually based on surprise and deception. He will frequently retreat in order to draw the enemy into a prepared trap, and then by swift counter-attacks and flanking movements, destroy him. These tactics were exemplified both at Taierchwang and at Changsha.

MAJOR STRATEGY

Pai's major efforts are directed toward conserving China's manpower and material, while at the same time training the new Chinese armies, until the day when China can make a successful counter-offensive. His supreme strategy lies in "trading space for time," and in spreading his forces as widely as possible, to enable China to follow "whittling" tactics both against and behind the enemy lines, avoiding major or decisive engagements wherever possible.

China's great strategist has no personal ambitions, and works only for the salvation of his people from the Japanese oppressor. He is today a loyal supporter of the Generalissimo, and his advice carries a great influence in the counsels of the Central Government at Chungking.

He is not wealthy and requires none of the luxuries or amenities of wealth. He lives simply, works unremittingly and without ostentation, and has earned the love and respect of all classes of the Chinese people.

—*Condensed from Asia.*

WARTIME FOOD PRODUCTION

CHINA leads the world in total agricultural production. In normal years she holds the first place among all nations in rice, wheat, sweet potatoes, kaoliang, soya beans, millet, barley, peanuts, tea, and silk. She is the greatest agricultural country in the world.

Although China will certainly carry out a huge programme of industrialisation after the war, agriculture will remain the backbone of the national life. There are approximately 60,000,000 farm households in the country out of a total of 80,000,000. That is to say, the farming population constitutes about 75 per cent of the total. It will be a very long time before industry ever can employ nearly as much manpower as agriculture.

Though a leading agricultural country, China does not produce enough food for her own population. In normal years she has to import large quantities of rice, wheat and sugar. In the last three or four years, however, she has imported little food, owing to the coastal blockade and the difficulty of land transportation.

FOOD PROBLEM

China has been not unsuccessful in the solution of the food problem in wartime. Although the food supply has by no means been abundant, and although millions of refugees and of residents in war areas have undergone hunger and starvation, the country as a whole has fared as well as one can expect.

As to the post-war food problem, China will have to introduce new methods of farming, to cultivate new areas of land, and greatly to increase the supply of meat and fish, in order to feed the 450,000,000 population properly. At present farms are small and families are large. Consequently, farm incomes are almost entirely devoted to the maintenance of the bare existence of families.

Farmers themselves have no surplus capital and cannot afford to risk experimentation of any kind. It seems necessary that village communities and the various grades of government would have to plan and work together in order to increase total agricultural production.

FARM LAND

The land area of China is very large. In her 28 provinces (not including Mongolia and Tibet) she possesses 12,274,362,240 mou of land (one mou is equal to one-sixth of an acre). Of this, 5,494,174,770 mou belong to the 18 provinces in China Proper, and 6,780,187,470 mou belong to the 10 frontier provinces.

Of this vast area of land, only about 14 per cent is under cultivation. The total area of farm land is estimated to be approximately 1,600,000,000 mou. The farm land per capita is only about 3.5 mou.

The war has aggravated the food situation in manifold ways. In the first place, the blockade has practically stopped the importation of foodstuffs. Second, the invading armies have not only lived on the good earth, but have also destroyed or burned large quantities of the fruit thereof. Third, on the fluid war fronts and areas much farm land has to lie waste. Finally, the military service has drawn heavily upon farm labour. All these have made the food situation in China more serious than it was in the pre-war normal years.

The year 1937, when the war began, was a lean year in food production. The years 1938 and 1939 fortunately were fat years. Again 1940 and 1941 were poor years, while 1942 was a good year.

The total land under cultivation in 15 provinces, Shensi, Kansu, Ninghsia, Chinghai, Honan, Hupeh, Szechuan, Yunnan, Kweichow, Hunan, Kiangsi, Chekiang, Fukien, Kwantung and Kwangsi, is estimated to be 580,000,000 mou. The average food production is about 1,500,000,000 piculs per year.

The year 1940 was a relatively lean year. Owing to the spring drought, the summer crops of 1940 were not so plentiful as those of 1938 and 1939. The yield of rice fell considerably, but wheat and potatoes registered a slight increase. The food situation was most serious in the latter part of 1940.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has adopted various measures to increase the production of food. These measures include increase of acreage, increase of rice production by reducing the acreage of glutinous rice which ordinarily goes to wine making, increase of wheat production by winter ploughing, use of improved seeds, use of better fertilizers, reclamation of waste land, development of irrigation, control of insects and diseases, and protection of domestic animals.

The Farmers Bank of China, a Government institution, has been partly responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the agricultural life in China. It has extended credits to farmers in more than 800 counties. As on November 1942, the loans outstanding amounted to 560,000,000 yuan. Of this sum, about 80 per cent was directly used for the increase of agricultural production, and 20 per cent for irrigation, extension and reclamation projects.

—*Contemporary China.*

JAPANESE PLANS MISCARRY

THE Japanese interpret their actions in China and elsewhere during the past six years in a way which is surprising to those unacquainted with the religion of Japan.

The Japanese have been insistent on the disinterested nature of their "mission" to China. From the beginning of their invasion they have proclaimed to an incredulous world that they had come to China solely for the good of the Chinese people, to help them put their country in order and to assist them in the task of "reconstruction."

This task was, and of course still is, being efficiently performed by the Government of Chiang Kai-shek. Japan's policy in China, her war aims, her methods of exploiting her conquests have all changed repeatedly, but the quantity innocent Japanese have steadily adhered to the theory of a heavenly, civilizing mission.

IMAGINARY PICTURE

To back up one organized lie with another, they declare that their presence was welcomed by the mass of the Chinese people. They have no difficulty in persuading themselves that this is so, in spite of the massacres and other atrocities perpetrated by their troops at Nanking, in spite of the bombing of undefended towns, and the burning of innumerable villages. As proof of their popularity in China, the Japanese point to the various puppet governments set up by their army, which they maintain are co-operating with them in the happiest way.

This picture is wholly imaginary. It begins and ends in the minds of Japanese propagandists. It is true that the Japanese have been able to find a certain number of Chinese officials, usually of the type belonging to the old Manchu regime, prepared to work under them, just as the Germans have usually managed to find individuals in the countries they occupy who will likewise play their game.

But it does not mean that the people have given up the struggle. The Chinese are no more co-operating with the Japanese in the areas they have invaded than the French, the Dutch, the Czechs or the Norwegians are co-operating with the Germans.

PASSIVE OBSTRUCTION

The Japanese technique is to set up puppet Chinese administrations in the districts which their troops have occupied. These governments are stiffened by Japanese military advisers and Japanese garrisons. But it is one thing to coerce a Chinese to take office in a puppet government, and quite another to make him govern.

The Chinese who is prevented from taking an active part in resistance from lack of arms may serve his country quite as effectively by blocking Japanese development of occupied territory. By a consistent policy of passive obstruction, the Chinese can make it impossible to get anything done. Plans miscarry, orders do not get carried out; and government becomes stultified.

To make matters worse, the Japanese are so suspicious of their Chinese colleagues that they reject any attempt by them to initiate or criticize a measure. Resignations, or rather dismissals, are frequent, and so the standard of Chinese officials is steadily deteriorating. In the end the Japanese are driven by exasperation to take over the administration altogether, and the Government consequently loses any claim to represent the Chinese.

QUISLING WANG

As an example, the position of Wang Ching going at Nanking is not a happy one. Though nominally the head of the so-called Central Government of China, he is in fact completely powerless. When his *de jure* government —*de jure* according to Japanese law alone—was officially recognized, celebrations were held and the event was played up in the Japanese press, but actually Wang had no voice in the government of his country.

The other local puppet governments paid him a certain amount of lip service and adopted his flag, but beyond that they refused him any kind of allegiance. He was unable to collect any funds from them, and had no say whatever in local administration or the appointment of officials.

Little is heard of him today. He sits silent and inactive at Nanking, nursing his grievances, except when he is prodded by his masters into making an occasional speech pointing to the warm friendship existing between the two countries.

HATRED DEEPENS

The establishment of the Greater East Asia Ministry has destroyed the last vestiges of self-government in Occupied China. If co-operation between the Japanese and the puppet Chinese officials is superficial, co-operation between the Japanese and the Chinese population in occupied districts does not exist at all.

The Chinese, it is true, are not in a position to resist or drive out the invaders except in the guerilla areas where they can be supplied with arms. They are forced to work for the Japanese and sell them their produce, because the alternative is starvation. But under this outward acceptance of alien rule there is a deep and mounting hatred.

Whenever Chinese villagers have the chance, they help the guerillas by cutting communications, blocking roads, blowing up bridges, and isolating and destroying groups of Japanese. In many parts of the country the Japanese dare not go more than a few miles away from the shelter of a garrison town.

NURSING REVENGE

The Chinese, too, are becoming less dependent on Japanese goods as the industrial co-operatives are spreading even to occupied regions and are able to produce enough consumers' goods to make the Chinese self-sufficient. This means that the Japanese plan of turning China into a huge market for cheap Japanese goods will fail.

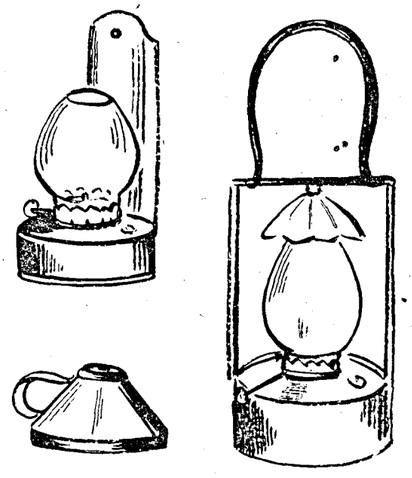
Co-operation is something which cannot be enforced by arms. The Japanese have to govern as military commanders of an invading army, by martial law or not at all. They would prefer to govern through docile Chinese governments, since this would free large numbers of their troops—at present bogged down in North, Central and South China—when they might be used against Chungking or in other parts of the Pacific war zone.

After six years of war the Japanese are not nearer to conquering China. The guerillas, the industrial co-operatives, the politely sardonic Chinese officials, the people who silently await their chance for revenge, all are helping to bring defeat nearer for the Japanese.

And, when that defeat comes, it will be final and lasting.

—"*Montreal Daily Star.*"

RAMA DEEPA



Patent No. 29019 of 1942.

The most economical lighting device ever discovered. These three cheap varieties are manufactured for the National War Front, Madras.

Rama Deepa offers a lucrative subsidiary occupation to the agriculturist during the slack season.

If a poor family collects margosa seeds and extracts 12 lb., i.e., 4 viss of oil, its annual lighting requirements will be completely satisfied.

The lamps are available with the District Organizers.

THE BURMA ROAD TO JAPAN

By SIMON HARCOURT-SMITH

THE Japanese will not hold the opinion much longer that warmongering is a profitable affair. The decisions taken recently at Washington suggest that before long the war will come direct to the crowded valleys of Japan.

In the Chinese provinces of Chekiang and Shantung are innumerable stretches of upland and countless pastures which before the round of another year will be swept by the R.A.F.—off to bomb Tokyo and Osaka. I say R.A.F. advisedly. For this new offensive now being planned against Japan must be predominantly a British affair.

There is far too easy an assumption among us that the Far Eastern war is an American headache. Japanese aggression has done much more harm to us than it could ever do to America. We shall never again count for much in the world unless we end the Japanese tyranny over Asia. The new Japanese empire stretches in an embattled line of islands from Kuriles down to New Guinea. At either extremity of this line—in the South Seas and among the northern fogs—Americans are doing prodigies.

ATTACK ON JAP HOMELAND

But they cannot be everywhere at once. In the centre of the line lies the most profitable point for attack—the Japanese islands themselves. And air assault on them from China must be our responsibility. That assault, unfortunately, cannot begin tomorrow. It is not enough merely to establish bomber aerodromes on Chinese soil within reach of Tokyo. We must hold them too.

And this is impossible without breaking Japan's military grip on China. We cannot expect the Chinese to do this unaided. Inevitably they are feeling the effects of being cut off from their principal sources of supply. The task before us is formidable, but in the light of the Eighth Army's march from El Alamein to Tunis, it is not insuperable.

A preliminary to any sustained bombing of Japan from Chinese soil must be the reconquest of Burma and the entry of the British army into China to join in an offensive down the Yangtse valley. This is not an over-ambitious plan, and the fall of Burma would probably reduce Indo-China at the same time.

We should then possess as supply routes into China not only the Burma Road—never yet used to its full capacity—but also the French railway from Tonking to Kunming. Moreover the capture of Burma and Indo-China should isolate and dismay the Japanese forces in Siam and Malaya. Singapore would become ours again, and Japan's naval domination of the China Seas would be at an end. Much of the oil, concrete, spare parts and cumbersome machinery needed for modern aerodromes would then be brought up by sea. Allied forces would probably move against Formosa island, within easy flying range of Japan and conveniently endowed with excellent aerodromes by the Japanese.

GOOD CHANCE

All this will take time. But, given a successful campaign in Burma after this year's monsoon, there is a good chance of our heavy bombers being within range of Tokyo by next spring. Much of course depends upon the number and quality of planes that can be spared from the German war. For the bombing of Japan we need machines at least as heavy as Lancasters—and Lancasters in great strength. Lieutenant General Sir Douglas Brownrigg writes in the *Evening News* that the Allies must recapture Burma and the coast of China before they can bomb their way into Japan. Drawing lessons from the operations in North Africa and the Mediterranean, he says: "We are led to the inevitable conclusion that without the use of the coast of China we cannot hope to invade Japan, and the problem is reduced to one of seeing how best to secure use of China's coastal provinces."

The best way to the coast of China is through Burma and the Burma Road—and other trails now being constructed. This route avoids shore-based aircraft which the Japanese have by now most certainly installed at or near every port in their possession. But, in order to open the Burma Road, Burma itself must be retaken, and that can be done only by an amphibious operation against Rangoon. This will be difficult—but not more difficult than attempts to retake the islands of the South-Western Pacific in reverse order to that in which the Japanese seized them.

AIR SUPERIORITY

Once Rangoon is retaken, our superiority in the air can make the advance up the Irrawady and along the railway running parallel to it a quicker operation than the advance to Baghdad in 1915–17—to which operation it will bear many points of resemblance.

It will be no easy task; but with all the difficulties I feel sure that the Burma and China way to the heart of Japan will be a better one than that across the seas of the South-Western Pacific, because it will enable us to bomb our way in—a means which would be denied us by the sea route. If strategic bombing around the clock is found to be the way to open the door into Germany and Italy, it seems to me obvious that this method can also be the key into Japan. If that is so, the coast of China is essential to the United Nations—both as an advance base and as a base from which the strategic air forces of the United Nations can work. And—all things considered—the way to the coast of China can be reached more easily by the land route through Burma than by the sea route from Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines and Guam.

There is no easy way into Japan. Let that be crystal clear from the start. All I suggest is that the land route offers fewer difficulties than the sea route. Incidentally it has the added advantage of being the quickest way of bringing relief to harassed China—that nation which has been fighting for freedom two years longer than any other country and to-day enters its seventh year of war.

—*The Daily Herald.*

COOKS LEARN TO SHOOT

This is the story of the two cooks, the water-carrier and the sweeper. They are followers in an R.I.A.S.C. unit stationed in the jungle on the Burma border—enlisted men doing lowly jobs who do not fight.

Three of them Ram Krishan, the water-carrier, Ram Gopal and Bachana, the cooks, are from the Punjab where some of India's finest fighting men come from. The fourth, Tilkul the sweeper, comes from Patiala.

Every Sunday their unit, which consists mainly of Madrasis has rifle practice, but the four followers cannot take part in it as they are non-combatants. This, however, did not suit the men from the fighting provinces.

They did not like to be presumptuous and ask the officer sahib if they could take part in the rifle practice, but they thought up a little scheme among themselves.

The company were paraded as usual for rifle firing one Sunday morning and, after several hours, the last four men came forward to fire. The officer suddenly noticed that the four men who stepped forward so eagerly were the four followers. They explained that they wanted to fire like every one else, but they did not like to ask and thought they could slip in unnoticed.

The officer ordered that they should be given special instruction by a havildar on how to handle a rifle. A few hours later they were given their first chance to fire and they shaped very well—Bachana, the Punjabi cook, got a bullseye.

Now they parade regularly every Sunday with the rest of the troops for firing practice. Their targets with their hits registered on them are their most precious possessions and they are among the smartest men on parade.

A WARTIME EXPERIMENT IN DEMOCRACY

THE People's Political Council is a unique organ in the Chinese body politic during this period of war. It is a wartime experiment in practical democracy. The first Council came into being in July 1938, the second in March 1941, and the third—the latest—in October 1942.

As a wartime experiment the Council has worked remarkably well. On the one hand, the Government has received and has carried out many wartime measures proposed by the Council. On the other hand, the people have found in the Council a channel through which public wishes and demands have crystallized into concrete national policies.

In addition to the National People's Political Council, there have been established provincial and municipal people's political councils in all the provinces and municipalities excepting those in Manchuria, and county (hsien) people's political councils in most of the counties not under Japanese occupation.

ADVISORY AND SUPERVISORY BODY

The People's Political Council has been variously characterized as "a democratic forum of public opinion" and as "a wartime national parliament." Neither term, however, is quite accurate. The Council is more than a forum, for it has the right to deliberate on national policies before the Government may put them into effect. It is less than a parliament, for the resolutions it passes do not automatically become laws or statutes.

The Council is rather an advisory and supervisory organ. It exercises the supervisory power when it reviews the periodic reports of the Government and interpellates the members thereof.

It will be recalled that in the fall of 1937 China was to have a popular election of the National Congress, which was to produce the Five-Power Constitutional Government as envisaged by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Father of the Chinese Republic. The outbreak of the war made the national election impossible and postponed the formal inauguration of the "Constitutional Period."

THE FIRST COUNCIL

In March 1938, the Kuomintang National Convention resolved that "at this juncture of national emergency a People's Political Council be convened" in order to consolidate all national forces and to guarantee free discussion of and full deliberation on national policies. Accordingly, in July 1938, the first Council came into being.

The People's Political Council is, therefore, a wartime semi-legislative assembly, less than a parliament, but more than a forum, a transitional advisory and supervisory organ in the Chinese body politic, pending the formal election of the National Congress.

Specifically, the functions of the Council are as follows: to receive and review the reports of the Government; to interpellate the members of the Government; to deliberate on measures proposed by the Government; to make proposals to the Government: to deliberate on vital domestic and foreign policies which the Government, during the period of war, shall submit to the Council before putting them into effect; and to pass resolutions which, after the approval of the Supreme National Defence Council, shall be formulated into laws or statutes.

MEMBERSHIP

There were 200 members in the first Council and 240 members in the second and the third Council each.

Of the 200 members in the first Council, 88 (Group A) were nominated by provincial and municipal Governments, six (Group B) by the Commission on Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs (four to represent Mongolia and two Tibet), six (Group C) by the Commission on Overseas Chinese Affairs, and 100 (Group D) by cultural and economic institutions. They were finally appointed by the Supreme National Defence Council.

Although they were thus technically Government "appointees"—owing to the fact that a popular election machinery could not have been initiated and put into operation during the spring months of 1938—they represented all the major and minor parties, as well as the provinces and professions.

COMPOSITION

The first Council was composed of men and women of high intellectual calibre and rich administrative experience. It was a Council more of experts than of popular political leaders. It is significant that out of 200 councillors 66 came from cultural institutions while only 46 were active members of political parties. No fewer than 19 were university presidents and 27 were professors. A typical councillor was a man of 46, who had been active in social and political life for about 15 years and had distinguished himsef on the national scene in a certain field. Of 200 members 10 were women.

The composition of the second Council was slightly different from the first. Of 240 councillors in the second Council, 90 (Group A) were "electees" of the provincial and municipal people's political councils, instead of "appointees" of the Supreme National Defence Council; six of the Group B and six of the Group C were nominated and appointed as they were in the first Council; 138 of the Group D were elected by leading cultural and economic institutions.

In the present third Council 164 councillors, out of a total of 240, were elected directly by the provincial and municipal people's political councils (which served as electoral colleges). This represented a further democratization of the Council. As time goes on the Council may become an entirely elected body.

DEMOCRATIC TREND

The experience in practical democracy, thus far gained, has been highly encouraging. It is indicative of the democratic trend in the political evolution of the Chinese body politic. As soon as the war is over, the Council itself may become the supreme legislative body, or a new Congress may be organized. In any case there will be a legislative body that is popularly elected.

When it meets the Council usually first elects a Presidium consisting of five persons.

In addition to the Presidium, the Council elects five committees: Committee on National Defence, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Committee on Domestic Affairs, Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs and Committee on Education and Culture. Each councillor is assigned to one of these committees.

Before a session of the Council adjourns it elects a Resident or Standing Committee, of 15 to 25 members, which serves as an advisory and supervisory organ during the recess of the Council.

—"*Contemporary China.*"

WAR DOGS ON BURMA FRONT

They are letting loose the dogs of war on the Eastern Front and they eat chappatties, corned beef and rice.

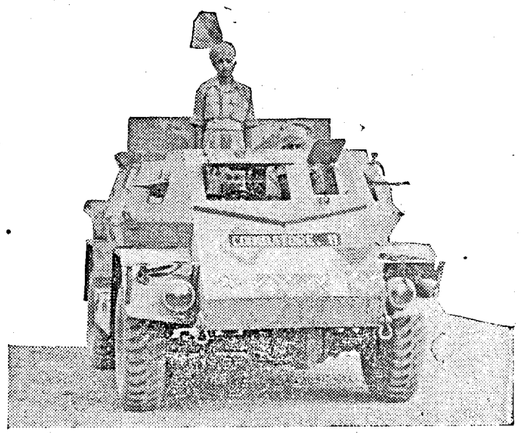
These war dogs go out with patrols deep into Jap-occupied territory and carry back messages. They are taught to point towards any suspicious noise that may mean there is an enemy. They also act as sentries.

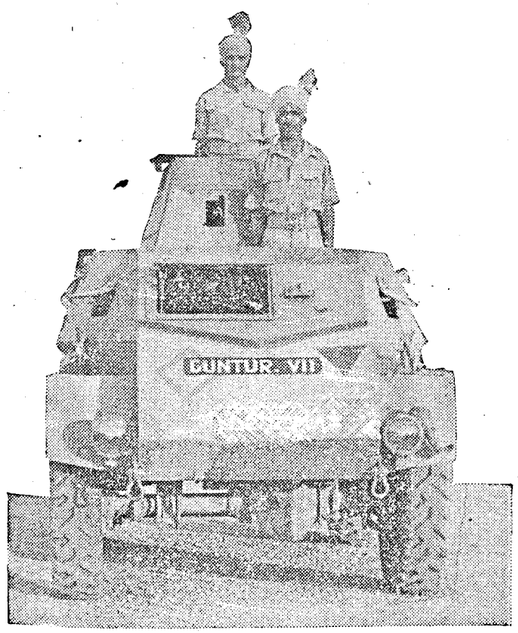
The dogs, like most soldiers, are recruited from civilian life and get weeks of training for their job in India. Trained with them at the same time are the dog-handlers, who look after them when they go into action.

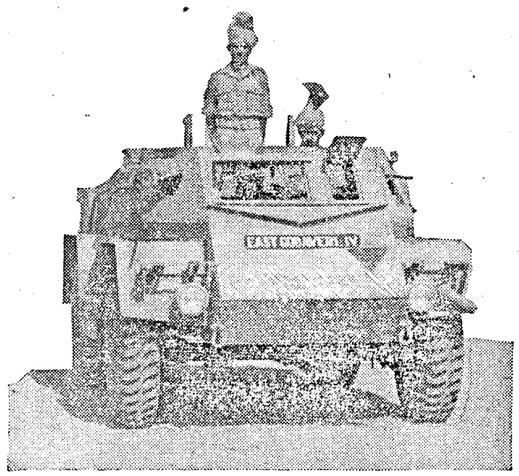
When the dogs are fully trained, they are sent to forward units. Thoroughbred dogs are not so useful on the job as mongrels. The dogs I saw at an outpost near the Jap lines were Sam, who was nearly a Labrador and Ted, whose ancestry was a little vague, but who might have been a retriever. They had just come back from a trip round the Jap lines.

They are supposed to get fresh meat, but as this is rare in the front line, they were making do with a bowl of corned beef and rice at which they wagged their tails in hearty approval.

Armoured Carriers and Cars which were purchased out of the contributions from the Districts to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund







MODERNIZING AGRICULTURE

By GUENTHER STEIN

ONE of the world's most fascinating and most urgent post-war tasks will be the modern improvement of China's 40-centuries-old agriculture.

Agriculturists who know what they are talking about are of the opinion that the production of China's farmers can be doubled easily if modern methods are applied to fields and wasteland alike without hindrances from antiquated conditions of land ownership, village administration, agricultural finance and local commerce.

The Chinese Government has done much to investigate the tremendous possibilities of raising a poverty-ridden population of probably more than 500,000,000 people to real prosperity and to pave the way for large-scale practical reform work after the war. But has it also tried to deal with the less romantic and more vital task of increasing agricultural production within inevitably narrow limits while the war and its worst consequence—Free China's isolation from the outside world—are continuing?

BEST EDUCATIONAL PRODUCT

In these practical efforts as well as in its planning, the Government is being helped by a widely scattered group of modern trained agricultural scientists and economists. Wherever I met any of those Chinese who either have studied and worked in the United States and other foreign countries or are pupils of American, Canadian, or English missionary agriculturists at old-established Chinese universities, I invariably was impressed with the competence, integrity, devotion, and modesty of those men who, together with a certain type of modern engineer, probably are the best product of China's educational contact with the Western World.

These men are few, the funds at their disposal are relatively small and most of them have to fight against great odds of many kinds. But what has been accomplished in Chinese agriculture during the war is due mainly to those few hundred people and their self-sacrificing enthusiasm for the details of their work.

Not only in Chengtu, whose universities and research and experimental institutions are the working centre of agricultural science in China to-day, but in numerous other places these men quietly have studied the soil and climate and plants of most agricultural areas. They have developed innumerable varieties of new seeds of rice and wheat and dozens of other plants which will bear richer crops and withstand the rigours of specific local climatic and soil conditions better than the seeds traditionally used.

MODERN METHODS DEVISED

They have devised modern methods of cultivation. They have carried on patient and therefore successful educational work among the most conservative of farmers. They have courageously faced reactionary landlords and old-fashioned local officials and they have not been discouraged by the disproportion between the needs of the country and their necessarily limited success nor by their own poor living conditions. Improved rice seeds have been applied in various localities of 13 provinces on almost 400,000 acres with the result that an additional quantity of 40,000 tons of rice was produced, or about 15 to 20 per cent more than normally.

Similar results have been achieved on a moderate scale with other foodstuffs, cotton, and oil-seed and in practically every other branch of agriculture. Modern insect-control measures have been introduced in a number of localities also with the result of a considerable local increase in production.

The six per cent rise of the total agricultural acreage in Free China in the average of the years from 1940 to 1942 as compared with that of the years from 1931 to 1937, although due mainly to rising prices, in some part has been made possible by the co-operation of these men whose advice and practical help to the farmers enabled many of them to plant remunerative spring crops before the main fall crops on fields which normally had been cropped once a year only for the latter.

EXPANSION OF ACREAGE

To another part, this expansion of acreage is the consequence of scattered irrigation work that has been carried out either in continuation of the activities of international famine relief organs in China or in execution of new schemes devised by foreign-trained Chinese irrigation engineers. The total area of land that has been improved by irrigation for the first time made usable for growing crops since the war began in 1937 is about 800,000 acres.

The only technical improvements which so far have not gone beyond the experimental stage because of the shortage of the necessary materials in consequence of the war are those relating to agricultural implements, and especially to the introduction of chemical fertilizers. But for these, as for all the other necessary measures whose combination one day may easily double China's agricultural yield, blue-prints are being worked out for the post-war plan.

The Government-owned Farmers Bank, apart from doing whatever it can within its restricted means for agricultural promotion work of a technical kind, during the last two years, has endeavoured to lay a foundation for the proper fulfilment of the peasant's most urgent and most important demands—finance at reasonable rates. The Chinese farmer always has been debt-ridden and the interest rates that have been charged to him through the centuries have been proverbially high.

MORE MODERN SYSTEM

The Farmers Bank, therefore, has established a more modern system of granting loans for protective purposes to cultivators which is to prevent to the greatest possible extent misappropriation by those in the rural communities on whom the individual farmers are economically dependent. The Bank and other Government institutions are for this purpose working largely through agricultural co-operative societies whose number has greatly increased during the year.

The co-operatives still are suffering from characteristics that are impeding their tasks but are being improved gradually by whatever measure of supervision can be enforced in tens of thousands of small villages where vested interests naturally are paramount. The total amount of rural loans of the Farmers Bank and other Government institutions now is above $25,000,000 in American money. However small the amount may be, these loans, which are cheaper than any other, are gaining importance steadily and, according to a recent investigation, represent six per cent of all the money which the farmers in selected communities of 15 provinces took up last year as against a mere two per cent in 1938. Loans granted by co-operatives are of considerable magnitude now, being 34 per cent of the total compared with 17 per cent in 1938.

But the loans of private banks, which mostly are less advantageous to the farmers, also have increased from eight to 19 per cent of the total. Pawn shops, local firms, and individual money-lenders, which as a rule charge by far the highest interest rates and stipulate the most onerous conditions, still contributed 39 per cent of all loans taken up by the farmers in 1942. But they provided 70 per cent of the total in 1938. The National Agricultural Research Bureau further reports that the highest monthly interest rates that had to be paid in 1942 was still between 12 and 20 per cent, while the average of what is described as "ordinary" interest rates was reduced slightly from 2·1 per cent in 1938 to 2 per cent a month in 1942.

LAND TENANCY

An even more important and elementary problem than loans at reasonable rates is that of land tenancy. The National Agricultural Research Bureau reported some time ago that 37 per cent of all Chinese farmers are independent in the sense that they own the land they till, while the others are tenants of all or most of the land they work. But the number of owner farmers has not, apparently, been very considerably reduced in consequence of economic developments during the war.

It is considered impossible while the war lasts to attempt anything like a thorough-going land reform in accordance with Dr. Sun Yat-sen's promise to make every Chinese farmer the owner of the land he tills. However, this promise has by no means been forgotten by the villagers, and ways of gradually carrying it into effect after the war are being considered by the Government, together with plans for the reduction of land rents.

The newspapers and magazines in recent months have given much attention to the tenancy and rent problems, and the social measures in favour of the farmers laid down by Dr. Sun as the most essential guiding principle for the social and economic policies of the Kuomintang Party are being quoted more frequently than for a long time in the hope that they may be carried out when victory is won.

—*Cristian Science Monitor.*

BLOCKADE

By A. J. McWHINNIE

[Modern warships and methods of war have made virtually impossible the maintenance of a blockade in the sense in which that word, defined in 1556, is accepted in international law. It implies a close watch of the coasts and approaches to the ports, the prohibition of entry and exit of all ships. Up to the Armistice of the last war and even after, the Government department which dealt with the control of German seaborne trade was called the Ministry of Blockade. In this war the word has been altogether abandoned and the main control is vested in the Ministry of Economic Warfare. The author, in the following article, graphically describes the transition from the old system of blockade to the new one of seeking to control the enemy seaborne trade and the supply line from the base to the Fighting Front.]

A good old English weapon for dealing with tyrants and aggressors in Europe is blockade. It's a weapon which has served us well through the centuries, and is serving us well to-day.

The fundamental principle of blockade is that you must have a strong and powerful navy. With naval strength you command the seas. When you command the seas, you maintain the use of the seas for your own ships, and at the same time, you deny the use of the seas to the enemy.

That same strategy is being followed to-day as it was followed by Nelson. Of course, blockading tactics have changed with the staggering developments in ships, guns, communications and aeroplanes. Nelson sat outside Napoleon's harbour at Toulon for two-and-a-half years. *There were no bombers roaring at him from the skies.* There were no motor-torpedo boats racing towards him at nearly a mile a minute. *There were no mines lurking* around him. And because his sails needed only the wind, there was no need to study refuelling needs.

Nelson fought in the 2,000 ton flagship, *Victory*, at five knots. To-day's mighty battleships are monsters of 35,000 tons capable of speeds over thirty knots. Nelson's guns had a range of three hundred yards. To-day's big guns are a shell, the weight of a motor-car, a distance of twenty miles.

BLOCKADE FROM A DISTANCE

But, while we don't sit outside harbours, we still blockade. We blockade from a distance.

And, even though Nelson sat outside Toulon like a cat waiting expectantly at a mousehole, he could not guarantee that not a single enemy ship would come out from her lair. Sometimes, in fact, a French ship did come out—given the right weather. Nelson joked about it: he reported that occasionally one of Napoleon's ships had been out for what the British Admiral called "capers." "Some day," said Nelson in one report, "we shall lay salt on their tails."

And that is just what we are doing to our enemies to-day. But the salt is in the form of bombs weighing thousands of pounds, shells from big guns, and deadly torpedoes.

Not only are we blockading Germany in 1943, but we are trying to extend the blockade to Japan—a much more difficult job. Japan, after her flying start, is now worried about the increasing blockade against her life-line. Japanese forces are widely scattered over temporarily conquered islands in the Pacific and need constant supplies and possibly reinforcements. Allied warships, submarines, bombers and long-range reconnaissance planes are patrolling the Pacific supply routes to prevent Japanese supplies getting through to the places they are needed most.

That is the blockade coming into play, but in Germany's case, the blockade has been tight from the start; only on two or three occasions during the past year have German warships lurking in Norwegian fiords pushed their noses out towards the open sea. On each of those occasions, there has been a big Allied convoy passing German territory. With the convoy there has always been a naval escort. On each occasion the German warships have been beaten back to their bases and the convoy has steamed on. That is maintaining the use of the seas for your own ships and *denying* the use of the seas to the enemy. The blockade again!

Then look at the case of the Mediterranean. Rommel's forces were beaten back from Egypt by British forces which had to be transported 12,000 miles by sea from England to Alexandria. Yet Rommel's supplies had only to be carried a couple of hundred miles. He couldn't get through the blockade all the men and supplies he needed to fight men brought 12,000 miles by sea.

Just for a second put yourself in the place of Hitler staring at a map inside his headquarters. He, the man who, during the Battle of Britain said, that because of air-power there were no longer any islands, finds himself to-day standing on the biggest island of all. He sees four-fifths of his continent surrounded by our sea-power. Down his 2,000 miles coastline, there is a naval might welded with air-power watching him—all the way from the North Cape down to Gibraltar. He sees his coastal convoys, trying to ease the strain on his bombed railways, pounced on as they creep down the coast—pounced on by submarines, bombers, destroyers and mile-a-minute motor-torpedo boats. That again is the blockade.

Hitler looks at the map again. He has ships at the south of France, in the Mediterranean. But both ends of the Mediterranean are closed against him by the British Navy operating from those great naval bases of Gibraltar and Alexandria.

It galls Hitler to realize that at any moment of any day, there are nearly 3,000 British freighters out on the high seas carrying raw materials and munitions across the world to wherever they are needed. Every day there are never fewer than 600 British warships out on the oceans, guarding 85,000 miles of ocean routes. They are part of the Big Blockade.

Hitler looks east on the map. Above all he wants rubber from his Japanese partners. He knows that Japan urgently needs machine tools, chemicals and manufactured goods which he could supply in exchange for cargoes of rubber. He must, at all costs, try to sneak an odd ship or two through the blockade.

His crisis decision to put more blockade-runners to sea was forced on him by the new developments in North Africa. With French Africa now on the side of the Allies, Hitler has lost a valuable source of raw materials. He searches the map for an alternative supply. The main alternative can only be Japan.

BLOCKADE-RUNNERS

If he had effective sea-power he could send out great convoys around the world, like we do; but he hasn't. His only chance is to send out his few blockade-runners as single ships which, because they are alone, will only be a speck on the vastness of the oceans. So Hitler takes the chance. Those specks on the ocean have to be found. They have to be found somewhere, in 60,000,000 square miles of water, between the Bay of Biscay and the Pacific. So we must get out of our heads the idea that oceans are sort of large ponds. And don't *say*—as I've heard some cranks say when there is news of a blockade-runner—"What's the Navy doing?"

But so powerful is the big blockade that out of 60,000,000 square miles of ocean no fewer than four blockade-runners have been intercepted and "dealt with" in one month recently.

Now let us see what kind of ships Hitler runs through our gauntlet from one side of the world to the other. Official announcements about the four which we caught recently in our naval trap give us the answer.

The first was caught in the Indian Ocean—an 8,000-tonner not far from Australia. She scuttled herself when intercepted, and her crew of seventy-eight were taken prisoner. Little more than a fortnight later, the British Admiralty announced that a 5,000-ton ship attempting to run the blockade had been intercepted in the Atlantic.

Soon after that a third blockade-runner had been stopped also in the Atlantic—a ship of about 10,000 tons.

But the fourth was the most exciting blockade story of all. She was a large ship heavily laden with raw materials for Hitler. She was sighted by British aircraft in the Atlantic. At the controls of a Willington aircraft of coastal command, was a young Australian pilot Plying Officer K. C. Beaton of Adelaide. He raced off to the cruiser Scylla, guided her to the blockade-runner. And after a short, sharp fight, the enemy ship paid the full penalty.

That news must have hurt Hitler. That blockade-runner was on the very last lap of her long, lonely, hazardous voyage. She was inwardbound, her holds crammed with the raw materials. Hitler needs most. Another few days and her officers and men would have been safely in the Reich, being acclaimed as heroes.

They had followed all the cunning detours they could think of to keep them away from the heavily patrolled trade routes. They had taken the long *evasive* route to the east to avoid the Allied blockaders on the sea, in the air, and under the sea. They were actually almost within sight of home. But the trap was still set. And the blockade-runner ran into its steel jaws. It was all over in a few minutes. A passage of months, a Cargo worth millions to Hitler in his need. It was all wasted. *That is the blockade.*

There are two possible ways the blockade-runners between Germany and Japan can take. They can steam down the Atlantic; down between the bulge of Africa and the South American coast, round the Cape of Good Hope far from land, and up into and across the Indian Ocean to the Dutch East Indies as their first stop. Or there is the passage—the perilous passage—down the Atlantic, round Cape Horn, entering the Pacific from the east. From the fact that one of the blockade runners was caught in the Indian Ocean, it looks as though that was the chosen route.

I am often asked whether these blockade-runners made the whole trip without help—whether they can do the passage with its long detours without refuelling. Well, given a good modern oil-burning freighter or motor-ship fitted with extra fuel tanks, it is possible that Germany has ships able to do the trip in one lap.

But, although there is no information available, my own belief is that with Hitler's new interest in the sea, he has probably put a few supply ships and tankers out on the vast oceans ready to help blockade-runners. That is only my own opinion. But it would not surprise me to hear of a supply ship or two being caught by our oceanic sea and air patrols.

Hitler will analyse the reports from the few blockade-runners that got through. He wants to use them not only for prestige, not only to bring him raw materials, he wants to use them for testing the danger spots at sea.

He wants to divert attention from his land reverses. He wants to divert attention from the fact that the U-boats—menace though they are—have failed to stop big troop convoys.

He wants to see whether, when forced to it, his big idle warships would stand much chance acting as individual raiders out on the high seas. After all, that is what they were built for.

It means this. The sea war is starting to get on the surface. And the blockade is being tightened on all oceans.—

A recent B.B.C. talk.

JAP MULE CHANGES SIDES

Meet Tojo the Mule. He belonged to the Japs until a few weeks ago, but now he is the mascot of a unit in a forward area on the Chin hills front.

Recently they had a skirmish with the Japs in which the enemy lost a large number of casualties and withdrew. Next day one of the patrols from the unit having a look at the ground, found Tojo, very ruffled and bruised, grazing on some jungle grass. All round were scattered boxes containing Jap ammunition and a Jap soldier's cap.

The only haress he had was a rope round his neck. During the fight he must have bolted and his Jap muleteer decided to abandon both Tojo and his cap. Tojo was rounded up and brought back to our lines.

He was very hungry, but was used only to Jap rations. He had lived on paddy and would not eat bran. But after a time hunger overcame him and he started to nibble a little bran. Now he is fit and very docile and is being used for carrying supplies to troops fighting his former masters. He is also very fond of bran.

To

THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY,
"VICTORY HOUSE,"
Madras.

PANRUTI,
SOUTH ARCOT,
6th July 1943.

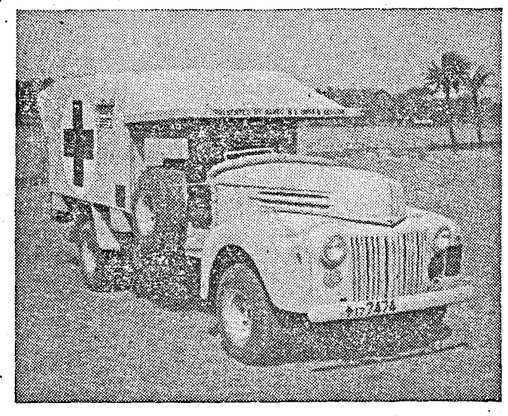
DENMARK—THE FIGHT GOES ON!

SIR,

Conditions in Denmark are becoming more and more difficult as patriotic Danes within and outside the country join the fight against the arch-enemy.

This small, once peaceful, country has become a "criminal State" as may be seen from the fact that the pre-war police-force consisting of some 3,000 men, now number 22,000 regular and anti-sabotage police; this besides the Gestapo.

As the fight goes on in Denmark, so have Danes in the free world rallied round the allied cause. In 16 countries Free Danes are united in the fight for the liberation of our country. *For more than a thousand years every generation has been in arms against Germany, so also this generation.*



In 1942 Free Danes presented a Squadron of Spitfires to the Royal Air Force, this is now being flewn by Danish pilots. This year a Free Danish Naval Force has come into existence, manned by Danes.

More than 98 per cent of all Danes in India are members of the Free Danish movement and have recently presented the Indian Red Cross with a number of Ambulance units. A photo of the unit from Danes in South India is enclosed. [Published on this page.—*Ed.*]

Yours faithfully,
EINAR ANDERSEN,
Secretary, The Danish Council for India.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND THE COMMONWEALTH

15TH JULY.—Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for India, speaking at a London meeting of the Institute of Export, said that in the immediate post-war period, British opportunity for co-operating most effectively with Indian requirements and aspirations would, no doubt, be in the provision of capital goods which India would most urgently need for industrial re-equipment and expansion. Later, it might lie more in the provision of more specialized types of consumer's goods that the growth of India's prosperity might call for. In either case, British success would correspond directly to the extent to which British export policy was one of whole-hearted co-operation in India's effort to raise herself to a higher plane of economic efficiency. There must be no assertion or implication of British domination.

In the House of Commons today, Mr. L. S. Amery stated that Indian casualties, including casualties to British officers of the Indian Forces up to August 31, 1942, were 3,286 killed, 9,168 wounded, 86,289 missing. It was also disclosed that 40 per cent of the officers recruited since the outbreak of the war had been Indians.

21ST JULY.—The Viceroy-Designate, Field-Marshal Wavell who has been raised to the peerage will commemorate his campaign in Africa in his new title. He will be known as Viscount Wavell of Cyrenaica and Winchester. It was in Cyrenaica that he won his first victories against the Axis when he drove the Italians out of Cyrenaica to the borders of Tripoli in 1941.

* * * * *

MIDDLE EAST

15TH JULY.—Turko-Syrian Frontier is to be closed today or to-morrow. No reason has been given for the step.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

15TH JULY.—Lieut.-General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O.C. in charge, Southern Army, addressed the Standing Committee of the All-India Editors' Conference in Bombay. He explained how the Southern Army had been helping the civil Government in conveying foodstuffs and other essential materials for consumption by the civil population.

19TH JULY.—Early this morning an enemy aircraft approached the east coast of Ceylon. Air-raid warning was sounded and anti-aircraft guns went into action. No bombs are reported to have been dropped.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES AND THE ATLANTIC

20TH JULY.—United States Lease-Lend Aid for June 1943 totalled 1,030 million dollars, making the aggregate value of the United States' assistance to the Allies nearly 18 billion dollars. This is the first time lease-lend has exceeded a billion dollars in a single month.

* * * * *

RUSSIA

15TH JULY.—Announcement is made to-day that the British Overseas Airways have opened a through air service between Britain and Moscow *via* North Africa, Cairo, Iraq, Persia, Astrakhan and Kubishev.

According to the Soviet Communiqué to-night, the Russian army north and east of Orel launched an offensive against German troops in two directions and pierced strongly fortified defensive lines of Germans on a wide front and advanced into German occupied territory. The battle of the Kursk-bulge has taken a dramatic turn during the last 24 hours, the Germans being obliged to abandon further attempts to break through the Soviet lines north of Kursk and in the Byelgorod area. A famous Soviet mystery gun "Kutusha" played an important part in the battle of Kursk. The offensive in Orel sector is under the command of *General Timoshenko* and is regarded as in relief of *General Rokossovky's* army in the Kursk area.

16TH JULY.—Marshal Timoshenko's troops are already in the suburbs of Orel. Advanced Russian patrols were operating this morning on the Briansk-Orel railway, the main German lifeline for supplies and reinforcements for the Orel front due south *Elnsk* which has been already captured by the Soviet troops. The Red army is smashing into the German Orel salient from three directions.

17TH JULY.—Three Russian armies are closing in on Orel, and the offensive is moving to a climax.

18TH JULY.—The position about Orel is that Soviet forces stand some 15 miles east of it, some 20 miles to the north and between 35 and 40 miles from it to the south. The position before the German offensive at Kursk has been fully restored.

The entire Russian theatre from the Kuban bridgehead to Orel is now ablaze. The Soviets throughout possess the initiative, attacking with powerful armies, lavishly equipped with weapons of all kinds, against German defence lines. In Orel area Russians have approached the outer defences. The war's biggest tank battle is raging in the Byelgorod sector wherein the Soviets are making headway. On the Donetz front the Soviets launched powerful attacks on the 17th before dawn. According to a German news agency's military correspondent, *the Russian Summer Offensive has now begun and the biggest defensive battle in the east, so far, is now raging. For the past 48 hours the whole east front from the Kuban bridgehead to Volkhov and Leningrad has been in flames.* The defensive battle at *Mius* and on the Middle Donetz as well as north of Orel is gigantic in scale. German resistance in the *Orel Bulge* is stiffening. It is one of the strongest German sectors on the whole front. Soviet air supremacy remains one of the outstanding characteristics of the Orel battle.

21ST JULY.—A National Committee, called the Free Germany National Committee consisting of German nationals, including German prisoners of war has been set up on Soviet soil on July 12, headed by well-known German writer Erich Weiner. A manifesto issued by it condemns the Hitler regime in Germany, forecasts its early collapse, and urges no further postponement of the task of setting up a German National Government. It is having its own paper in German.

Soviet forces have reached within seven miles of Orel. The Soviet advance in the Byelgorod sector has completely liquidated the gigantic efforts made by the Germans during their offensive.

* * * * *

FREE FRANCE

15TH JULY.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, replying to a question in the House of Commons, stated that no decision has yet been taken as to the precise degree of formal recognition that the British Government may accord to the French National Committee of Liberation. The British Government, no doubt, looked with sympathy and good will on this Committee.

21ST JULY.—Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that he had officially prepared a document to acquaint British officials and the British Press with the view of the Prime Minister on the subject of de Gaulle and that he was prepared to discuss it in a secret session of the House.

His Majesty the King received General Giraud in London and had a long talk with him.

* * * * *

GERMANY AND OCCUPIED EUROPE

17TH JULY.—Aircraft of the Fighter Command in Britain on an offensive patrol attacked air fields and railway targets in France, Holland and Belgium and shipping off the Dutch coast. American heavy bombers attacked Amsterdam and north-west Germany in day-light.

18TH JULY.—Mustangs of the British Royal Air Force shot down two Axis aircraft off the Dutch coast. Bombers escorted by fighters attacked the airfield at Abbeville and two German aircraft were destroyed. Beaufighters escorted by fighters attacked a German convoy off Deu Helder and damaged two ships. Four German fighters were destroyed.

20TH JULY.—Germany is reported to have handed over the whole of Macedonia to Bulgaria, except Salonika and the immediate hinterland to the depth of 20 miles.

According to a German News Agency 33 bombers attacked a German convoy off the Arctic coast.

* * * * *

ITALY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

15TH JULY.—In Sicily the British forces which captured Augusta are now massing at the foot of the hills situated south-east of the plain of Catania and battering the outer defences of the city. Seven aerodromes have been captured and the number of prisoners is increasing hour by hour. Since this campaign started at least 12,000 prisoners have been taken. Besides, the British Eighth Army, the American Seventh Army and the Canadian forces, there are French forces also fighting in Sicily, the fierce Moroccan Goums who are native hill fighters. The commander of the 44th Italian Napoli division has surrendered to the Allies with his staff.

16TH JULY.—Catania airfield has been heavily bombarded from the sea. A number of additional towns have fallen into Allied hands. Prisoners taken by the

Allies in Sicily now total 20,000. Naples, Foggia and Genoa, all in Italy, have been the target of heavy Allied air raids. There have been further landings in Sicily of Allied troops, tanks and artillery. General Montgomery told a Canadian war correspondent, "I am quite satisfied."

A message from President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill was broadcast from Algiers to the Italian people, informing them that the time has come for them to decide whether the Italians shall die for Mussolini and Hitler or live for Italy and for civilization.

18TH JULY.—General Eisenhower has designated General Sir Harold Alexander as Military Governor with supreme authority in Sicily. General Alexander has issued his first proclamation.

One-third of Sicily is now in Allied hands. Axis prisoners so far total well over 30,000.

Port Empedocles has been taken by the Allies.

The coastal road, north from Catania, towards Messina is being constantly bombed by the British who are cutting off the retreat of the defenders.

The important town of Agrigento in south-western Sicily has been captured by the United States Army troops.

Allied planes flew over Rome and dropped leaflets.

Field-Marshal Olfram Freiherr Von Richthofen has been sent from the Russian front to act as commander of the combined Italo-German air forces in Sicily. He is known as a tough and ruthless commander, usually appearing when a situation for the Axis is critical.

19TH JULY.—The *Dagens Nyheter* in Stockholm published a report from its Rome correspondent suggesting that more explicit Allied peace conditions backed by proper guarantees would cause the Italians to capitulate.

The Fascist Party Secretary, in a broadcast from Rome, urged the people of Italy to resist an Allied invasion.

Land fighting in Sicily is becoming more intense. The Eighth Army battled for every inch of ground on the approaches to Catania, whilst to the left, the Canadian forces fought their way northward over a difficult country. The United States troops under General Patton pushed their way steadily forward to the north and north-west. Sicilians are co-operating with the Allies. The British fleet is constantly shelling the coast road from Catania to Messina. According to Morocco Radio, the fall of Catania is imminent.

Rome was raided by American flying fortresses, the first bombs dropping at 9-13 in the morning. The raid was heavy, dropping 350 tons of high explosives and lasted 2½ hours. The raid was on military targets and was preceded by leaflets.

20TH JULY.—Rome had a second air raid to-night, according to the German Radio.

21ST JULY.—A general Axis retreat to the north-east tip of Sicily at Messina has begun. Half of Sicily has now been captured by the Allies, while the Catanian plain is now sealed at both ends. Enna, a town in Central Sicily and important railway and road junction, not far from Catania, has been taken by the Allies.

Malta had its heaviest air raid since December 18, 1942.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

15TH JULY.—In the South-West Pacific Allied troops are closing in on MUBO bastion, key point in Japan's defence line before Salamaua. Ships, planes and troops are pouring into the South-West Pacific theatre from United States.

16TH JULY.—In the South-West Pacific the MUBO bastion of the Japanese in New Guinea has been captured by the Allied forces and all organized resistance has ceased there. Allied forces are continuing their advance to MUNDA in New Georgia. Mubo is the last bastion covering the main Japanese base of Salamaua, 15 miles to the north. The capture of Mubo is the culmination of a seige lasting a year.

In the north-east Pacific the United States light surface craft bombarded KISKA for the fifth time this month.

19TH JULY.—General Tojo, Japanese Prime Minister, at a Tokyo Conference to-day, warned the audience not to under-estimate the Anglo-American Powers who are now attempting to invade East Asia. He also advised them to prepare for the final offensive which is deliverable at any time.

20TH JULY.—Chinese troops have been fighting a stubborn battle against superior Japanese forces for the past ten days in Tai Hanshan mountains in south-east Shansi says Chinese communiqué.

21ST JULY.—In the South-West Pacific Japanese troops are bitterly resisting Allied advance in New Guinea towards Salamaua. The Japanese have suffered heavily in surface craft during the present month, three cruisers, thirteen destroyers, one submarine chaser, one freighter and one tanker have been sunk, and many more damaged. Tightening of the investment of Munda has now rendered supply or reinforcements of the enemy dangerous and difficult.

NEW BUILDING

[*The following sonnet gives an encouraging picture of the post-war world which will be one enriched by labour, a fair and free world, though not flawless, as a flawless one will be too dry for humanity to live in—an idea which echoes Tennyson's: "The low sun makes the Colour."*]

No New Jerusalem will this be.
No towers set with gems, no paving
Golden, nor heavenly water laving
High walls of jasper, opal, amethyst
Will in this new abode of bliss be.
Not here Utopia nor yet sunkist
Resplendent Paradise of old engraving.

Here are no idylls of the glowing
May morning of mankind, no dreaming
Republic of content, past seeming
Projected into thought and deemed more fair
As in the mind for ever growing.
This world is hard and in the living air
Shine hands at work, the sweat like day-dew gleaming.

Her is a world enriched by labour,
Where craftsmen love their tools and linger
With careful eye, caressing finger
Beside the lathes and gadgets of their trade.
Here is man friend as well as neighbour
And each is honoured in his rightful grade.
Except the parasite, the creeper-clinger.

The earth yields brighter fruit, so tended
That soil's renewed when crops are taken
And over health land high grass is shaken
When winds whirl over miles of close-knit farms.
The rape of nature is well-ended
And mantling green thrown over ancient harms.
Together husbandry and hope awaken.

Here men weigh words, and slowly learning
To sift the true from false give hearing
No more to charmers with endearing
Gossamer promises, but listen to the grave
Forge-hammered thought of seers discerning
The poise and counterpoise of weak and brave,
Of need and measure to end want and fearing.

This is the world men fought and died for,
A fair free world, though not a flawless.
Mankind now, thrusting out the lawless,
Shall live as men and women, not as beasts.
This is the world that we have cried for
When sunk in slums or foundering in feasts.
And here are bricks to build with, firm, not strawless.

Men tested in the fire and water
And women too by ordeal flaming
And agonies of blood and shaming
Tempered to spring and strength of alloy steel.
The man's son and the woman's daughter
Taught by the travail truth to think and feel.
Sound the foundations are and sound the framing.

Lay the foundations, dig the garden;
Roll up the sleeves and take the measure
To lay out cities of new treasure
Brighter than Eldorado or Peru.
Pour out the concrete watch it harden,
Rivet the girders. Great the work you do
And, victors, you shall work with passionate pleasure.

—*R.G.*

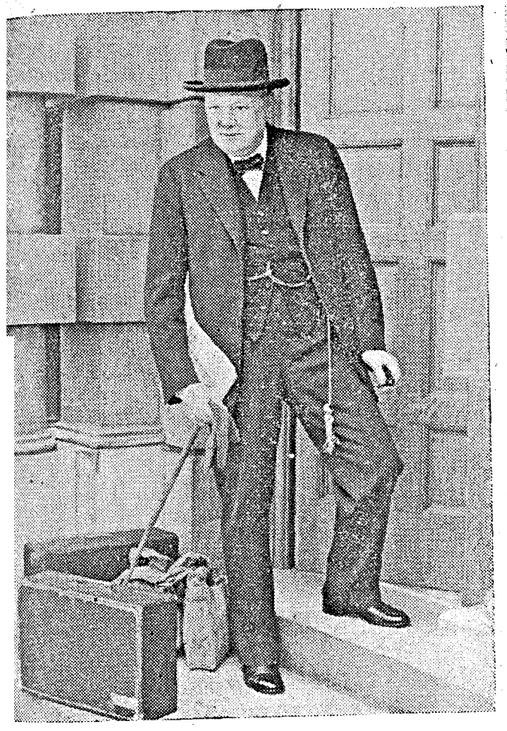
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL IV FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1943 No. 4



Mr. CHURCHILL

FASCIST KEYSTONE CRUMBLES

The end of Mussolini's long and severe reign over the Italian people undoubtedly marks the close of an epoch in the life of Italy. The keystone of the Fascist arch has crumbled, and without attempting to prophesy, it does not seem unlikely that the entire Fascist edifice will fall to the ground in ruins, if it has not already so fallen

The totalitarian system of a single party, armed with secret police, engrossing to itself practically all officers, even the humblest in Government, and with Magistrates and Courts under control of the executive, with its whole network of domestic spies and neighbourly informants—such a system, when applied over a long period of time, leaves the broad masses without any influence on their country's destinies and without any independent figures apart from the official classes

Now the external shock of war has broken the spell which, in Italy, held all those masses for so long—in fact for more than twenty years, and held them for all this period in physical, and even more, in moral subjection. We may, therefore, reasonably expect that very great changes will take place in Italy

Mr. CHURCHILL in the House of Commons, on Tuesday, July 27

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Prisoners' Home-coming	4
Italy: The End of An Epoch	5
This Week—In Retrospect	6
The Brand of the Duce	8
R.A.F. Pilot's Escape on Monsoon-swept Burma Front	9
A Message to Malta, G.C.	10
I was in Japan	11
Japan's Present Military Position in the Pacific	13
The Setting Sun: Jap Naval Losses	14
Teachers and the War Effort	15
Anti-inflation in a Nutshell	16
This Fortress of Hitler's	17
Subedar Volunteers	17
From Air Weakness to Air Strength	18
They Fought against Tippu	18
War Diary	19

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras or staying for a few days in the City on leave

Recreation: Ping Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

CHEAP CLOTH is available in the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Sales Emporiums

AT CONTROLLED PRICES which are clearly stamped on each article

DO NOT BUY from unauthorized dealers at *higher prices*

It is an offence under the Defence of India Rules to sell Handloom cheap cloth at higher than marked prices

Issued by the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, 1/159, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

A DELIGHTFUL PROGRAMME

OF BY FOR THE TROOPS

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

—Then tune in to Madras or Trichinopoly

every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

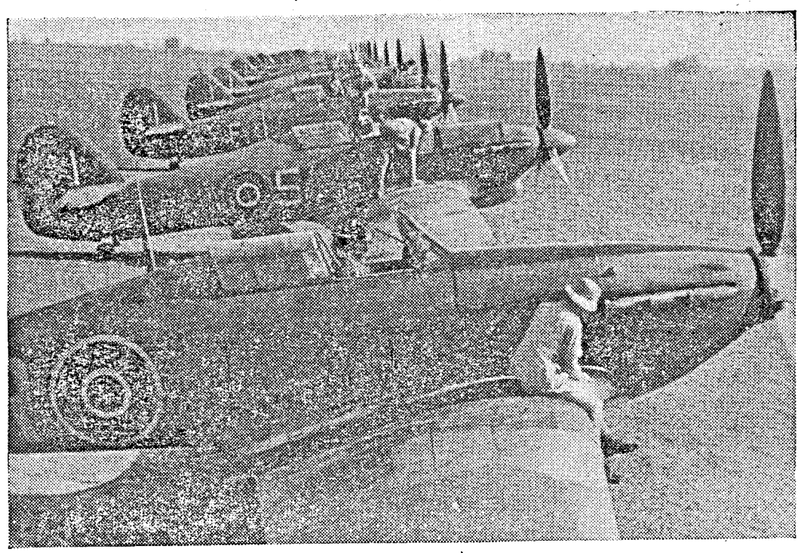
YOU'D LIKE IT, and LOVE IT!

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1943 No. 46



HURRICANES OVER EASTERN INDIA.—Our fighter aircraft in Eastern India are doing great work against intruding enemy planes, enemy troops, launches and transport. Wherever the enemy is found he is attacked, and day by day the fighter pilots' scores mount steadily. They have a man's size job and are tackling it cheerfully and courageously. Photo shows fighters ready to take off.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Nazis Want Women Workers—So Old Doctrine Given Up.

The Nazi attitude towards women has undergone a radical change as an indirect result of recent Allied military successes. Formerly the Nazi theory was that woman was inferior to man and should minister to her lord and master and breed children. That, said the Nazis, should be the limit of her activities. In a speech on September 8, 1934, HITLER said:

"We do not consider it right that women should intrude into the world of man . . . The contribution a man makes to his nation's struggle a woman makes in maintaining the individual calls of the nation . . . Every child she brings into the world is a blow struck in the nation's struggle for existence."

Nazi commentators imbued with this doctrine of woman's inferiority poured their scorn on Britain when she mobilized her woman-power early in the war. On March 11, 1941, a Berlin home broadcast said:

"England is going through a far worse time than Germany. Family life is breaking up. Women have forgotten that they are the centre of the home. Women have joined in the war activity, and that is wrong."

But now Nazis are telling a different story altogether. In January this year, total mobilization for women has been instituted. In February women were called up as Luftwaffe auxiliaries. On February 2nd, speaking on the German home radio, SCHWARZ VON BERK said:

"Every woman, every girl must be ready to undertake any urgent war work. What we want to do now is to convince girls and women that we cannot manage without their help."

Last month (June 11) the need for women joining the fire service was mooted in Germany. Now breeding has to give way to the urgent present necessity of helping the war work of the Nazis who have always looked upon women having children, legitimate or otherwise, as a sacred duty! It may be recalled that HIMMLER once declared:

"For pure-blooded German girls there exists a duty outside marriage, and in no way connected with it. This duty consists in becoming a mother by a soldier going to the front."

Now the Nazi leaders think that the German girls would be more useful in the factories, and therefore the original doctrine has been given up. In a statement issued last month (June 22), the German Official News Agency *D.N.B.* says,

"There are certain social and demographic disadvantages attached to illegitimacy. The child must do without the educative influence of one parent, and in most cases, the mother will have no more children. Quite apart from any narrow-minded moral doctrine, there are national points of view, which make the value of the propagation of an illegitimate child rather doubtful".

* * * * *

German Women Unwilling to Work—Press Criticism.

The Nazis have no doubt changed their views, but German women are not able to adapt themselves to this sudden change of policy. This is clear from what has appeared in a West German newspaper on the 12th of last month. The paper says:

"Sometimes it seems as if that positive inner attitude which alone can make work easy and tolerable

for newly-mobilized women were lacking. Some women only submit to compulsion and do not seek to conceal their feelings towards their new work. It has been reported that they have not understood how to do justice to the demands of total war in their efforts during the first few months."

Another newspaper *National Zeitung* said in its issue of June 10 :—

"As men bear weapons it must be women who replace them at their work. This should really be obvious. But it is nevertheless necessary to state it, as there are still women who believe that such necessities exist only for others . . . There are also others, namely, those who, despite repeated appeals, simply have not registered, and again those who thought it best simply to move away. Women who sin against the command of the hour regarding the war must expect their names to be publicly announced."

During the previous month (May), there have also been other comments on the attitude of women in the German press. In its issue of May 25, *Voelkischer Beobachter* accuses German women of "arguing too much about house work or repeatedly talking about their mothers' and aunts' rheumatism." Another paper *Berliner Boersen Zeitung* in its issue of May 29, referred to the excuse of many German women that they were physically unfit for war work and said,

"The necessary medical examinations are naturally being carried out, but they take a long time, and it is therefore generally better to advise women to try to work. People who are not working generally tend to exaggerate their ill-health. The whole campaign for the conscription of labour cannot be accomplished without sacrifices."

* * * *

Situation in England and in Germany—Contrast in Attitude of Women.

It is of some interest here to compare and contrast the attitude of English women and German women to the war effort of their respective countries. The women of England have shown greater sense of national responsibility and have taken their place in the war effort of their country willingly and efficiently. They have considered it not only their duty, but also their right to help the national war effort. But German women who had hitherto remained passive and placid and content with the inferior position assigned to them by the Nazis are not showing adequate response to the demand for mobilization of women workers, for they must be feeling that they are regarded not as full and active partners in the war effort, but as stop-gaps which have to be used because everything else has failed.

According to the *Neue Zuercher Zeitung*, a German language newspaper published in Zurich, 83 per cent of the number of mobilized civilians were women. Fifty per cent of them were declared fit for work. But half of them have never been employed before. Only a quarter have done some kind of physical work previously. Why is it that even such women have been called up and forced to work in German factories? It is because the outlook of the German industrial output is not very bright. HITLER's debacle at Stalingrad, the increased tempo of Allied bombing of the Ruhr valley and the Anglo-American invasion of Sicily have all contributed to the slowing-down of the German war machine. Mobilization of women workers in conditions and circumstances indicated above give us some idea of the frantic nature of the attempts of the Nazis to keep up the pace of production—an attempt which is not going to succeed to the extent they hope.

* * * *

Allied Progress in Sicily—Complete Co-ordination in a Complicated Campaign.

The Algiers radio has announced that General MONTGOMERY has declared himself very satisfied with the progress of the military operations in Sicily. The Allies have repeatedly advanced in Sicily, but it is stated that the approach of mountainous terrain in the central and south-western parts of the island may slow the speed of operations. The change of political situation in Italy, as a result of the exit of MUSSOLINI, however, gives colour to the view that the end of the Sicilian campaign may not be as far off as was visualized at an earlier stage.

A notable feature of the Sicilian campaign is the complete co-ordination of the Allied land, air and naval armies in an operation of the greatest complexity. There is perfect co-ordination between air forces and the ground forces. Allied naval units operating in the Sicilian waters, protected by a strong air umbrella, are shelling the island's coastal defences and other military objectives. For a number of days, Catania has experienced naval bombardment, and British naval craft have entered even the Straits of Messina. Such movements so close to enemy shores would not at all be possible without complete mastery in the air and the highest degree of co-ordination between the services.

* * * *

Axis Radio Seeks to Minimise Allied Achievements.

The successes achieved as a result of such mastery and co-ordination have upset and confused enemy radios. In an attempt to minimize the importance of Allied achievements, Axis propaganda has gone off in different directions. Two weeks ago Berlin said in a radio commentary in English, "The battle of Sicily has not yet been joined". But the next day the Axis controlled "Free India" radio said in a Tamil broadcast, "The battle of Sicily has reached its last phase." In an English news-broadcast, Berlin said on July 16, "The Allied forces in Sicily have not been able to widen their bridgeheads". The Axis-controlled "Azad Hind" radio said in a Tamil broadcast on the previous day (July 15), "The Allies have not yet contacted the main body of the Axis forces. Even so they have not been able to penetrate more than 20 miles inland." In July 17, Captain SERTORIOUS, German military commentator, said in a broadcast from Berlin :

"On the coastal sector (south of Catania) German troops are engaged in bitter fighting with strong British infantry formations . . . Canadian troops advancing from Scordia are now fighting for entrance to the Catania plain."

But the fact was that the Canadians had already travelled more than 50 miles inland from the extreme south tip of Sicily, and that as a result of Allied advance in all sectors, the Axis Command could not keep the Allied armies pinned down to the narrow coastal strips of Sicily, as they wanted to.

PRISONERS' HOME-COMING

WHEN Indian soldiers, repatriated from Italian prison-camps came ashore at Alexandria recently, the first newspaper headlines they set eyes on were: "Surrender of Von Arnim to the Fourth Indian Division." There was a special thrill in that Many of them had fought with the Division's 11th Brigade, famous for its stand before Tobruk.

For most of the men lining the rails of that trim, white ship as it felt its way slowly into Alexandria harbour, the 13th of May marked the end of a long and weary trail, and for none more than a certain Punjabi Mussalman veteran, captured at Dunkirk, whose three years in enemy hands would furnish material for an enthralling book.

It was the second time that arrangements had been made to repatriate him. The first time he was sent by the Germans to Lisbon and then—back to Germany. He escaped to Unoccupied France where he passed off as an Algerian Arab. Finally, he was detected and interned in France. Soon he was in an Italian Prisoner of War camp. And here the last of his adventures began.

The men laughed and joked and chatted. Behind them, the misery of closed camps—before them, a free life at home. They have learned to speak English. It was one of the things an I.M.S. officer and his colleagues taught I.O.Rs. in the long days of their imprisonment.

ITALY: THE END OF AN EPOCH

THE fall of Mussolini reminds one of Antony's oration in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar"—"O, what a fall was there, my countrymen!" A few days ago, the Duce was all-powerful, and his word might have stood against the world, so to say, but now lies he there powerless, and none so poor to do him reverence! Well might a modern Antony exclaim: "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to pray for Mussolini, not to praise him . . . O mighty Mussolini! dost thou lie so low? Are all thy conquests, glories, triumphs, spoils and reverses shrunk to this little measure?—Fare thee well! . . . Shall it not grieve thee dearer than thy death to see thy Antony making his peace, shaking the bloody fingers of thy foes? Had I as many eyes as thou hast wounds, it would become me better than to close in terms of friendship with thine enemies." And well might a present day gathering of enlightened Romans, who have experienced the horrors of war and known what it is to have their capital city bombed—Rome was bombed just a day after Mussolini met Hitler recently!—turn away without a tear for the man who had brought Italy to the verge of annihilation. Not merely that, they would also gladly welcome any attempts to bring peace to war-worn Italy.

THERE are already rumours that Marshal Badoglio, who displaced Mussolini, is seeking peace. The Berne correspondent of *The New York Times* refers to what are called "authoritative" reports from the Italo-Swiss frontier that Premier Badoglio has sent on Tuesday a delegation of civilian representatives with an Army General to discuss the terms of surrender with the Allies after contacts with British diplomats at Vatican City. A Swiss Telegraph Agency reports that the new Premier is discussing armistice conditions with the Allies and adds, "It is generally believed that the Italian authorities have contacted the Allies in Rome through the British and American representatives at the Vatican." A report from a Swiss-Italian frontier to the *Basler Arbeiter Zeitung* states, "Italy is celebrating the downfall of the Fascist regime. Garibaldi's monument is covered with flowers and decorated with red sash. In festive mood bands are playing everywhere and people are dancing."

IT is as yet too early to say definitely what kind of reply Italy is going to give to the Churchill-Roosevelt message calling on the Italians to capitulate. But it seems as though she is likely to veer back to the old spirit of liberalism of Garibaldi. Marshal Badoglio may well turn out to be the head of a movement of liberation of Italy from the incubus of Fascism.

ONE is reminded of the great help given by Britain to Garibaldi whose march through Sicily and Naples with his celebrated "Thousand" was the most crucial event in the unification and independence of Italy. Britain prevented France and Austria from interfering by force and the presence of British warships in the harbour of Marsala deterred the Neapolitan Commander from bombarding the "Thousand" as they disembarked from their ships. And Garibaldi acknowledged Britain's aid by laying a curse on the Italians if they ever declared war on Britain.

THE curse has come true. Mussolini's dreams of vindicating Caesar and building up a great colonial empire have all crumbled into dust. When he became dictator in 1925, he thought he was a modern Caesar out to restore to Italy all the ancient glory and glamour of the Roman Empire. In *My Autobiography* Mussolini writes, "Victory was complete . . . At the end of January 1925, the Aventino with all opponents appeared destroyed, torn to pieces by a thousand internal discords and differences. I was winner again on the whole front . . ."! To-day Mussolini stands as a loser on all fronts; he built up an empire by aggression and lost it piece by piece. He sidetracked the development of Italian history and attempted to transform the Italian character so as to fit it into the Fascist pattern. Under his regime "Italy has been caught up in a vicious circle of isolated policy, depleted resources, financial bankruptcy and expanding militarism." But it may be stated that Mussolini never really succeeded in establishing a popular basis for his power or in winning the true sympathy and affection of the great mass of the Italian people whose genius has been essentially liberal and democratic. Neither did he achieve ultimate success in the war in which he involved Italy. The loyalty and devotion of the Italian people was to ancient Republican Rome rather than to ancient Imperial Rome, and what the Allies are seeking to do is to break this Fascist tyranny which has almost killed the old spirit of liberalism and disturbed the peace of the world in alliance with Hitlerite Germany, and restore it back to freedom and tolerance.

THE Rome radio has very often boasted that the intervention of Italy in the War in June 1940 forced Britain to concentrate a fleet in the Mediterranean and strain her naval power to such an extent that she did not have enough ships to attack Japan or even to oppose her. Rommel's campaigns in North Africa had their bases in Italy, and those campaigns would not have been possible but for the support of the Italian navy, army and air forces. Further, without Italy's help, Germany could not have completely conquered Greece and Yugoslovia. By undertaking the policing of the Balkans and relieving German forces for fighting on the Russian front, Mussolini has helped to pin down Allied forces and hold against them the two peninsulas of the Mediterranean Sea. By so doing, he defended the outposts and approaches of his Japanese and German Allies.

BUT now "the downfall of one of the principal criminals in this desolating war," as Mr. Churchill described it in the Commons on Tuesday, has brought about a great change in the situation. It has been described as a moral blow to the Axis. Mr. Churchill says, "The end of Mussolini's long and severe reign over the Italian people undoubtedly marks the close of an epoch in the life of Italy. The keystone of the Fascist arch has crumbled, and without attempting to prophesy, it does not seem unlikely that the entire Fascist edifice will fall to the ground in ruins—if it has not already so fallen."

IT is as though Italy is awakning from a long night of tyranny and oppression, war and destruction, and emerging into the twilight of peace. Mr. Churchill has assured the Italian people that there will be no ill-will towards a future Italy freed of Fascism and no ill-treatment of the Italian people. He has declared that unconditional surrender "never can mean that we should stain our victorious arms by inhumanity or by mere lust of vengeance." President Roosevelt has also declared that after the Fascist scourge has been removed, Italy would be restored to nationhood and should take her place as a respected member of the European family.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT

In the grim days of *this week in July* 1940, Britain was left virtually stranded, deserted and outnumbered, but she stood like a rock in the midst of a fierce cyclone. When France fell, Hitler could have, without a moment's delay, tried to cross the Channel. In the Mediterranean and Egypt the Italians, by a brutal and swift campaign, might have passed on the Suez Canal. But the conqueror of France could not muster sufficient courage to cross the 20-mile span of water, and the Fascist leader of Italy was feeling secure in the confidence that Britain, single-handed, could not continue the war any further. It was only in September that Graziani advanced into Egypt. He, however, stopped at Sidi Barrani.

Britain's helpless loneliness was a temptation for several others also to seek a bargain at her expense. General Franco declared, "The possession of Gibraltar is, for Spain, an imperative claim." Russia declared her neutrality and Rumania deserted altogether the cause of democracy. America dismissed the idea of war. Mr. Churchill frankly told his people that he had nothing to offer them, but "blood, toil, tears and sweat." Lord Halifax, the then Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated on *July* 22, 1940: "Threats are of no avail against us; our resolution is unconquerable; we will not prosecute the war one day longer than is necessary; but we shall go on until liberty has been restored to us and to other nations."

* * * * *

This week in 1941 saw in full swing the second German offensive against Russia. It was started on *July* 11. The first offensive began on *June* 22, 1941, when Hitler marched his armies into Russain territory. The original German plan was very ambitious and daring. Their thrusts were directed towards Leningrad via Finland and Esthonia, towards Moscow through Minsk and Smolensk, and towards Kiev, the Ukranian Capital in the south. In their initial assault the Germans selected for their main thrust the White Russian front, covering Smolensk and Moscow. After nine days fighting, the capture of Minsk was announced. By the middle of the third week the pace of 20 miles a day of the German army had weakened, but Russia had lost Lithuania, most of Latvia, the western half of White Russia and part of the western Ukraine.

After this initial campaign and before the commencement of the second campaign, the regrouping of the Soviet armies was effected and Marshals Voroshilov, Timoshenko and Buddeny had been appointed to command the north-western, central and south-western theatres. On *July* 11, Vitebesk fell after fierce fighting and Germans claimed that the route to Moscow was open. Five days later, i.e., on the 16th their armoured units reached Smolensk, but their pace had been reduced to 12½ miles a day. Leningrad was in great danger as Talinin and Hango became beleaguered twons, while in the south the Germans had advanced from Volynsk to Zhitomir, 85 miles west of Kiev.

The beginning of *this week* in 1941, therefore, saw the Germans held up at Zhitomir in the south and at Smolensk in the centre. This week witnessed the battle of smolensk which has gone down in history for the vehemence with which it was conducted on both sides and the number of men and machines involved. The war in 1940 was a war of Spitfires and Hurricanes; this time the black Panzer divisions of Hitler saw their match. "Timoshenko is continually throwing fresh Panzer units against us" said the Nazi reporter. The German army found it increasingly difficult to maintain communications with advanced bases in Russia, and resorted to desperate tactics including the use of poison gas. On *July* 30, 1941, Smolensk was still in Russian hands.

On *July* 29, 1941, Finland severed her diplomatic relations with Britain, and on *July* 30 the Russo-Polish Agreement was signed in London in the presence of Mr. Churchill, by which the territorial changes made in Poland as a result of the Soviet-German treaties of 1939 were declared void.

Mr. Sumner Wells, United States Under Secretary of State, received the Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Nomura at Washington on *July* 24, 1943, for settlement of differences by peaceful negotiation. World opinion in general and American opinion in particular had condemned in no ambiguous terms Japan's move against Indo-China where, on *July* 24, Vichy was forced to cede to Japan her naval and military bases. Japan was also allowed to station 40,000 Japanese troops in South Indo-China, have eight air bases, including one on the new Thailand border, and two naval bases. Carmania Bay and Saigon. The United States of America and the British Commonwealth froze all Japanese assets and credits, while Japan, on her part, froze all American and British assets in her territory.

As regards the situation in North Africa during this week, there were no new developments. The British army was entrenched in Tobruk.

On 30*th July* 1941, Mr. Churchill said "For more than a year we have been all alone; all alone we have had to guard the treasures of mankind. Although there may be profound and encouraging changes in the situation, our own final and commanding responsibilities remain undiminished, and we shall only discharge them by continuing to pour out in the common cause the utmost endeavours of strength and virtue, and if need be, to proffer the last drop of our hearts' blood."

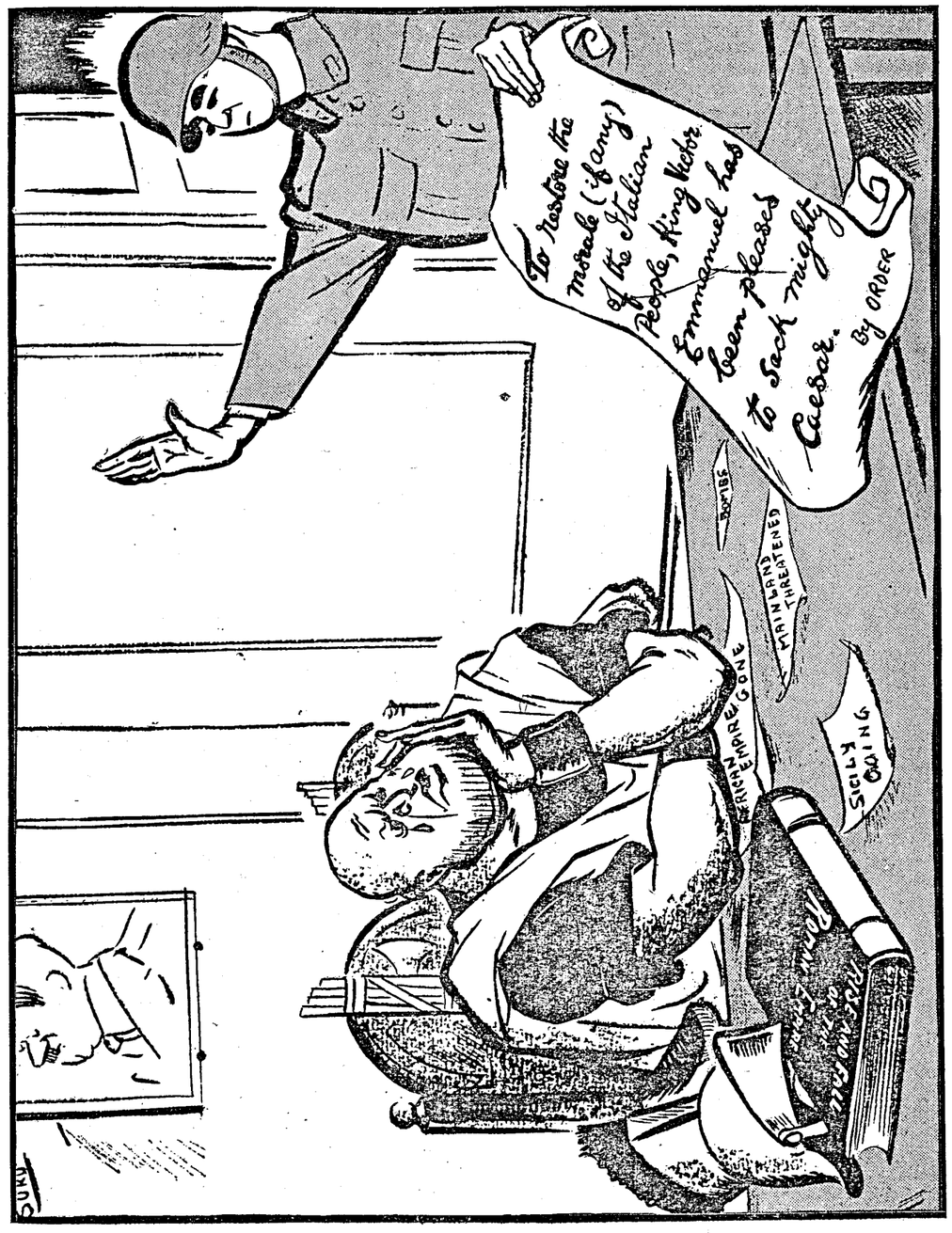
* * * * *

The week in 1942 was marked by a comparative lull in the military operations on the Egyptian front, which indicated that both sides were gathering strength for a decisive struggle. Both the armies, the British army under General Auchinleck, and the Axis forces under General Rommel, continued to remain entrenched at El Alamein. There were air raids by the Germans near Suez Canal and Cairo on *July* 29 *and* 30.

On the Russian front the greatest event of the week was the fall of Rostov into German hands on *July* 28, 1942, an event which helped the German thrust towards Caucasus for Russian oil. The next day the Nazis thrust towards Krasnodar, and drove towards Stalingrad from two directions. There was also heavy fighting on the Donetz bend. On the last day of *July* Stalin issued an order of the Day: "Every soldier and officer must stand and fight to Victory or Death."

It was during this week that His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester visited the North African theatre, arriving in Aden on 28*th July* 1943.

In the Pacific theatre the storm had subsided and the Japanese were trying to entrench themselves to the north of Australia. On *July* 27, 1942, a Japanese force landed in Papua in New Guinea and was thrusting towards Port Morseby. On the same day the Japanese planes bombed Port Darwin in Australia.



THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF FASCISM

THE BRAND OF THE DUCE

By DAVID SCOTT

THE first thing to remember about Italian Fascism is that there was no such thing when it first got into power. Mussolini's brand of Fascism didn't start ready-made, with a detailed programme, ready to put it into effect when it got the chance. The movement started as sheer anarchy, carried on all over Italy by gangs of young men obeying a leader whose only thought was to win power for himself by any means, fair or foul.

The Fascists say Mussolini saved Italy from Bolshevism. It is a lie. In 1919, when he first attracted public notice, Mussolini was inciting the Italian workmen to Bolshevism every day. They say he raised up a new, young Italy in the place of an effete democracy. It's a lie. What he did was to mobilize the unemployable young hooligans of all classes—the boys for whom the outbreak of peace was a problem—in his own service. They say he made an end of corruption in high places. On the contrary, he carried bribery to a point it had never attained in Italy before. But he didn't give the bribes. Oh, no—he took them.

Without any programme but his thirst for power, without any philosophy but his lust for plunder, Mussolini somehow managed to gain control of Italy and to keep it, so far, for about twenty years. What was the secret of his success?

The answer is fairly simple. Mussolini got where he is by the use of a certain technique unfamiliar to those who should have been on their guard. Not only was he absolutely unscrupulous in every ordinary sense of the word but he knew how to use anarchy as a step to power. He knew what too many of us still don't realize—that the form of rule we now call Fascism can be built on any sort of chaos and destruction provided the chaos is thorough and the destruction complete.

FIRST LEG UP

He knew nothing else but this. His whole being was concentrated on the seizure and holding of power in his own hands. He committed the most appalling blunders, got himself into the most damning situations. But he always won through, thanks to the other great factor in his career—the willingness of people who should have known better to give him a helping hand.

D'Annunzio first. You remember his occupation of the Jugoslav port of Fiume just after the last war. It appealed to the ordinary patriotic Italian who thought his country was jipped at Versailles. It lasted for about a year and ended in a fiasco. But it also gave Mussolini his first leg up.

At that time Mussolini owned and edited an obscure rag called *Popolo d'Italia*, which no one read. In it he preached revolutionary socialism and urged the workers to revolt. He thought that was a good horse to back in the feverish post-war days, but he found it unprofitable. The workmen he appealed to refused to take him seriously. They knew he'd sell out at the first opportunity. And they were right.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR BENITO

Finding that he couldn't bamboozle the workmen, Mussolini turned his attention to the patriotic middle and upper classes, who didn't know him as the workmen did. The *Popolo d'Italia* suddenly ceased to be socialist and announced itself as the official organ of the d'Annunzio movement. At the same time—and here you see the real Benito at work—it opened a subscription for the Fiume campaign. It was really a subscription for Benito. The manoeuvre succeeded brilliantly. At one stroke Mussolini filled his pockets and gained a hearing among his countrymen.

Behind the scenes, he transformed the Fascio, which he and a group of other left-wing malcontents had founded with an all-out socialist programme, into a nationalist militia on the d'Annunzio model. They adopted d'Annunzio's war-cry, 'Eya, eya, alala'—the Italian for Hi-de-hi, I suppose—and his marching song, 'Giovinezza,' the song of youth. And when the occupation of Fiume ended a year later, they enrolled d'Annunzio's young men in their own ranks.

THE BLACKSHIRTS

That was the origin of the Blackshirts. It is instructive, I think, that their very war-cry was not a form of words but a sort of hyena-howl. It meant nothing, for they had nothing to say. A vague yapping for blood was all that they could utter.

Now Giolitti. He was the Grand Old Man of Italian Liberal Politics. He objected to the war and had the courage to say so. But in June 1920 he came out of retirement to put things to rights. He it was, not Mussolini, who peaceably ended the strikes and occupation of factories in September of that year. He it was who, by firing one shell—only one, mind you—at d'Annunzio's palace in Fiume, brought the Fiume adventure to a close.

Giolitti was a downy old bird, as we say, full of years and sorrows. He knew his politics and he knew his Mussolini, too. He ended Mussolini's support of d'Annunzio by the simple process of offering Mussolini a big bribe, which the future Duce accepted with alacrity. So Mussolini sold out once more, and Giolitti had his way.

But there, alas, Giolitti's understanding of Mussolini's methods stopped short. The technique of securing power through anarchy was outside his experience. He made the fatal mistake of thinking that because he had bought off Mussolini once he could use him for his own purposes and then buy him off again or get rid of him when he had served his turn. To strengthen his own position against the remaining extremists of the Right and Left, Giolitti enlisted Mussolini's support. In the general election of 1921 he allowed 35 Fascists, to run as supporters of his own Government.

The 35 Fascists were elected and found themselves holding the balance of votes in a small Government majority. At the first opportunity they voted against Giolitti and defeated him. The further period of instability that followed gave Mussolini just the chance he wanted to create the disorder from which his New Order would spring.

Even so, the would-be Dictator was by no means sure of himself. At the slightest set-back he ran for cover, as you'll see.

MARCH ON ROME

In the autumn of 1922, when systematic riots and outrages by Mussolini's followers—not by the wicked Reds, as they say now—had made the task of Government almost impossible, the Fascists decided to stage their "March on Rome." It was fixed for October 28. But Facta, the unhappy Prime Minister of that day, at least had courage. He declared a state of siege and called out the troops.

MUSSOLINI'S BLUFF

This show of resistance was quite enough for the brave young Fascists. Off came their blackshirts, away went their badges. They scuttled like rabbits for their holes.

As for their great leader, he was attending a congress in Naples on October 27. When the state of siege was announced he fled all the way to Milan, at the other end of Italy, in terror of arrest. There he got ready to escape across the French frontier if a warrant were issued for him.

Mussolini's bluff was called, and he wouldn't face the music. But once more he was to be saved by one of those unhoped-for intervention that mark his career. This time it was King Victor Emmanuel's turn to be his saviour.

In the afternoon of October 28, the Stefani Agency announced that the King had refused to sign Facta's proclamation of the state of siege. The proclamation was therefore invalid. Later it was announced that the Facta Ministry had resigned.

The news spread like wild fire. Within a few hours the Fascist "March on Rome" developed with a vengeance, not in the form of a military parade but in that of a bank holiday junket on a gigantic scale. All over Italy young men in black shirts, acting on a single order from their headquarters, boarded trains without paying and rolled toward Rome.

That night Mussolini's legions were assembled in the capital. The Duce himself arrived the next morning in a sleeping-car; but he had in his pocket the King's telegram appointing him Prime Minister.

From that time on it was plain sailing for Fascism. Very soon the Totalitarian State was established by the simple process of stamping out liberty wherever it could be found. But, even then, the excesses of Mussolini's followers nearly cost the Dictator his place.

The murder of the Socialist Deputy Mateotti, coming after a long series of crimes and cruelties, aroused such a storm of protest that Mussolini, after denouncing everyone else he could think of, had to confess his responsibility. The very magnitude of the scandal saved

(*Continued on page* 10)

R.A.F. PILOT'S ESCAPE ON MONSOON-SWEPT BURMA FRONT

"It don't mean a thing if you don't pull the string" says smiling W/O. Pilot F. D. C. Brown from Canterbury, New Zealand.

HURTLING down unconscious for almost four miles, with lightning playing round him in one of the worst monsoon storms ever experienced on the Burma front, a 21-year-old pilot, Warrant Officer Francis D. C. Brown, of Canterbury, New Zealand, who escaped from his damaged aircraft, has achieved a probable record "delayed-drop" parachute descent—and lives to-day to tell the tale.

Only instinctive presence of mind acquired by his training saved him as he slowly began to "come round" at 3,000 feet. Still half-dazed, he grasped the rip-cord, opened his parachute, and landed safely.

He had dropped 20,000 feet with his parachute unopened.

Just before the war began John Tranum, a United States "stunt" dropper, made a delayed descent of 17,000 feet.

But this was no stunt on the part of the Royal Air Force. It was one of the hazards which face fliers in the dangerous stretch of country that constitutes much of the Burmese front.

The pilot nearly landed in the sea, but managed to float down on to a small islet. Flying in thick cloud over Bengal, his aircraft had developed an uncontrollable spin, which stunned and partly blinded him, and he was either flung out unconscious or instinctively "baled out." When he regained consciousness he found he was falling at terrific speed and was only 3,000 feet up, but the terrific jerk as his parachute billowed out slowed him down to about 15 miles per hour.

STRANGE VISITOR FROM THE SKY

Bengalis on the islet where he landed feted him as a strange visitor from the sky, rushed to give him coconut milk, hot tea, and goat's milk one after the other as "revivers"—a strange mixture of local drinks—tended him until he could be taken on a 20-hour journey by bullock-cart and sampan to hospital, and pressed Indian garments ("dhotis") upon him to replies his flying garb.

Still wearing goggles to shield his eyes, which were injured in the drop, he told a Royal Air Force Public Relations Officer the account of his remarkable escape.

"I flew for twenty minutes in what seemed to be a sheer wall of clouds, and got into the heart of a violent storm, with lightning playing all round," he said.

"Conditions were very bumpy, and the engine began to ice-up. Suddenly the aircraft got into a spin, and though I applied 'correction' it became worse.

"Thrown forward into the controls, I hit my head, felt a terrific pressure behind my eyes, and lost consciousness.

"The next thing I knew was when I regained consciousness and found myself falling over and over, through thick cloud seemingly quite slowly but really at a fast speed. I must have been unconscious for almost a minute.

"Just then my descent took me out of the cloud, and I saw the ground below, just in time, though still in a daze, to open my parachute. I groped agonisingly for the rip-cord, and the speed of my drop diminished. I floated down.

"I must have subconsciously unfastened my harness and been flung or 'baled out' of the plane as it dropped, being revived as I got into the lower atmosphere.

"The aircraft itself was damaged, and I saw pieces of it floating down alongside me when I was dropping rapidly before opening my parachute, which slowed me up."

TRIP TO THE BASE

After the pilot landed in a rice-field his strange trip to base began. A small boy who saw him land ran half a mile to the nearest village for help, and he was assisted there, half walking, half stumbling.

For the first night he had to sleep in a grass-covered hut in a small village, on the islet, where only three people spoke even a smattering of English, but he was given food and drink and a rough bed.

Melons, bananas, rice, tea, and native "dhal" were given him by the villagers, whose two headmen arranged the next day for him to go for four hours by bullock-cart to the nearest police station.

The schoolmaster asked him to make a speech to the children, the pilot sat cross-legged on the bullock-cart, and villagers ran from fields to greet him as he made his four hours' journey, like a triumphal procession, along six miles of jungle roads.

The headman explained to all who came how the New Zealander had "dropped from the sky."

When he got to the police station, he had to spend another night there, before going on a journey across the sea by sampan lasting from 4 p.m. one day to 8 a.m. the next.

The storm had subsided, and he safely arrived at hospital, where he spent a fortnight recovering from his injuries, which included burst blood-vessels behind his eyes.

The first thing he did upon rejoining his squadron was to thank the parachute packer, LAC. J. N. Powell, of Prescot, Lancashire.

And the pilot's comment on his exploit:—"I made my parachute landing just as laid down in the book—missed a clump of palm trees by 20 feet, and landed in soft earth."

W/O Brown attended Christchurch Technical School, New Zealand, and later took up sheep-farming before joining the Royal Air Force in 1940.

W/O Brown with his parachute packer LAC. J. N. Powell from Prescot, Lancashire whom he thanked after recovery from his injuries.

A MESSAGE TO MALTA, G.C.

By LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM DOBBIE, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., D.S.O.

SINCE I last spoke to you much has happened. There have been great and wonderful developments in the situation which have affected the whole of our outlook not only in the Mediterranean but in the whole world. It is, I think, true to say that no place in our Empire has been more profoundly affected by these happenings than has Malta—and that is a thing in which I greatly rejoice.

I frequently look back on the last twelve months, and note the path which the people of Malta have, in the providence of God, been called upon to tread. I remember well the conditions prevailing this time last year while I was still in Malta. Malta was at that time going through a grim and prolonged ordeal. The constant and heavy attacks by the Luftwaffe against the fortress will not be forgotten by those who experienced them, and by the same token the extremely heavy losses inflicted by Malta on the enemy will not be forgotten by them.

It was, as I say, a grim ordeal, but it certainly was not a profitless one. The enemy tried to stop the offensive being carried on from Malta. In this he failed, and the happenings since in Egypt, Libya and Tunis are a proof that Malta did make some contribution to these successes.

Moreover, the ordeal through which Malta passed was of real value to our cause for another reason as well. The force of the Luftwaffe which the enemy had to detach to Sicily, and the tremendous losses which that force sustained, must have imposed a tremendous strain on his resources; and at a time when he dearly wanted to use them against Russia, where he was losing his air supremacy. Malta's ordeal, therefore, not only helped the Eighth Army in Africa, but it undoubtedly helped our Russian Allies as well.

As Malta looks back on that grim period it can be thankful that it was privileged to serve our Allied cause in this direct fashion and that its sufferings were not in vain.

But, of course, Malta's ordeal was not only because of the bombs that the enemy dropped from the skies. It lay also in the stern necessity imposed on the island to economise in food and other necessities so that they might be eked out to the limit and last as long as possible. That was a necessity which Malta understood and accepted. It knew the price that the Royal Navy had to pay to bring ships to Malta with the longed-for supplies. Malta was determined not to impose any unnecessary burden on these two magnificent Services, and thus accepted hardships and privations of the greatest severity. I would like to assure the people of Malta that what they underwent in the matter of these privations has not passed unnoticed in Britain. The spirit with which the people have faced all the dangers that threatened them has won the high regard of the whole Empire, and indeed of the world, and I do not tire in telling this country what a great contribution that spirit has made to our cause.

From the moment when Italy entered the war against us all dangers have been faced calmly and confidently by the people and garrison of the fortress. The dangers arising out of the extreme weakness of our defences in the early days, the incessant air attacks designed to break the spirit of the people, and the hardships due to the acute shortage of supplies—all these things have been faced with real courage and determination. And as a result, and especially on account of God's great goodness to us all, Malta to-day remains in British hands and is ready to play whatever further role may be assigned to her.

Individuals and peoples learn, or should learn, by experience, and very often they learn most in the hard school of adversity and ordeal. I often look back over the past, and certain lessons from what we passed through together seem to stand out in relief against the background of the grim happenings of those days. If we want to pay our part in the future and pull our weight we need to think of these lessons in the past and apply them in the future. Three of these lessons seem to me to be especially prominent. They are as follows:—

First.—Courage and determination in individuals or communities are just as necessary to-day as ever. It is the spirit of a man or a people that matters and not only the material resources that may be available. Let us see to it then that we foster the right spirit in our lives so that we may face the future with courage and determination.

Second.—Co-operation between various persons and communities is of untold value in the face of common dangers and difficulties. I mean, of course, co-operation in spirit and not only in the letter. We shall need it to the full in the dangers and problems that still lie ahead of us. Selfishness, whether in individuals or in peoples or sections of the people, must at all costs be eradicated if we are to derive the full benefits of the schooling we have undergone. We want to aim at the common good, realising that 'No man liveth unto himself.'

Third.—As we look back we gladly acknowledge all those whose devotion and courage have so wonderfully contributed to the successful defence of Malta. But surely we see over and above all these the good hand of our God upon us, and realize something of what we owe to Him for His help and protection. That is a lesson which we must not forget. We must realize that in the future, as in the past, we cannot do without His help, and we must ensure that there is nothing in us, individually or collectively, that will prevent Almighty God from giving that help to us.

I would end on a personal note. Lady Dobbie, my daughter, and I send our warmest greetings to our many friends in Malta, of whom we are constantly thinking, and we remember with pleasure the two very happy years we spent with you.

—*Broadcast from the B.B.C.*

THE BRAND OF THE DUCE.

(*Continued from page* 8)

him—too many people were afraid of being involved if he were formally accused. But the name of the assassin stank in the nostrils of his people. In other countries, progressive Governments would have nothing to do with his regime.

None the less, Mussolini stuck to his guns, waiting for something to turn up. The inaction of the European powers when he bombarded Corfu soon after taking control had shown him that he could get away with murder abroad, if not a home. And, sure enough, the third intervention he needed was not long in coming.

FIRST-CLASS SHOWMAN

In December 1924, Mr. (afterwards Sir) Austen Chamberlain, the British Foreign Secretary, was on a holiday cruise in the Mediterranean. He paid Mussolini a six-day visit in Rome. Needless to say, poor Chamberlain was both charmed and impressed by the Duce. He probably knew very little of Fascist goings-on in Italy; and if Musso's nothing else, he's a first-class showman.

From that time until he sold himself and his country at last to Hitler, Mussolini never looked back. Short-sighted international patronage set him firmly on his feet. He acquired undeserved prestige, and with it an arrogance before which the appeasing Chamberlains, Austen and Neville after him, cowered ever lower. Within ten or twelve years the process of internal consolidation, the blacking out of the spirit in Italy, was finished. Now came the period of external aggression.

You know the rest of the story; it's still going on. It's costing the life of someone dear to me, or to you, to one or many of us, this hour, this minute, every day. It has already cost the lives of tens of thousands of decent but misguided Italian boys, Mussolini's dupes and victims. And it all comes of letting a mountebank sell himself to the world as a man of genius. The rise of Mussolini was a chapter of accidents, a series of personal crises from which he escaped by trickery at the expense of others. The thing would be comic if it hadn't plunged a world in tragedy.

It all comes of not taking care of the good health of democracy; of letting the wheels of progress stop; of listening to the first self-seeking quack who pretends he has a quick cure for political aches and pains. For your Fascist leader's just that: a quack physician who isn't out to cure anybody's troubles but his own.

The truth is simply this: there's no short cut to well-being, for communities any more than for individuals. There's no hope for the people in any programme that aims at any other purpose than the people's good. Only by keeping that fact steadily in mind, by refusing to listen to any self-styled saviours of society, can we hope to find our way to a saner and a kinder world.

—*Broadcast in B.B.C.'s short wave overseas service.*

I WAS IN JAPAN

By MRS. IDA KINLOCH

IN the Spring of 1939 I decided to go to England by way of Japan, and visit some old friends who had been resident there for many years. I sailed from Singapore in the German liner *Scharnhorst*. It is a magnificent vessel and one of the latest of the German Merchant service. There were over 2,000 Jewish refugees on board, all crowded into the second class, bound for Shanghai. For the most part they only carried hand luggage and they were only allowed to bring out of Germany a very small sum in cash. In the first class there were comparatively few passengers. Except for myself and about half-a-dozen others, they were mostly German officers proceeding to Japan with their families, to take up appointments there.

At our destination, the Purser accepted payment of our ship's bills in any currency of the countries where the ship had called, but our change was given in Reich Marks. They were a brilliant red colour, and printed in small black type, was the statement that they would be accepted on any German vessel or the Reich itself. In conjunction with the other English speaking passengers, I protested and asked for my change in Japanese Yen, or the currency of the Straits Settlements, but we were told nothing could be done about it. We had either to accept Reich Marks or forego our change altogether! They were useless to me, so I handed my change to an Australian Roman Catholic Brother for tips to the stewards.

AT KOBE

Arrived at Kobe, the Customs officials examined our luggage with the greatest scrutiny. The Passport Officer enquired why I had come to Japan without my husband, what his profession was and the reason why he was not travelling with me. Many other very personal questions followed and I came near to losing my patience, but thought I might be refused landing if I were equally rude.

My friends met me with a taxi. They had been forced to give up their car owing to petrol shortage and taxation. Even taxis were scarce and had to be ordered in advance. Very few were free and plying for hire in the streets.

Kobe and Osaka are really one immense city, each with their own docks. Osaka is the industrial half, while Kobe is residential. Space is very precious in a congested country like Japan, and the factories of Osaka are built so closely together that from a distance one sees a forest of chimney stacks, all belching out black smoke. No matter what the industry, for years past the factories of Japan had been working 24 hours to the day. Once an engine or machine was installed, it was only stopped for overhaul or repair.

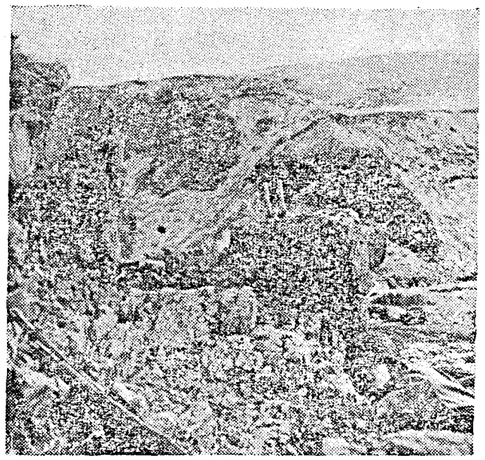
Here and in other places I visited in Japan, roads were suffering through lack of maintenance, some of the pot-holes being as large as 3 feet across and a couple of feet deep. On making enquiry, I was told that the country was at war and no money was being spent on repairs.

RATIONING IN JAPAN

Fuel, light, water and a great many other commodities were rationed. I had brought a box of chocolates for my hostess's little son, and these were the first sweets he had seen for nearly a year. Soap, when it could be obtained, was worth its weight in gold. Butter, sugar and fresh fruits were also scarce. Although Japan grows tea herself, Indian tea is preferred by the Japanese who can afford it. The price at that time was nearly Rs. 12 a pound.

Dwelling houses in Japan are not large and have a form of central heating, by means of a type of anthracite stove in the entrance hall. Outside doors and all windows are kept closed, while inside doors are left open for the heated air to circulate. Street lighting was scant and in Kobe a few months later, it was practically cut out altogether, not for fear of air raids but because electricity could not be spared. A few months later also, the water-supply was further reduced. It was only available a few hours during the day, with the result that all the taps in the city were turned on at once. It was impossible to draw enough water for all household requirements, and was a particular hardship to foreigners who were not allowed to use the public bath houses.

My amah had forgotten to pack my heavy dressing-gown but I thought I could buy one quite cheaply in the land of Kimonas. The price, however, was actually more than double the figure which would have been quoted anywhere outside Japan. In order to obtain foreign currency, merchants outside Japan were forced to dispose of their goods at prices which would ensure quick sale. As it appeared to me, there were practically



ACTION DURING VICTORIOUS UNITED STATES DRIVE ON ATTU.—A United States soldier takes cover behind rocks as a Japanese anti-aircraft shell bursts overhead during the fighting for the Aleutian island of Attu. This rocky ridge is typical of the terrain over which American troops fought before winning complete control of the island.

no imported goods going into Japan, whereas exports were increasing by each ship that left the country. It reminded me of a conversation I had had with a Japanese merchant in Singapore shortly before I left. His shop was full to overflowing with merchandise, and he told me he had just received instructions from the Industrial Bureau that he was to indent to Japan for more goods up to a certain figure. He could not afford to part with so much cash, neither had he the space to put the goods when they arrived. It was the last time I saw him, for he died mysteriously shortly after the outbreak of the European War. There are branches of the Japanese Industrial Bureau wherever Japanese merchants have business. It is a branch of the Japanese Government who advise shopkeepers how to conduct their business, and they finance new businesses. Monthly returns are made to the Bureau by the shopkeepers, so that the Government knows exactly how much money is vested in that particular country. Surely, this indicates the restricted freedom of the Japanese, even after they have left their native land. Later, when I went to Hawaii, I found the same procedure there. Men whose parents or grandparents had settled there long before they were born, were even receiving "calling-up" papers to return to Japan and join the fighting forces. Many of these men could not speak Japanese and had no desire to leave the land of their adoption, but they were warned of the consequences if they failed to obey the summons, as action would be taken against their relatives in Japan.

HEROES RETURN

Kobe, like Yokohama, is a modern city with many large concrete buildings. Shopping was expensive and it was therefore surprising to see the largest store in Kobe swarming with people. I remarked this to my friend and she advised me to watch for the sales and not the people. We went all over the store and I purchased a few odds and ends, but did not witness a single other transaction. The people had merely come to the store to keep warm. Our shopping expedition was interrupted by the alarum bell. Assistants hurriedly tidied their counters, and the people were instructed to leave the building as quickly as possible. My friend whispered to me that "the heroes were returning" and told me not to ask questions until we were alone. All traffic had been stopped and the pavements were packed with people, and then the procession appeared. The *Gneisenau* sister ship to the *Scharnhorst* had brought home to Japan the ashes of a few thousand heroes who had been killed in China. Wounded soldiers, dressed in white with a red sash, slung over the right shoulder, each carried in his hands a small white wooden box containing the ashes of a hero. Other wounded, too maimed to walk, were conveyed in motor buses filled with the small wooden caskets. The procession took about ten minutes to pass in silence. Only the soft tread of feet could be heard. As they passed, everyone

bent almost double and kept their eyes on the ground. I was curious to see what was happening and kept bobbing up to peep, much to the anxiety of my friend. I understand there was another ceremony when the caskets were handed over to the respective relatives, but I did not witness this. The same procedure is adopted throughout the cities of Japan when her dead heroes return, and there is a steady stream of worshippers to their favourite shrines, carrying offerings of rice-cakes.

Traffic rules are very stringent throughout Japan, and in the cities pedestrians are only allowed to cross the roads between steel studs sent into the roadway. The policeman on point duty stops traffic while pedestrians cross over. If anyone ventures to cross outside the steel studs, he immediately blows his whistle. Everybody stands still while he approaches the culprit. The policeman then takes him by the arm and marches him up and down the proper crossing place ten times, while the populace looks on. The policeman then dismisses him with a caution. If he is found to do it again, he is arrested.

While in Japan I attended the naming ceremony of a Japanese baby and expected to see a colourful display of kimonas. I was disappointed, however, for the young mother was dressed in a plain kimona of black and grey, and all the guests were similarly attired in sombre colours of black and white, grey or brown. Gaily coloured and embroidered kimonas are manufactured for export and are seldom seen in Japan itself, except probably at weddings or by waitresses in tea shops.

LAUGHING FORBIDDEN

One day my friend and I were walking along one of the main streets of Kobe. We were re-calling a funny incident which had occurred some years previously and were enjoying a good laugh, when she suddenly stopped laughing and told me to keep quiet. Naturally I was surprised, and had not noticed a nearby policeman looking at us intently. After we passed him she told me that laughing was forbidden in Japan as the country was in mourning and at war.

The city of Yokohama was quite deserted of vehicles. The famous Grand Hotel stands in one of the main thoroughfares, constructed to take four lanes of traffic. I remember how strange it seemed not to see a single vehicle, even during business hours when one expects to see motor cars, taxis and lorries. With the exception of tramcars, which were packed to overflowing, there was scarcely any form of transport whatever. I was advised not to travel by railway until things improved. In common with other public transport, rolling stock was not receiving the attention it required. Spare parts were not available and experienced men were being replaced by youths under military age, with the result that accidents were on the up grade. There were no lights in the shop windows and inside, shopkeepers burned tiny little oil lamps instead of electric lights. The effect was most depressing especially in the cold drizzling rain.

Yokohama is further north than Kobe and therefore colder. In the Grand Hotel, which was full of German officials, central heating was practically negligible and residents wore their heavy out-door coats all the time.

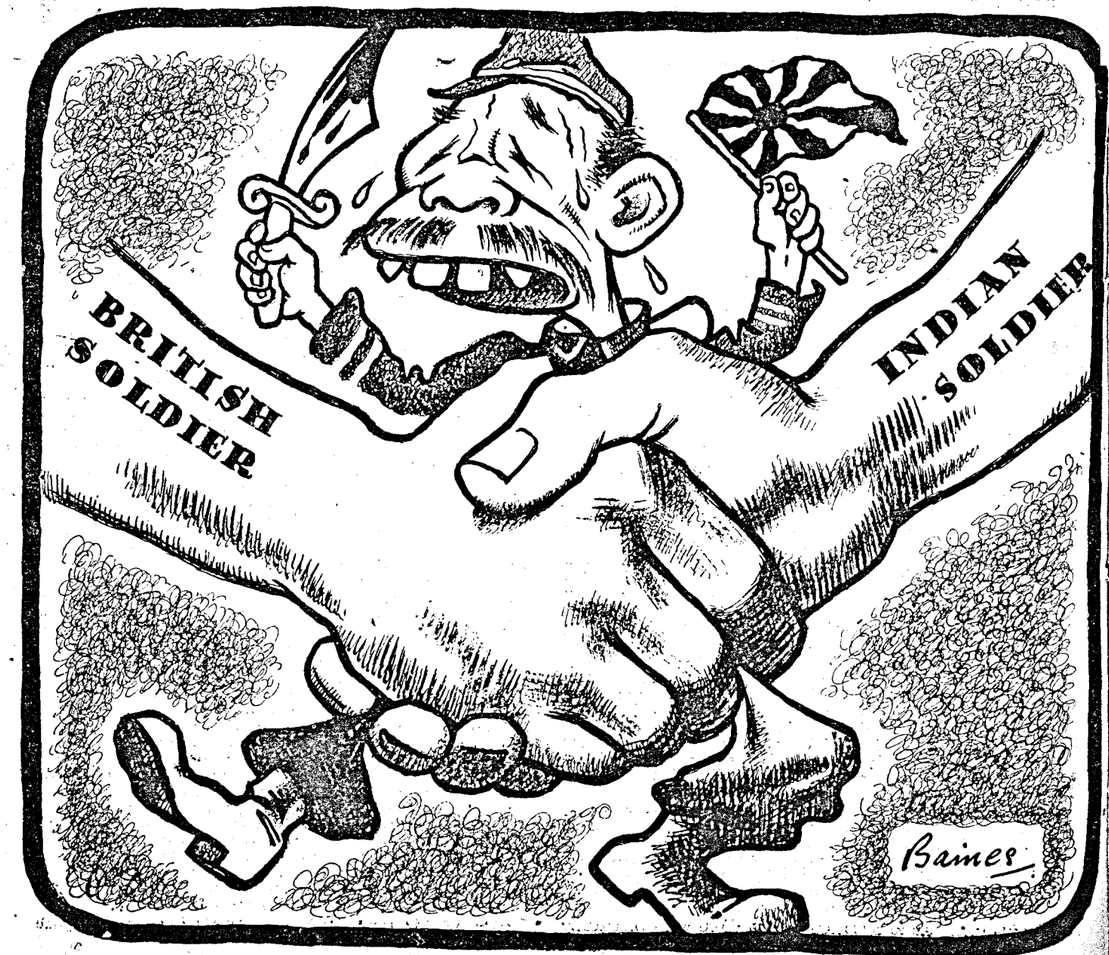
JAPANESE WOMEN AND TEA-MAKING

Tea-making in Japan is a ceremony which every Japanese woman must learn—it is part of their education. One can therefore assume that when the brew is ready, something special may be expected, but the tea which was prepared for the guests of the Grand Hotel was weak and of poor quality.

Because of restricted grazing space, Japan does not raise sufficient cattle, sheep, etc., to feed the population but the seas abound with fish. Milk has to be imported, and a substitute prepared from soya beans is manufactured for the poor people who cannot afford real milk.

To conclude, it will be seen that Japan has adopted the same policy as Germany. The people are without freedom and the country is run by militarists. At the time of my visit, Japan was involved in what they call the China Incident. The lot of the Japanese people may well be imagined to have deteriorated rather than improved after a further four years of war.

A talk from A.I.R., Madras, on Monday, July 26.



CRUSH THE ENEMY IN THE GRIP OF FRIENDSHIP!

JAPAN'S PRESENT MILITARY POSITION IN THE PACIFIC

By R. W. ROBSON, *Editor of* Pacific Islands Monthly.

BETWEEN December 1941 and April 1942, Japan not only disclosed formidable naval strength and unexpected air power, but she combined it with a genius, hitherto unsuspected, in co-ordinating the strength of her arms with her twenty-year-old design for creating a new empire. Between December 1941 and April 1942 she put into operation the first two stages of her master plan. This provides for overrunning and occupying and rapidly exploiting all the countries of South-East Asia and the Western Pacific and binding them into one self-contained economic organization.

Now, if we want to estimate accurately the present position in the Pacific we must remember that when Japan's forces ceased their concerted outwards thrust last April Japan apparently had gained all the territories sought under her master plan. Thenceforward, if my interpretation is correct, she was concerned primarily with defence. And I think that defence in this master plan provides for two things: first, for the creation of a defensive organization in a wide area of no-man's-land along a perimeter between the Allied forces and her newly seized empire; and, second, for attack wherever it may appear that attack will assist the defenders.

My interpretation of the present situation confirms my view of Japan's master plan in the following way. The perimeter of the new empire which the Japanese hope to hold finally runs west of Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies and thence south of the Indies and the Caroline Islands and east of the Marshalls. Within that empire Japan can find a home for her vast surplus populations; she can find raw materials for every conceivable industry; and she can find scope for all the organizing genius of Hirohito's modestly self-assertive race. I don't think the primitive, undeveloped regions of Western Burma, New Guinea, New Britain, and the Solomons are part of the proposed empire. If they should remain in enemy occupation they'll be complacently gathered in under the Japanese flag. But Japan's chief purpose in occupying them is to prepare them for use in the *second* stage of the master plan—that is, as the battleground in the war of defence. They are intended to cushion the impact of an Allied attack upon the empire which the Japanese found all ready for them when they seized the rich, well-developed territories of Malaya, the East Indies, Siam, Indo-China and the Philippines.

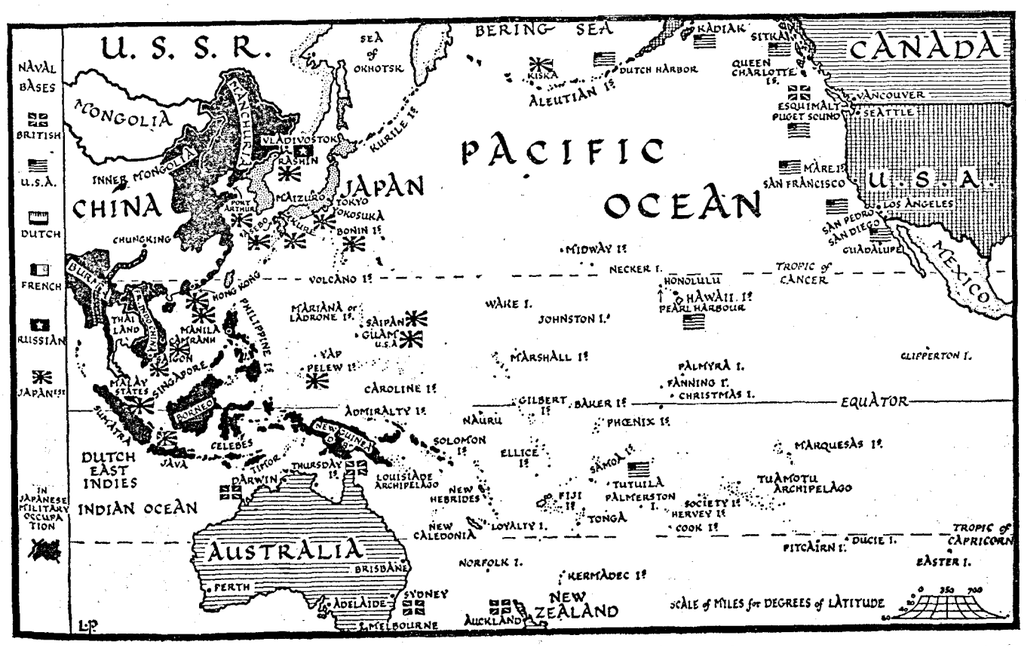
If, while preparing the perimeter territories of New Guinea and the Solomons for unconquerable defence, the Japanese find it desirable to thrust sharply southwards at the gathering Allied forces in Australia, New Caledonia, and even Fiji and New Zealand, and if such enterprises give in return some permanent territorial gains, so much the greater will be the glory of the Son of Heaven.

Since first I began writing on this matter ten years ago I have never altered my view that the empire coveted by the Japanese comprises South-Eastern Asia, the East Indies, Borneo, and the Philippines, with suzerainty over China. And all that has happened since Pearl Harbour confirms my arguments.

I believe that the Jap master plan provides, *first*, for surprise attack in overwhelming force; *second*, for the quickest possible preparation of a deep-defence perimeter; *third*, for the most intensive organization of industries in the captured countries to assist in providing food and munitions for the Japanese; and, *fourth*, for a long, bitter defence calculated to wear down the Allied counter-attack and enable Japan to retain the territories she has captured. Stages *one* and *two* were successfully accomplished by April last. Since April the Japs have concentrated most of their energies upon stages *three* and *four*—namely, the exploitation of the conquered territories and preparations for defence. I don't believe that the Japanese have abandoned any section of that plan.

JAPAN'S TWO ALTERNATIVES

There are only two alternatives before Japan: to devote all her strength to defending the empire she has seized, or to seek out and try to destroy the major forces of America and Britain. The Japanese now realize that they cannot defeat America and Britain on the sea or in the air. The bitter defeats they have sustained in recent months have taught them that, lacking air mastery, they cannot transport masses of troops by sea. So what now? Japan's other alternative is plain. All the data available and all the incidents of the past nine months convince me that we are now to see the *fourth* stage of the Jap master plan—and this provides, as I've already said, for the most stubborn and merciless defence of which this hard-fighting people is capable, carried out on a far-flung perimeter of defence that has been thoroughly and systematically prepared.



I am not suggesting that the Japs will simply wait in their new empire's defensive perimeter, and that there is now little danger of attacks on Australia, New Caledonia, and India. Unquestionably it is part of the Japanese strategy to use the powerful establishments of this defensive perimeter as bases for smashing attacks upon the gathering forces of the Allies *if* she can provide the necessary air cover for these blows. Almost certainly they will come in the future, as they have in the past—from New Guinea against the Southern Solomons and Papua areas; from the Netherlands Indies against North-Western Australia, and from Central Burma against Western Burma and India. If those thrusts should result in Japanese occupation of more territory, then, as I've said, so much the greater will be the glory of Nippon.

Everything that has happened in recent months fits in with this general hypothesis and also explains the obvious embarrassments of the Japanese High Command. The master plan, so successfully operated in the first two stages and still being faithfully adhered to, makes no provision for air mastery by the Allies and for the fact that Allied aircraft factories can outbuild and are outbuilding Japan's. We have already seen that every thrust made by Japan at the Allies in the South Pacific since last April has been smashed by air power. Allied aircraft are taking increased toll of Japanese shipping. Countless islands guard enemy transport against our cruisers and submarines; but these also compel enemy ships to follow well-defined tracks—and this means that they can more readily be found by our aircraft.

ISLAND-PERIMETER DEFENCE PLAN OUTMODED BY ALLIED AIR MASTERY

It is becoming clearer every week that not only does Allied air mastery now threaten the success of every thrust made from Japan's defensive périmeter, but that the strength of the perimeter, which was regarded as secure against military or naval assault, may crumble with the increasing weight of Allied air power. The master plan was made in the days of the Maginot-Line mentality. Just as the Maginot-Line plan was outmoded by panzers, so the island-perimeter defence plan is being outmoded by aviation developments.

You mustn't suppose that this can be seen here and not in Tokyo. The Japs are as calculating and shrewd as they are ruthless and cruel. They couldn't have been as silly as their broadcast communiqués suggested when they were reading the lessons of their defeats in early battles in the South Pacific, especially the battles of the Coral Sea, Midway, and the Solomons. They must have known many months ago that their master plan, so carefully made in the middle 'thirties, might collapse if it couldn't take care of a development in the early 'forties—namely, Allied air mastery. So we may ask this question: have we seen in recent months any special development of Japanese activity which might be regarded as Japan's answer to the inevitable growing air mastery of the Allies? I think we have. I think that all this reported Japanese activity in the creation of bases—and especially air bases—in the Northern Solomons, New Britain, the north coast of New Guinea and various other southern islands in the East Indies, indicates Japan's determination to build up her defences in the perimeter of her new empire to most formidable strength and upon lines calculated to defy attack by the most powerful air force that can be assembled. Practically every report indicate that intensive provision for land-based aircraft is being included in those perimeter defences.

THE JAPANESE BELIEVE . . . BUT

I think the Japanese are arguing that the Allies can't deprive them of their new empire unless they break through that defensive perimeter, and that the Allies can't do this finally without employing great naval and military forces in addition to air power. The Japanese believe that when that time comes they can inflict such staggering losses that the heart of the attack may be broken. But this Japanese argument is based on adherence to Japan's original master plan, which is already outmoded. Don't think the Allies are going to try anything so foolhardy as penetration of that vast defensive perimeter and reduction of all those powerful bases so painfully prepared for their embarrassment.

I base my forecast of Allied strategy upon the clear and deliberate words of General MacArthur on January 25. He said that air power permitted a broadened conception of warfare and application of offensive power in swift, massive strokes rather than the dilatory and costly island-to-island advance that some assumed necessary. Subsequent statements made by him show that General MacArthur is placing his faith in air power. MacArthur is not conforming to Tojo's master plan. MacArthur's men are not going out on an island-hopping campaign against countless numbers of prepared fortresses. Japan has a hard-fighting army composed of millions of men. At present it is semi-immobilised and semi-useless. The mountains and jungles of Western Burma and the thousand waterways of the Western Pacific plus Allied air mastery shut it off from the British forces in India and the American and Australian forces in the South Seas. At present a considerable portion of the Japanese army is scattered through the Netherlands Indies, Borneo, Malaya, the Philippines, and what I called the perimeter areas such as Burma, New Guinea and the Solomons, pathetically waiting and hoping the Allies will come and attack them.

THE FATE THAT IS NOW IN SIGHT

Well, I think the Allies have plans of their own, and I'm quite sure our High Command will not only choose the battlefield where Japan will be destroyed but will direct the character of the fighting on that battlefield.

Japan's master plan was bold and clever and succeeded up to a point. But the effect of that success has been to spread out Japan's armed forces over ten thousand square miles of East Asia, Indonesia, and the Western Pacific so that in certain conditions they are extremely vulnerable. And that, I suggest, is only just and right, for Japan's master plan was based on treachery, ruthlessness, and greed, and well deserves the fate that is now in sight for both the plan and the planners.

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(From start of war to 23rd July 1943)

Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	25	4	47
Destroyers	74	20	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types ..	24	3	17
Total ..	138	30	152
Non-combatant ships ..	222	24	109

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	19	3	24
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types ..	1	1	1
Total ..	49	5	52
Non-combatant ships ..	121	30	184
Unidentified	12	..	13

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 252 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, e which have been "sunk or damaged".

TEACHERS AND THE WAR EFFORT

By N. SARANGAPANI IYENGAR

SOME people have unwittingly complained that the teacher in Southern India has been indifferent, and even lethargic, in a season of grave peril which now faces, not only the whole world, but also India. I say "unwittingly" advisedly, as I feel that the teacher has not been judged fairly, regard being had to his unique position in society and in institutions under public management. This position has to be seriously considered. The teacher in villages is in a peculiar environment. He is the object of envious criticism in several centres, owing to his being a regular wage-earner in money, while the majority of villagers earn their livelihood in kind. Another reason is that several teachers do not identify themselves with any of the factions in the village, and both factions comment on his activities in an unfriendly spirit. Further a fair percentage of the men belonging to the profession have had to keep aloof and inactive till recently, since they were precluded from participating in any activity in which the Government were engaged, as a result of executive instructions issued by public bodies who were out of sympathy with the war effort and who believed that this is not India's war. Still some others could not find the time required for engaging in extra activities beyond running their own schools, since they find it a hard job to collect their pupils at the beginning of the day, keep them together during school session and escort them back safely to their homes in the evening, besides attending to their work of preparation and of livelihood. In short, the teacher is taken to be quite unresponsive to external stimuli, owing to a lack of due appreciation of the above considerations.

From a brief review of the contribution of teachers to several departments of war effort, it will be evident that they have also done their mite for furthering war effort in this Presidency. These activities may be grouped as (i) financial assistance including Entertainments, Defence Savings movement, etc., (ii) recruitment including Civil Defence Services, (iii) propaganda, through radio talks, public meetings and dissemination of news through literature and war songs, cinema shows, etc., and (iv) salvage collection and miscellaneous items. The last category includes also the collection of scraps, waste paper, training for ambulance services and war charities. The part played by teachers in regard to these services may be examined hereunder:

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

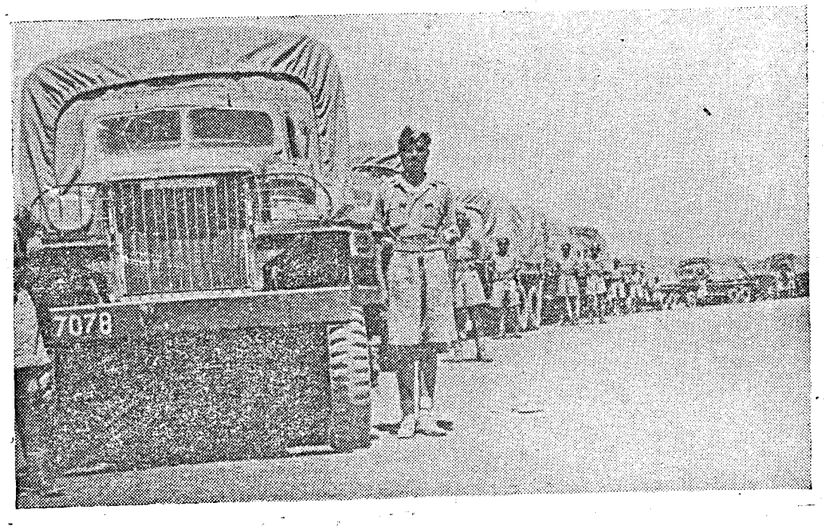
The earliest form of activities were for making contributions to the Governor's War Fund. Teachers in a good number of schools with the exception of a few in public managed institutions contributed one day's pay and made small collections from pupils for the Governor's War Fund. Contributions were also secured by voting amounts ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 50 out of Teachers' Association funds at periodical gatherings of teachers in almost 95 per cent of the Teachers' Associations. When raffles were floated, two or three in each district, teachers have, at the instance of Inspecting Officers, purchased raffle tickets, both individually and collectively in the name of their schools or associations. The percentage of their contributions made to raffles may be taken to be approximately 7 per cent of the total value of raffles. In a few cases, teachers have auctioned prizes won at raffle draws and paid the proceeds to Governor's War Fund. They have, in many cases, influenced local people also to purchase raffle tickets and make donations for Children's Shows, the net proceeds of which have been remitted to the Governor's War Fund.

Teachers in a good number of institutions in the Southern districts, of which I have personal knowledge, have organized variety entertainments, exhibitions, pantomime shows, dramas, fetes, fairs and the small collections coming out of these shows have been contributed to Governor's War Fund. In one instance, the proceeds of a dance of a school girl which amounted to Rs. 75 in an evening show were remitted to the Red Cross Fund for relief to distressed Indian seamen. In big towns like Madras, Madura and Dindigul, test matches have been arranged for War Fund purposes, and teachers not only attended and participated in these, but also induced students to attend and to participate. The matches were really fruitful, both in respect of additions to district funds for war purposes and of providing enjoyable time for the public in urban and rural areas.

As regards the Defence Savings Movement, the teachers have diverted investment of their credits in Provident Fund lodged in Post Office Savings Bank into Defence Savings Certificates in place of Post Office Five-year Cash Certificates. In several individual secondary schools and colleges, the staff started a Co-operative Defence Savings purchase system on the model of the Chit Fund and Savings Certificates have been purchased and handed over to one member of each group by the method of drawing lots. In one district alone, as many as 20 groups worked and 20 certificates were purchased and distributed every month. This may not be a considerable contribution, but the spirit behind it should be appreciated, when it is remembered that teachers are in the lowest rung of the economic ladder in this Presidency.

RECRUITMENT, INCLUDING CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES

The teaching profession is considered to be the least capable of contributing to active service. The facts belie this belief. A very large number of teachers and prospective youngmen who would normally take up teachers' training course in this Province have joined the War Technician Centres in the several districts; many teachers have secured Instructors' jobs in the Indian Army and the Indian Naval Establishments already, and a good number have volunteered to join the different services in the Indian Air Force for which half a lakh of men are required before the end of the year 1943-44. A large number have further joined active ranks in subsidiary services in the army as instructors, clerks, and store-keepers, V.C.Os., radio and wireless specialists transport services and so on. Many teachers have personally come forward to join the Civil



THE ALL RED ROUTE, TO RUSSIA.—Over the burning deserts of Iraq and the snow-clad mountains of Iran, the supplies from America and Britain traverse the "All Red Route." Here we see a convoy, with Indian drivers of the R.I.A.S.C., waiting for the order to move off.

Defence and A.R.P. services in this Presidency. Teachers are working as instructors in A.R.P. Training Establishments, as Staff Officers, in First Aid and Rescue departments and in the Nursing Services. It is significant to note here the testimony borne by Sir Meverel Statham, the present Director of Public Instruction, Madras, to the contribution made by the teaching profession to fighting services in this Province—

"My own department has usually been considered to be more mighty with the pen than with the sword; but as head of the department, I see no reason why I should not publicly announce my pride in the fact that out of approximately 3,800 subordinates (men and women), over 1,100 have as many as 2,300 close relations who have joined the fighting services or the subsidiary services. These figures include 1,000 in the Army, 120 in the Navy and 130 in the Air Force. No longer I think can it be said that the teaching profession as such is afraid of playing its part in the defence of the country."

PROPAGANDA

Teachers have eminently assisted the campaign for dissemination of correct news about the war and its progress all over the Presidency since the commencement of the war in September 1939 and particularly so, after the constitution in 1940 of District War Committees in every district. Teachers have assisted in the organization of meetings and by addressing them as speakers. They have closely associated themselves with Reading Circles and Reading Rooms in villages and towns respectively and exerted their influence in not only removing ignorance by wide diffusion of correct knowledge, but also by countering rumours and by an effective appeal to the people to support war effort by using all their available resources. The assembling and participation of children in connexion with special processions and mass singing of war songs has heightened the propaganda effect on the masses, and this great and responsible job has been carried out with the great readiness and enthusiasm by teachers. The sale of flags on Flag Day celebrations and presentation of hundis by school boys and scouts on festive occasions like Dipavali have had a tremendous moral effect on the people, and this has in no small measure assisted the material war effort. Several members of District War Committees who attended the Provincial War Committee's Propaganda Conference in November 1940, stated in the course of its proceedings from their experience that students and pupils in their districts were perfectly loyal and that there was no difficulty in carrying on propaganda among them and that teachers and professors were the most enthusiastic propagandists in favour of the war. Sir Meverel Statham who attended the Conference also drew special attention to the "splendid results achieved by way of contribution to War Funds made by students and teachers."

SALVAGE COLLECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

The contribution made by the teacher and school children under his direction is equally significant in regard to salvage collection, and amenities and comforts for troops, etc. Individual teachers and teachers' associations have participated in these activities heartily. They have collected old books, journals and newspapers to be sent through the Red Cross to different theatres of war for use by the Fighting Forces. Work parties consisting of ladies including lady-teachers have, from time to time, provided hospital requisites, woollen caps, socks, banyans, napkins, etc., for the men. These have been collected and sent to different theatres of war along with other requisites including food parcels for prisoners of war by the Joint War Charities organization. Junior Red Cross Groups attached to schools have been mobilized to collect scrap-iron, broken horse-shoe and nails in roads and thoroughfares, and the proceeds of their sale have been added to the Governor's War Fund. Similarly school children have collected large quantities of waste paper and sent them in bags to headquarters under an organized scheme. These bags are either sold locally, the proceeds going to the Governor's War Fund or sent to Punalur Paper Mills for conversion into pulp to be used for war production purposes and in some cases for remaking paper out of it.

In conclusion, it may be observed that teachers of this province have eminently responded to the demands made on their services by a global war. They have readily and sincerely participated in all forms of war and civil defence activities, worked for increasing financial support and several other modes of assistance to the war effort. In consequence, this Province compares favourably with others in India, nay, in some respects has done better than several of them. They have further exhibited a remarkable capacity for adjustment to shifting conditions and demands of war time and have imbibed in themselves the great qualities of leadership, *personality and self-confidence* in their new activities. They are bound to react profitably to the new bonds of comradeship and unity that have been brought about when abnormally perilous conditions are prevalent as at the present moment. Judging from the splendid results of the part played in the past by the teacher in the war effort in Madras Province, it can be safely assumed that the present generation of teachers are bound to be the pioneers of a new education and a new outlook in post-war India. There is no doubt that they will contribute equally well to post-war reconstruction plans and towards establishing a new but lasting peace to be won at the end of the present war.

ANTI-INFLATION IN A NUTSHELL

(By an N.W.F. Worker in a district.)

THE outstanding cry of the day, whether it be of the merchant or the man in the street, is the huge rise in cost of not only producers' goods but also of consumers' goods. Prices are rising from day to day, nay from hour to hour, and it is important that all should understand the reasons.

One of the foremost of these, of course, is the huge expansion in currency notes. The amount of paper currency in circulation in India at the beginning of the war was about 173 crores. According to the Report of the Directors of the Reserve Bank of India for the year ending June 1943, the note issue has increased to Rupees 746·16 crores. In accordance with the Quantity Theory of Money, which states that other things remaining equal, prices will vary in direct proportion with the quantity of money in circulation, a fierce rise in cost becomes inevitable.

Why should the Government expand the currency, is the next question. It is obvious that during times of war, Government becomes the biggest buyer. War expenditure in the form of pay to the fighting services, labour, payments for arms and munitions steadily increases, and with it the spendable income in the hands of the public.

Cannot the Government raise the amount it needs by way of taxation, you may ask. The Government of India, like any other Government, have found in practice, that there are limits to taxation. Hence the inflationary tendency with all its attendant evils. Whatever may be the degree of it, the fact that there is a dangerous amount of inflation is agreed to by all economists. The evils of inflation are too many to be fully enumerated in short essay as this. In Germany, during the last war, inflation went to fantastic extremes and sufferings of the middle class gave birth to the Nazi movement. It used to be said (of course, with a little amount of exaggeration) that cartloads of 'Marks' had to be carried to pay for a cup of coffee. Left unchecked, inflation goes on silently, imperceptibly and irresistably until the final crash comes, when money has no longer any barter value. Sufferings of the people at such a period are bound to be shocking.

It is to avoid just such a contingency, viz., surplus notes, soaring prices, and terrible sufferings, that the Government are to-day planning to check and reduce inflation, and the reduction of price levels by that means formed one of the important subjects of discussion in the recent Delhi Food Conference. Let whatever action the Government may take, nothing substantial can be achieved without the active co-operation of the public. The intensity of the evil can be lessened, if the public begins investing in Defence Savings Certificates, Defence Bonds and in Defence Savings Banks, in other words removing money from circulation and putting it aside, at interest, until after the war. Inflation can be avoided, only if every rupee that the Government is spending is taken out of somebody's income. Government has taken a part of the available money by taxation; the rest can be made harmless if the public will save it and invest it in Defence Bonds, Defence Savings Certificates, Defence Savings Stamps, etc.

Incidentally the policy of saving will go a long way towards solving one of the vital problems of the day, viz., food. With the possibility of prices rising from day to day, it is but natural for the agriculturist to hold on to his stock of food in the eager anticipation of higher and higher prices. But once the public begins saving, the price-level is bound to fall, and with it also the amount of hoarded food grains.

Moreover, saving is beneficial purely from the selfish point of view. It is merely making provision against the rainy day. To avoid suffering during days of economic slump in the post-war years, saving at this juncture, when almost everybody is earning, is absolutely essential.

THIS FORTRESS OF HITLER'S

BY LEONARD INGRAMS.

TWO HUNDRED kilometres longer in circumference than the Great Wall of China and of greater depth'; 'The greatest building project since the Pyramids,'—that is how the German Press has lately written up the coastal defences of Europe. With these comparisons the Germans evidently mean to show that the Third Reich disposes of more slaves than any of the ancient dynasties. 'Built almost entirely with foreign labour,' they say—and seem pleased with the thought that they have forced the free citizens of France and Belgium and the rest to build their prison walls along the coast where they used to go for their summer holidays.

"The Dutch seaboard looks quite different," said the German News Agency the other day. "Hotels are closed and bathing huts have disappeared to make room for gun emplacements; there is not a yard unfortified along this coast. After the anti-tank wall are barbed-wire entanglements. Behind them, a tank ditch twenty metres wide and several metres deep, and filled with water. Behind this, several lines of tank traps, and in between are concrete pill-boxes with armoured turrets studded with guns of every calibre, A.A. guns, battery emplacements, machine-guns nests, and so on."

Well, in that case, it is a black outlook for the Allied forces who are hoping to find and fight the German Army somewhere on the Continent. But if the German forces in the West are going to be so spread out as to man the length and breadth of these magnificient defence works and keep them manned at all points, it won't be war but hide and seek among the battlements, with here and there a German soldier cunningly concealed in concrete.

But, of course, even the Germans wouldn't expect that talk of this kind is going to have the slightest influence on Allied strategy. The Allied Chiefs of Staff would hardly rely on German wireless talks in making plans for when and where and how to strike at them. These photographs and this big talk are meant to reassure the German people themselves; their fear of retribution has been growing daily with the mounting total of their barbaric crimes and the hatred they have bread everywhere and with the growing might of the world in arms against them.

GERMAN FETISH

These tales of impregnable defence works round about them will certainly relieve their minds. The fetish of the German people is a fortress: '*Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott*' ('Our God is a fortress').

There is a passage in the journal kept by Dorothy Wordsworth, the poet's sister, on her visit to Hamburg at the end of the eighteenth century: 'Accustomed to English liberty,' it runs, 'I was irked by life in a walled town. While the sun was yet shinning pleasantly, we were obliged to think perpetually to turn our eyes to the church clock. Gates are shut at half past six o'clock, and there is no admittance into the city after that time. This idea deducts much pleasure from an evening walk. You are haunted by it long before the time has elapsed.' But the Germans themselves would not have felt the same about it as Miss Wordsworth did. They would have felt safer and more comfortable with the gates shut.

In times of peace, even, they see themselves surrounded by enemies. German psychologists call it their *belagerungskomptex*—their siege mentality. And Hitler made full use of this bogy of encirclement, or *einkriesung*, the surface. Well now that bogy's come alive—east and to unite the Germans and to bring the savage in them to west and north and south the Germans are indeed surrounded by their enemies, and it will take more than fortifications to keep them safe unless and until they are ready to surrender unconditionally. But in those fortifications they will put their faith, and for the moment they will sleep the better for it, hoping their enemies will go away discouraged one day and leave them in possession of their winnings, and hoping that the other States of Europe will learn to like a fortress, too.

Their European Fortress, as they call it, is fashioned throughout in the best tradition of the Middle Ages. Outside this wall that is going up there is, of course, a *moat—the sea itself. Within the wall* there are outer enclosures, such as Western France, divided by another fortified line from inner enclosures, and at the heart of it the keep itself, complete with dungeons, torture chambers, and the rest. On the southern side, the underside, the picture isn't quite so perfect. From the Brenner gateway in the Alps, the Kingdom of Italy, like a rickety and insufficient drawbridge, reaches part of the way across to Africa; but the use of it is more like walking the plank than crossing a bridge. And, incidentally, this idea that the Brenner gate is going to close behind him must equally deduct much pleasure from the evening walks of Mussolini. 'You are haunted by it long before the time has elapsed,' said Miss Dorothy Wordsworth.

MODELLED ON THE MIDDLE AGES

The conception of the fortress does not end with its physical constructions: the laws inside it are made to match the layout; the social system in force there is modelled on the Middle Ages, too. The barons in Berlin rob and requisition as they please; communities who need bread get concrete fortifications; men and women are moved in droves, as serfs, from place to place; food supplies are centrally collected and doled out to people according to their occupation and the contribution they can make to German fighting strength. First in the list are the men-at-arms—the soldiers—and then the men at the forges and the men who mine the coal to keep the forges going, and so on. Goering, in a recent speech, gave as the favoured food groups first the German worker, and then the foreign worker working in the Reich, and thirdly the foreign worker working for Germany at home. The whole economy of German Europe is planned for the benefit of Germany. Wheatlands and pasture must be sown with rape-seed to maintain the German fat ration; factories must make what Germany wants; railways are reserved for German purposes—the rest can walk. The financial clearing system, centred in Berlin, that serves this so-called European order is devised as the machinery of exploitation pure and simple, with no provision for interchange or fair exchange of goods, or of distribution of anything in the interest of any but the *Herrenvolk* themselves.

Against this sordid background, Germany now hails the Great Atlantic Wall as what they call 'the first joint achievement of the European continent on a large scale,' and undertakes to guarantee within it the free election of Governments, life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness for all.

NEW EUROPEAN ORDER IN LIQUIDATION

New European Order, Ltd., in liquidation, bust wide open, with capital gone and assets wasted, is to be refloated as the Statute of Europe, Incorporated, under the same old management with those same discredited signatures, but greatly improved by a wall two hundred kilometres longer than the Great Wall of China. For the purposes of the Company prospectus, the promoters have had a sample section of the wall created on the Dutch coast and photographed and publicised. Investors who had no dividends at all out of New European Order, Ltd., will be wondering whether these promoters with their Statute of Europe can offer the sort of security they're looking for.

Apart from the gaps in the walls and the obvious short-comings of the Eastern and the Southern sides, the classical type of fortress seems rather out of date with Flying Fortresses about—and Halifaxes, Lancasters, and Stirlings. These battlements won't even keep the Mosquitoes out. The European Fortress needs a roof.

Before they back this venture, investors will consider, too, the fortresses and sieges of the past—'It's men, not walls, that make a state,' said Sophocles. In the outer enclosures of the European fortress the men are rebellious, and in the citadel itself an outside Trojan Horse, containing quite six million foreign workers, is waiting with impatience for the day to break. Subscribers to the Statute of Europe, Incorporated, will be few: no one, in fact, outside the management will back it. But what it means is at least this—the arrogance of the Hun when he's on top has been beaten out of him; the Germans, for the moment anyhow, no longer see themselves as *Herrenvolk*—the master race—with the world as *lebensraum* for them to dominate. They're only asking now to keep what they've plundered and within that area they talk of brotherhood and co-prosperity. That might be a step forward if their actions din't so belie their words.

—*Broadcast in the B.B.C's. North American Service.*

SUBEDAR VOLUNTEERS

IN the Burmese frontier recently news came through that a large party of Japanese had moved into a Burmese town, and volunteers were called to check the information.

The man who stepped forward first was a Subedar of the Chin Levies who had just escaped after being taken prisoner by the enemy. To be caught again meant certain death but he pleaded with his Officer Commanding to be allowed to lead the patrol as he knew the surrounding country so well.

Eventually the Officer Commanding agreed, and the Subedar disappeared with a small party. A few days later he returned with all the required information.

FROM AIR WEAKNESS TO AIR STRENGTH

BY OLIVER STEWART

AIR superiority in almost every theatre has passed to the Allies. That to my mind is really the great positive change in the world-war situation. In Western Europe, in the Mediterranean, and in the Pacific, the air balance has tipped in our favour. We have not got absolute air supremacy anywhere yet, and where our enemies have concentrated their forces, as on the Pacific and Russian fronts, even a small superiority is hard to hold.

But if one could add up the Allied superiority to a single sum it would be already far in advance of the Axis figure. And I want to make a point about this favourable balance which has so far been rather neglected. It concerns the manner in which superiority in the air has been won. Most people divide up the credit between the courage and skill of the fighting men, the excellence of the technical work, and the great productive resources of the United Nations. But I think that a precis of the main operations shows that a very great part of the credit ought to go to the air commanders.

There can no longer be any reason for concealing the fact that at any time during the first three years of war serious tactical errors by our air commanders might have led to the complete obliteration of Allied air power. It was not always possible at the time to say how much depended on their decisions because to do so would have revealed our appalling weakness in numbers of airplanes.

The air commanders had to husband their forces and to try to put up a good fight with ludicrously inadequate strength. It would not at the time have been advisable, for instance, to tell the enemy that in June 1940, when Italy entered the war, there were no fighters ready for service in Malta. It would not have been advisable to mention in the summer of 1940 that the Royal Air Force in Egypt and Palestine did not have a single monoplane fighter available—its fighter force consisted of much less than a hundred Gladiator biplanes. It would not even have been advisable to refer to the last-minute attempt to reinforce, which led to a total accession to the strength of our forces there of three Blenheims and six Hurricanes.

In the Far East the position was relatively no better. The Japanese had built up a powerful naval air service and we had a few flights scattered about on shore and even fewer in ships.

The German Air Force had been announced to the world in April 1935; but it had been building up from a much earlier date. Compared with the total fighter forces based even on Britain herself it was of enormous size.

FEATS OF OUR AIR COMMANDERS

It is only by keeping these comparisons between the enemy's huge air strength of the early war days and our own weakness that one can justly appreciate the feats of our air commanders. They had to hold out while the resources of the United Nations were being mobilised. We used to talk of the value of attack and how we ought to think offensively and not defensively—all of which was very sound talk until one came to study the figures of air strength. Then the idea of attacking on any scale in those early days could be seen to be completely impracticable.

Holding out—that was the only thing our commanders could hope to do. And that was difficult enough. It was always obvious that if we could hold out we could outproduce the Axis and beat them out of the air by force of numbers if by no other means.

In Tunisia, as I write, Allied air strength is numerically much greater than Axis air strength. In the Pacific, Allied air strength has grown so much that it has often proved possible to bring strong forces to bear against special Japanese efforts.

Production is now at last having its say. Superior productive and raw-material resources of the United Nations are bringing about the inevitable result. Nothing, now, short of major blunders in strategy or tactics, can prevent the Allies from enjoying growing air superiority everywhere.

But not long ago, small blunders by our air commanders might have put that air superiority for ever out of reach. Then they were playing an extraordinarily dangerous game. If once an air force is overwhelmed in the field it can be annihilated much more rapidly and completely than any land force. If once the enemy is allowed to get more than a certain amount of air superiority he can practically clear the skies. When the Eighth Army was making its advance across Libya, the Western Desert Air Forces temporarily knocked out enemy air resistance, and immediately after abandoned aircraft and air stores were being collected in their hundreds.

An air force in rapid retreat is, in fact, about the most vulnerable formation in the entire military machine. If Rommel, during his advance on Egypt, had done what the Western Desert Air Force did, if he had succeeded in knocking out Allied air power, he might have had the success he expected.

But in the different war theatres I've mentioned, Allied air commanders managed in the face of fearful difficulties to keep their forces together and to keep them working. They held the fort while the factories got busy. They interposed their fragile formations between the heart of the Allied productive effort and the gigantic forces that were trying to reach it.

That is why, when I am asked to give the chief reason why the Allies have succeeded in gaining air superiority in all theatres, I answer that it is because of the skill and understanding of the Allied air commanders. All our huge resources, all our technical skill, all our manpower and machine-power would have availed us nothing if a few men with a few machines had not taken the right decisions and done the right things at the right times.

That is not to belittle the productive effort. At the time of the Battle of Britain our factories did amazing things to speed up the supply of fighters. So did the newly-formed Ministry of Aircraft Production under Lord Beaverbrook. The method of cannibalising fighters—and allowing a partly wrecked machine to eat up another, making one good new 'plane to throw into the battle—helped tremendously to eke out our small forces.

United States production methods, which exceed in scope and magnitude any others, are coming forward. But it is worth recalling that during the critical days of 1940 Britain was producing nearly three times as many aricraft as the United States and that it was not until last year that United States production exceeded our own.

During that period, in 1940 and 1941, the prime responsibility rested on the air commanders. With inadequate forces they had to keep things going. And for them there was no room for a mistake.

As I have said, there were reasons at the time for not giving credit to these men. There were even reasons why it was advisable not to defend them against the public criticism that they were too defensive-minded. But now the picture is clearing. And the first thing it reveals is that we ought to be grateful to those who ingeniously juggled with their slender forces and gave the huge production machine time to wind itself up.

Now air superiority has been secured. The enemy air forces will still strike hard. But, relatively, they have begun their decline. For that great improvement in the war situation thanks must be offered to the early air commanders.

—Broadcast in the BBC's Short-wave Services.

THEY FOUGHT against TIPPU

A *NEW CHAPTER* was written in the colourful history of an Indian regiment which goes back 166 years when at a ceremonial parade recently the Colours of the 79th Carnatic Infantry, were taken over by a battalion of the 3rd Madras Regiment, blessed by the Battalion Pandit and carried through the ranks for every man to see.

Raised at Trichinopoly in 1777 under the title of the 20th Carnatic Infantry, the Battalion has had several changes of name since then, the last being in September 1942 when it became a part of the Madras Regiment.

Proudly emblazoned on its colours are six battle honours. The first was won in 1781 at Sholinghpur when the battalion contributed to the defeat of Haider Ali. At Seringapatam in 1797 the Battalion won new honour against Tippu's army.

In 1854 fighting at Pegu in the 2nd Burmese War, men of the Battalion held out against heavy odds. They fought also in the Carnatic campaign, in the Mysore war, and the Central India war, gaining new glory in every battle field.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

24TH JULY.—Large formations of United States heavy bombers attacked targets in Norway in daylight. Railway communications in France and Belgium were also attacked and 10 locomotives damaged. The Royal Air Force dropped bombs on two power-stations in Belgium.

According to the Italian News Agency, it was officially announced in Paris that Frenchmen born in 1922 would leave for work in Germany.

25TH JULY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command dropped well over 2,000 tons of bombs in a concentrated attack on Hamburg. Other aircraft attacked objectives in western and north-western Germany. American heavy bombers attacked Kiel and Flying Fortresses, the aluminium plant at Heroya and the submarine repair and maintenance works at Trondheim in Norway.

Light coastal forces of the Royal Navy fought a sharp, successful action with enemy boats off the French coast.

26TH JULY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command made a very heavy attack on Essen. Objectives in Hamburg and Cologne were also attacked.

It was reported that Field-Marshal Kesselring and the German Ambassador Mackensen were negotiating with Marshal Badoglio in Rome.

27TH JULY.—Mr. Churchill, Premier, adressing the House of Commons, defined the alternatives facing Italy—to yield to the Allies and secure a respectable peace or be scarred and blackened from one end to the other.

Reuter's special correspondent wrote: Berlin to-day bears all the outward marks of a crisis. The news of Sgr. Mussolini's fall was unexpected to Hitler, who flew back to Berlin from the eastern front.

28TH JULY.—Hamburg was again raided (the sixth attack in three days).

* * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

24TH JULY.—President Roosevelt said that the purpose of the Rome raid was to save the lives of Allied troops in Sicily. It was not a matter of retaliation but military necessity.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador, said: "Lease-Lend is no longer a one-way proposition. England and the British Commonwealth are now giving the United States as much as they are receiving."

26TH JULY.—Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, declared at a press conference that the very appropriate and timely ending to Mussolini's rule was the first major step in the early and complete destruction and eradication of every vestige of Fascism in Italy.

27TH JULY.—According to Government spokesmen, Mussolini's resignation would cause the complete crack-up of the Axis satellite countries, such as Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria.

* * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

21ST JULY.—Heavy bombers of the 10th United States Air Force dropped 12 tons of high explosive bombs on the Namtu mines near Lashio in Burma. A large formation of medium bombers attacked a concentration of river boats operated by the enemy near Katha. There was also active raid against enemy supply and troop bases in Northern Burma. The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese transportation and troop positions in Central Burma. In Arakan, Blenheims and Hurricanes dropped bombs on Japanese occupied villages and troop positions.

24TH JULY.—The Royal Air Force fighters attacked and damaged over one-hundred enemy river craft ranging from a steamer to supply sampans. Factory buildings were damaged. Near Gargan motor vehicles and army huts were shot up. Japanse monsoon quarters at Buthedaung and enemy positions at Theizang near Kalemyo were attacked.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

21ST JULY.—Allied warships sailed within 80 miles of Italy's great naval base of TARANTO to bombard the harbour of CROTONE in the toe of Italy. This is the first time that the Italian mainland has been shelled since Genoa's bombardment.

22ND JULY.—American troops were reported to be 15 mils south fo PALERMO. Americans swept north and westwards, and the Allies were at some points only 50 miles from the northern shores of Sicily. With the capture of CASTELVENTRANO town, the Americans were only 20 miles east of MARSALA and the extreme west coast of Sicily. The Americans advanced more than 12 miles a day after the capture of AGRIGENTO last Sunday (18th July). Over 40,000 prisoners had been captured up to date by the Allies. On the night of July 19 our bombers attacked CROTONE airfield and railway communications at NAPLES. RAMACCA in the eastern sector of the front was captured by the Eighth Army. South of CATANA fierce fighting was in progress. Canadian troops continued their advance in the face of determined resistance. The Germans had been reinforced in the vital Catania sector. The Royal Navy shelled Crotone on the Italian mainland in the Gulf of Taranto. The American Seventh Army reached the outskirts of MARSALA, the fall of which was imminent. The Eighth Army had encountered stiff opposition in the north-east corner of Cicily. Sicily was, in general, been isolated. The Allies had complete air control with better than ten to one superiority. Rome radio announced an evacuation scheme for Rome.

According to Reuter's Special Correspondent, Rommel is now in Greece. Strong reinforcements of Axis troops have also been rushed to Macedonia, Thrace and Greece, following the invasion of Sicily.

23RD JULY.—PALERMO, the Capital of Sicily fell. The advance elements of the American army captured the place. The Italians had no time to carry out demolition of the harbour. Except in the Catania sector, enemy resistance died down over the rest of the island. Thirty to forty-five thousand Italians were trapped in Western Sicily by the capture of Palermo. British troops broke through the main German lines, west of the Catania plain. TRAPANI and MARSALA were evacuated. The 26th Italian division had surrendered.

24TH JULY.—It was revealed that 50 Guerilla groups were operating in Albania and that Mussolini was fast losing his hold on the last remaining bit of Italy's empire. [Albania was invaded on Good Friday, April 1939.]

American troops occupied the important port of Marsala and continued to mop up enemy resistance. The Seventh Army took a large number of prisoners and huge quantities of enemy equipment.

According to an American broadcaster from Algiers, 60,000 prisoners had so far been taken in Sicily.

Mussolini's Black Shirt Legion to whom the defence of Palermo was entrusted, surrendered without a fight.

General Giraud arrived in North Africa from his visit to England.

American bombers attacked Crete. The Royal Air Force fighters destroyed a German plane off the coast of Cyrenaica.

25TH JULY.—*Sgr. Mussolini resigned. King Victor accepted his resignation. Marshal Badoglio was appointed Premier.*

The Vatican radio broadcast an emphatic denial that the Pope had sent a personal protest to President Roosevelt following the American air attack on Rome.

British warships bombarded the harbour of Taormina on the east coast of Sicily. Fierce fighting continued in the north-east corner of Sicily.

American troops, it was reported, occupied the port of Trapani on July 23. The port of Termine, east of Palermo, and Vetrano were also captured.

Mr. Robert Patterson, United States Acting Secretary for War, announced that 5,000 airborne Allied troops had been used in the invasion of Sicily. He added: "The Sicilian campaign is now rapidly nearing its conclusion. It is now only a matter of days."

26TH JULY.—*According to a Stockholm report, Sgr. Mussolini was arrested while trying to make good his escape to Germany.*

Italy was placed under martial law. Demonstrations broke out in many parts of Italy, people celebrating the end of Fascism in the streets. The Italian army took over all public order throughout Italy.

The Americans captured the important town of Termini. Allied troops occupied Cefalu. The port of Mlazzo was attacked by Allied aircraft.

It was reported that the Pope was using all his influence to persuade the new Italian Government to negotiate separate peace with the Allies.

27TH JULY.—Gestapo officials left Italy. It was reported that Marshal Badoglio had ordered home from Greece, Yugoslavia and France, the Italian divisions stationed there. The declaration of Rome as an open city was calculated to lead to the ultimate surrender of Italy.

All Fascist insignia throughout Italy was removed.

Student demonstrators demanded immediate peace negotiations.

Malta had a sharp air raid. Three Axis aircraft were destroyed.

A Greek spokesman said that Mussolini was not subject to International Law which he had broken, that he must be treated as an ordinary criminal and turned over to those countries where his soldiers had committed atrocities.

According to the British Admiralty Communique, British submarines had sunk 46 Axis ships of all types in northern Mediterranean.

After fierce fighting, the Canadians in Sicily made further progress. During offensive sweeps over Messina area, 29 enemy planes were shot down. Railway communications and Marina Di Paola in southern Italy were attacked.

28TH JULY.—According to the Berne correspondent of *Spenska Dagbladet*, a stream of German troops passed the Brenner into Italy. "Everything indicates that Hitler has decided not to give up Italy without a fight." It was also reported that German troops were massed along the Hungarian frontier.

The newly appointed Italian Cabinet decided to dissolve the Fascist party.

The Morocco radio quoting Madrid reports said that the Pope acting as intermediary for the Italian Government had asked for Allied armistice terms.

The Eighth Army was held up at Catania. The battle entered the most difficult stage.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

22ND JULY.—The Russians entered inside the defence line in Orel and captured Bolkhov. In the Orel front, Russions driving from the east and north-east were almost within striking distance of the city which was under constant air attack and the main German defences between Orel and Bolkhov were pierced. Two Soviet armies converging on Orel from the north and north-east linked up across the Moscow-Orel railway after piercing the German line. The line from Mitsensk to Orel had been partly rested from the Germans. South of Orel in the Belgorod sector the Germans had been thrown out of the main defence positions they had occupied during their recent ouensive. During the ten days of the Russian offensive they had captured 6,000 officers and men as prisoners, and a large quantity of war material.

23RD JULY.—The Red Army advanced three more miles in its drive towards Orel and the Germans fell back on the inner defences. A powerful Russian onslaught was reported on the Leningrad front. The Germans were in full retreat along the road which followed the direction of the Kursk-Byelgorod railway line and Soviet tank columns swept after them. With the capture of the key towns of BOLKHOV and MTSENSK the position of Orel was almost hopeless. Russian bombers raided BRYANSK. Six hundred divisions were now interlocked in a death struggle on the Eastern front.

24TH JULY.—The Russians captured two inhabited localities on the Byelgorod front at the southern end of the Kursk bulge.

In an order of the day by Marshal Stalin it was stated that the Russians had completed the liquidation of the German July offensive.

It was revealed that in battles between July 5 and July 23, the Germans sustained the following losses: Over 70,000 officers and men in killed and 2,900 tanks, 195 self-propelled guns, 844 field guns, 1,392 planes and over 5,000 lorries disabled or destroyed.

25TH JULY.—The Paris radio reported that the Red Army had made a break-through north of Orel.

The Russians broke through the Finnish lines in the Arctic.

Russian troops succeeded in breaching the German lines east of the Neva.

According to a forecast, Soviet plans for post-war Europe envisaged the establishment of friendly, co-operative and democratic—but not necessarily Communistic—States at least as far west as the Rhine.

27TH JULY.—The German General Walther von Huenerselorf died of wounds received while leading his tanks during the Byelgorod offensive.

Three Red Armies made new advances in their concentric march on the German-occupied Orel.

28TH JULY.—The Germans retreated south of Orel.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

24TH JULY.—A Turkish sailing ship was shelled and sunk by an unknown submarine in Turkish territorial waters in the Black Sea near Karaburin.

28TH JULY.—It was reported that Mussolini had arrived in Spain by plane.

* * * * *

FREE FRENCH

22ND JULY.—"I have no political ambition. No one to-day outside France has a right to speak for France. We, Frenchmen outside France, have a right to get killed for France; we have no other right," said General Giraud at a press conference in London.

23RD JULY.—General Giraud arrived back in North Africa after his visit to United States and Britain.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

21ST JULY.—According to a Japanese News Agency, King George the Fifth Dock, the largest floating dock in the world, which was sunk by the British on Singapore island, had been refloated.

22ND JULY.—In the South-West Pacific, Japanese ground forces launched a strong counter-attack at Munda in New Georgia, but were repulsed with heavy losses. The United States ground troops were within a few thousand yards of Munda air field.

23RD JULY.—In the South-West Pacific Allied heavy bombers of the Liberator class carried out successful surprise raid on the Japanese main base in the Netherlands Indies, 1,000 miles from Australia. In carrying out this operation against SOURABAYA in Java our air craft flew 2,400 miles, a record comparable with the longest distance covered by land-based bombers in any theatre of war.

24TH JULY.—General Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, held a special War Council of elder Japanese statesmen and leaders of the present government.

It was reported by the German radio that the American air force in China had now planes which could make the trip to Tokyo and back to their base at Kweiling without re-fuelling.

The Americans, who landed in Nassau Bay in New Guinea, advanced to the shore of Tambu Bay. A 9,000 ton Japanese sea plane was sunk.

Rear-Admiral Koenraed, Commander of the Netherlands East Indies Forces in Australia, said that the Sourabaya raid was the beginning of the beginning.

25TH JULY.—Allied planes dropped 80 tons of bombs on Japanese positions in New Georgia Island and 60 tons on Lae in New Guinea.

Japanese bombers made a futile attempt to raid American advance bases in Hunan.

Heavy casulties were inflicted on the Japanese and three barracks and many fortifications were demolished in a Chinese Commando raid on Changanchen, north-west of Haining.

26TH JULY.—Allied bombers delivered the heaviest attack on Munda.

American bombers raided Wake Island.

27TH JULY.—Mr. Mamoru Shiegemitsu, Japan's Foreign Minister, after reporting Mussolini's resignation to the Japanese Cabinet, stressed that Japan's policy in the war would remain completely unchanged.

American aircraft bombed Hankow.

Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese Ambassador to Britain, speaking at Aberdeen said: "Not only is the defeat of Japan necessary to the organisation of a new world, but that defeat must also be speedily brought about."

28TH JULY.—The fall of Munda was imminent. Allied bombers raided Hongkong.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1943 No. 47

H.E. LORD LINLITHGOW

When Skies are Beginning to Brighten

IT is a happiness for me to think that if we have been through bad days together in the earlier years of the war, I should be leaving India at a time when the skies are beginning to brighten: when the success of the Allied arms in so many fields is becoming increasingly manifest: and when we are encouraged by the fall of one of the greatest of the Axis leaders, and by the collapse of a system which was responsible for bringing Italy into the war against us

WHEN the war began India's armed forces were designed neither in numbers nor in equipment to bear the direct shock of an attack by the large, highly trained and well-equipped forces at the disposal of the Axis powers. But, with the full knowledge that the safety of India lay in the defence of its outer bastions, we sent overseas what troops we could spare. Experience has more than justified our decision. To-day we can feel that, save for sporadic and ineffective air raids, India has been spared the horrors of war, and God willing, she will continue so to be

THE fighting record of the Indian army is known to you all. Indian troops played a glorious part in the North and East African Campaigns. Their superb fighting qualities, their courage, determination, discipline, and training have been demonstrated time and again in the campaigns that have resulted in the overthrow of the Italian Empire in Africa. The great victory of the Eighth Army, in which the Fourth Indian Division added still further honours to what was already an imperishable fame, is in the minds of all of us

IN the Far East, in Burma, and in Singapore our troops faced, like their comrades from the other parts of the British Commonwealth, superior forces; and they fought a series of delaying actions in a type of warfare that makes the highest demand on the quality of troops. Those actions, fought with stubborn courage against grievous odds, gave India time to perfect her own defences against invasion

H.E. LORD LINLITHGOW, addressing the Central Legislature on Monday (August 2)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Russia : Germans Evacuate Orel	4
This Week—In Retrospect !	6
A Healthier Post-War World—Hot Springs Conference Policy	7
Sequence on a Theme	8
Indian Soldiers become "Water-wise"	8
Officers travel on four annas a day	8
Turkey and the Mediterranean	9
Japan's Injustice to Muslim Rulers	9
And Now We go into Europe	10
Bigger and Better War Exhibition : Features of Show to be held in Madras	11
Success of R.A.F.'s Master Plan	12
Sicily : Triumph of Night Fighting Tactics	14
Allied Administration of Sicily	14
Crack London Ack Ack Battery in South India	14
Britain's Aerial Economic Blockade	15
Small Navies Aid Allies	15
Briton who invented Power-driven Flying Machine	16
Japanese Brand is Fascism without a Fuehrer	17
The Setting Sun : Jap Naval Losses	18
War Diary	19

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras or staying for a few days in the City on leave - -

Recreation: Ping Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Wednesday Night is Forces Night!

10 O'clock tune-time brings you half-an-hour of

MUSIC, MELODY AND SONG

DID YOU LISTEN IN ON WEDNESDAY?

Sure you must have liked—

The swing-tune, "SOMEBODY STOLE MY GAL, AND HOW?"—

Radio Sweetheart Sheila's "MOONLIGHT"—

—"WHAT MORE CAN I SAY?"—

The London Policeman's song—and that lovely Melody "SMILIN' THRU'"

Also, the ever welcome Huggins Family.

Well, tune in to Madras or Trichinopoly, and you will have an enjoyable ha f-hour.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1943 No. 47

RUNNING COMMENTARY

President Roosevelt on Pacific War—Allied Strategy and Tactics

In a broadcast to the United Nations last week (July 28), President ROOSEVELT reviewed the war situation and said, "Over a year and a half ago I said to Congress, the militarists in Berlin, Rome and Tokyo started this war, but the massed, angered forces of common humanity will finish it. That prophecy is in the process of being fulfilled. The massed, angered forces of common humanity are on the march. They are going forward—on the Russian front, in the vast Pacific area, and in Europe—converging upon their ultimate objectives, Berlin and Tokyo." After summing up the present position on the Continent and in Russia, he referred to the Pacific theatre and said, "We are pushing the Japanese around from the Aleutians to New Guinea. There, too, we have taken the initiative—and we are not going to let go of it. It becomes clearer and clearer that attrition or the whittling down process against the Japanese is working. The Japanese have lost more planes and more ships than they have been able to replace. The continuous and energetic prosecution of a war of attrition will drive the Japanese back from their over-extended line, running from Burma and Siam and the Straits Settlements, through the Netherlands Indies to Eastern New Guinea and the Solomons." President ROOSEVELT went on to point out that the shipping and air power of the Japanese could not support such outposts. He warned the Japanese that if they had planned to consolidate and exploit their conquered territories on a long-term basis they had better start revising their plans now, for the Allies were not going to leave them alone. President ROOSEVELT's warning is already being put into operation by General MACARTHUR. His New Guinea-Solomons offensive is only the beginning of a great all-out effort to drive back the Japanese. The first aim of this Allied offensive is to prevent the enemy from building up sufficient strength to invade Australia. The second objective is to force him to withdraw from the bases he has established on the 700-mile arc running from Salamaua to Munda *via* Rabaul. This is to be followed up by a general offensive against Japan proper.

* * * * *

Allied Tactics—Brigadier Wingate's Dictum

The main point in Allied tactics seems to be to sever the supply lines of the Japanese. In an article published in *Victory* last month (July 10), Brigadier WINGATE, leader of the recent long-range patrol into Burma, has described this in picturesque language. He says, "Give a son of Nippon a hundred rounds and tell him to dig himself in and die for the Emperor, and he will. The thing to do is not to attack him, but to get behind him and cut him off. Leave him to die for his Emperor—of starvation." In other words, the speed of Allied advance in the South west Pacific largely depends upon our ability to enforce an effective blockade for each island attacked. The reason why the battle of Guadalcanar dragged on for six months was the incompleteness of the Allied air and sea control of the area through which the Japanese supply ships had to sail. So long as an effective blockade could not be enforced, the struggle continued, but this was achieved during the later stages of the campaign, and it hastened the enemy's evacuation.

In Attu also, the supplies were cut off and the Japanese garrison, almost to a man, died fighting. In his report of the successful Allied occupation of Attu in the Aleutians, ROBERT SHERROD, the correspondent of the American journal *Time* wrote from the U.S. Aleutian Headquarters, "The Japanese had expected a long stay in Attu. Their food supplies were ample—shrimp and crab meat and bamboo shoots, spices and soy sauce and dried black sea-weed for flavouring rice. They varied this diet by catching salmon and halibut, shooting Emperor geese and Yukon River ducks. They had hundreds of gallons of sake (beer)."

It is of interest to note that there is no truth in the rumour sedulously fostered by enemy propagandists that the Japanese troops are virtually independent of food supplies and are able to fight on a handful of rice when necessity demands. For rice is not a stamina diet, and it must be cooked before it can be eaten. It may be recalled that when the Japanese withdrew from the Guadalcanar, Tokyo commentators stated that their troops could not cook their rice because smoke would betray their positions to Allied reconnaisance aircraft.

* * * * *

Blockade of Munda—Jap supplies being cut

Now the great blockade of Munda in the Central Solomons is taking place. It is a joint effort by Allied land, sea and air forces. Allied cruisers and destroyers are enforcing the blockade by sea. They have been shelling Munda, Bairoko and Vila, the harbour of Kolombangara island, from which Japanese supplies are taken to Bairoko across 12 miles of the sea, whence they are carried to Munda 10 miles by land. The Allied naval surface craft and submarines are maintaining constant and vigilant patrol over the twelve-mile sea passage which lies across the Kula Gulf. The work of the naval forces is supplemented by that of the aircraft. Enemy destroyers and transports have suffered very heavy Allied attacks from the air, and these attacks are spread over the whole 300-mile communications line from Buka, in the extreme north-west of the Solomons chain, to Munda.

RUSSIA: GERMANS EVACUATE OREL

GENERAL ROKOSSOVSKY'S drive on Orel has succeeded in its objective. His three main armies plunged forward on the city of Orel from the north, east and south. The Germans were in full and precipitate retreat. The Red Army was hot on the trail. It gave the Germans no chance to build a new defensive position. The Russian grip on the semi-circle round Orel was tightening. Then the German radio said on Wednesday night, "In the Orel area the enemy is continuing his attacks with unabated fury. Fighting is again centred in the Kromy sector south-west of the city, where the Russians have expanded the offensive both towards the west and the east. At some points ground has to be surrendered." And now as we go to Press, the *German News Agency* reports that Orel has been evacuted by German troops.

IT was at a crucial moment that the Russians struck at Orel. Their thrust was remarkable both in its conception and execution. The attack must have surprised the enemy, for the Red Army men made a deeper penetration into the enemy's lines in three days than what the 30 shock-divisions of the German army could achieve in ten days against the bulge of Kursk.

Counter-stroke in a Duel

THE Red thrust towards Orel, when the German offensive against Kursk was showing signs of exhaustion, may be compared to a quick counter-stroke in a duel when the opponent, after delivering a too violent thrust which had been coolly parried, has lost his balance. But, soon after, the Germans recovered, and rushed up reserves which helped them in slowing down the Russian advance.

THE point to be remembered here is that the German defences around Orel were organized in great depth. Ever since the Orel salient came into German hands during the first great tide of advance towards Moscow in 1941, they began converting this city, which is 200 miles from the capital of Soviet Russia, into an advanced hedgehog with its quills piercing into the Russian defensive system. Since then there was always the possibility that the Germans might try an encircling movement against Moscow by exploiting the Orel salient. But the Red Army drove itself deep into the defences of the powerful Orel fortress, and the great German hedgehog base on the Central Russian Front is now back in Russian hands, after twenty-three months because of the excellence of the Russian plan of attack.

General Russian Plan

THE general Russian plan in its drive against Orel was to forge a great arc around the salient with the object of encircling Orel and the surrounding countryside. The ends of the arc were roughly less than 40 miles apart, and if they met on the Bryansk-Orel railway, the circle would be complete, and a quarter of a million men who would be caught in the trap would have to share the same fate which befell their comrades at Stalingrad last winter. Soviet troops considerably widened their bridgeheads to the north and south of Orel, and they gained the strong point of Znamenskaya, which is 25 miles north of Orel. From this point they struck south-west towards the Orel-Bryansk railway rather than south directly towards Orel. They wanted to achieve their objective, not by a frontal assault against Orel, but by encirclement and extermination. It was in pursuance of this plan that the northern arm of the Russian drive operated from a base about 45 miles north-west of Mtsensk against the railway which links Orel with Bryansk, and the eastern arm operated from the region of Novosil, while the southern thrust developed over the battle ground which saw the failure of Von Kluge's attempt to reach the Russian base of Kursk.

A German Legend Shattered

IN this connection, it may be pointed out that that the defeat of the Germans in the Battle of Kursk is a very great achievement for the Russians. It has, as M. Stalin said, "exposed the legend that the Germans are always successful in the summer offensive, while Soviet troops are allegedly forced to retreat in the same period of the year". This is perhaps the most significant feature of the fighting on the Russian front this year. Stalin's Order of the Day congratulates the three Red Army Generals on their great achievement of smashing the German summer offensive against Kursk.

IT may be noted that the scale of German onslaught has been diminishing with each successive year. In 1941 the Germans attacked along the whole Russian front. In 1942 the battle raged from Kursk down to the Crimea. And this year, the battle-line is confined to a single sector only 180 miles in length. In 1941 the Germans took, after the first two weeks' fighting, Riga, Minsk and Lvov, and advanced towards Smolensk.

M. STALIN

Last year, after two weeks' fighting, they broke through the Donetz defences on a wide front and came dangerously near to Voronezh about 130 miles distant from Kursk. And this year, they have not only lost the Battle of Kursk but also the Battle of Orel.

Russian Victory in Battle of Kursk

THEIR attempt to wipe out the Kursk salient and thus deprive the Russians of that offensive base was completely frustrated. Their aim of capturing Kursk and converting it into a powerful hedgehog pivot which would strengthen the German position at Orel has completely misfired. This may be due to the remarkable skill of the Red Army, or to the powerful aid that Britain and America are sending to Soviet Russia, or the great Anglo-American attack on Sicily—or to a combination of all these factors—whatever it is, the fact remains that the Nazi offensive has failed and that the Red Army has swiftly passed from the defensive to the offensive stage.

THIS did not mean, however, that the Germans would yield Orel without a bitter struggle. It was true that the Russians smashed and overran all forward German lines of defence, but no softness was found behind the outer crust, and mile after mile of German defence positions have yielded only after terrific onslaughts. In other words the closing of the northern and southern "jaws" on the vital Orel-Bryansk railway will not be achieved without fierce fighting.

Orel added to Red Army's Laurels

FOR too much was at stake for the Germans, and they would not give in without a desperate fight. Whether Hitler wanted to launch an offensive against Moscow or was simply content to remain on the defensive in the Central front, the security of Orel was of vital importance to him. So far as the Russians are concerned, they have succeeded in keeping the entire front in a state of uneasy tension and achieved great success at Kursk and now Orel has been added to the many great laurels of the Red Army.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

It was during *this week in* 1940 that the Battle of Britain began. Mr. Churchill in a broadcast on *the 4th of August* referred to the blitz against Britain and called for the strictest vigilance from the people. On land, fighting began in North Africa, Italy launching an invasion of British Somaliland and Kenya Colony on *August* 6. Italy's campaign in North Africa was, among other things, intended to cut the Suez Canal route. The distance between London and Bombay by this route is 6,750 miles, which will be covered in 18 days by a fast cargo steamer. From London to Bombay round the Cape of Good Hope in Africa the distance by water is 11,020 miles, which can be covered in 31 days. The saving in time and in shipping costs by the shorter route is an important factor in Britain's economy. This shorter trade route, known as Britain's traditional " Life-line " is as essential to Britain as the Panama Canal is to the United States. The maintenance of this route has been a major concern of British policy for over two generations. In order to protect it, Britain has built a chain of bases and outposts such as Gibraltar, Malta, Rhodes, Alexandria and Aden. Italy's dream was a new Roman Empire, which would include unrestrained sway over the Mediterranean and complete control of North Africa.

While Britain herself seemed secure, the Fascists chafed, but did not risk an attack on North Africa. When, however, in August 1940 Britain was pre-occupied with her own defence. Italy decided to avail herself of her long-cherished idea of striking at the Mediterranean " Life-line." From Libya, Italy's base in North Africa, two partly mechanised forces drove towards Egypt. From what was previously Ethiopia, and now part of Italian East Africa, three other columns bored into British Sudan. Two other columns made headway into Kenya, the British East African Colony, now defended by the Dominion troops from South Africa. Finally three other columns went to the north-east, pushing on into British Somaliland.

British Somaliland is a hot barren tract of land with a population of 350,000 Muhammadans. Berbera is its largest city. Economically it is no prize for Britain; but she held a protectorate in Somaliland, because its location off Aden was strategically useful and helped Britain to control the approaches to the southern Red Sea.

* * * *

This week in 1940.—A French military court condemned to death *in absentia* General Charles de Gaulle, Leader of Free Frenchmen (*2nd Aug.*). The Vichy Government summoned a special court to meet on *August* 8 to try the former French leaders on charges of offence against the State. *On August* 3, following detention of British subjects in Japan, Britain arrested a prominent Japanese businessman in London and the Japanese Ambassador in Britain protested. Lord Halifax, however, assured Japan that the action was not in any way a retaliatory measure against the arrest of the British subjects, but that there were certain charges against the man arrested.

The United States was still far from taking a decision as regards her participation in the war. No doubt America had been evincing a certain measure of interest in the war; but far from being vital, it was more or less the interest of a spectator. Domestic differences, on the one hand, and operation of the Monroe Doctrine and the Neutrality Act, on the other, were largely responsible for this attitude.

* * * *

On Sunday, *the 3rd August* 1941, Mr. Churchill and the Chiefs of Staff travelled by train to the North of England where, on the following day, they embarked in *H.M.S. the Prince of Wales* for an unknown destination. Five days later the ship anchored off the shores of Newfoundland in the Atlantic Ocean, where American warships were waiting with President Roosevelt who had come under a similar veil of secrecy to the rendezvous. The warships lay at anchor while the two statesmen conducted their conference, the outcome of which was the Atlantic Charter.

Mr. Churchill had brought with him from England cards on which was printed the following verse from Longfellow, which in January 1941, President Roosevelt had, in his own handwriting, sent to the British Premier through Mr. Wendell Willkie with the comment that " it applies to your own people as it does to us." After the Atlantic Charter had been approved both the statesmen signed the cards and each kept a copy as a souvenir of the Atlantic meeting in the Placentia Bay. The following is the text of the poem :—

" Sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years
Is hanging breathless on thy fate! "

* * * *

The Churchill-Roosevelt meeting took shape sometime in July 1941 when Mr. Harry Hopkins came to London to confer with Mr. Churchill on the working of the Lease-Lend Act. Before Mr. Hopkins left London for Moscow, he accepted an invitation to attend a meeting of the War Cabinet and after the meeting was over he had a private talk with the British Premier. In the course of the discussion, replying to a remark of Mr. Churchill's Mr. Hopkins said what a pity it was that Mr. Churchill could not speak with the President face to face and bring before him, as no one else could, the mighty problems they had discussed. And how gladly, added Mr. Hopkins, the President would meet the Premier and learn from him at first hand what Britain was doing and what she hoped to do in the war. Mr. Churchill paused. He had made up his mind. Early the following morning the President of the United States of America was called to the phone in the White House to receive a trans-Atlantic call. He heard the unmistakable voice of the Premier of Britain, proposing a meeting, and he agreed. The President left in his yacht, the *Potomac*, on the 3rd August as if on a fishing holiday.

We would be missing a powerful historical perspective if we ignore the background against which this meeting took place. By the end of July 1941 the British genius for survival had touched a new height. Dunkirk was ancient history; the Battle of Britain had been won in the daylight of the preceding summer; and the long night blitz of Britain was beginning to slacken. The Royal Air Force had begun to hit back at last, not against unprotected places like Coventry as did the Germans during the preceding blitz, but against the German industrial areas of the Ruhr, Hamburg and Kiel. Essen, for instance, was a target continuously on place in the very heart of the Ruhr. The whole of place in the very heart of Ruhr. The whole of the Ruhr has been a regular fortress ringed round with the most devilish defences German ingenuity could devise, but all the same the British boys of the Royal Air Force did it with a passionate pride in their mission. In Libya the Italians had been chased back to their own desert by the Imperial troops under General Wavell. In the east, Hitler had invaded Russia on 22nd June 1941, and by the end of July the most violent mechanised conflict known in the history of warfare was raging along the Stalin Line from the Arctic to the Black Sea. On the same day in June as the outbreak of the Russo-German War, Mr. Churchill had hailed the Russians as Britain's allies and announced her resolution to aid Russia. More than this, on the 12th July, an Anglo-Soviet Agreement had been signed before Stalin by M. Molotov and Sir Stafford Cripps.

This week in 1941, America was slowly but steadily coming into the war. She was also gradually arming herself for the great struggle. She had passed the Lease-Lend Act (10th March 1941) and the products of her war industries were to be given to the Allies, including Russia. At the beginning of July, America took her first step towards active intervention in the war when she sent U.S. troops to Iceland. In the House of Commons on 9th July 1941, Mr. Churchill said: " The military occupation of Iceland by the forces of the United States is of first-rate political and strategical importance; in fact, it is one of the most important things that have happened since the war began." This was followed by America's decision to guard the sea ways to Iceland with ships of the American Navy.

While events were thus taking shape in the Atlantic, trouble was brewing in the Pacific with the growing Japanese militarism and aggressiveness. During the last week of July, we saw how Japan sought to swallow Indo-China. On the 1st of August, 1941, we find an extraordinary meeting of the Thailand Cabinet and a later report that Japan had offered Thailand the province of Laos and the ancient city of Angkor in Indo-China in exchange for a virtual monopoly of Thailand's production of rubber, tin and rice and the right to use certain naval and air bases. It was also stated that Thailand had recognized Japanese puppet regimes in Manchukuo and Occupied China.

* * * * *

Great events do not happen with the unexpected suddenness of an earthquake, but are the cumulative effect of a series of antecedents which should not be overlooked. This week in 1942 was such a period of incubation for some of the most startling events in the history of the present war. This week marked the darkest hour in the history of Russian resistance against the Nazi hordes, resistance almost coming to the breaking point. The fiercest battle raged around the cities of Voronezh and Stalingrad, and Marshal Timoshenko's determination to save the latter developed a warfare which later on culminated in a glorious Russian victory. During this week the German push in the Caucasus compelled the Soviet army to fall back and the situation appeared to be very critical for Russia. Lastly, on the Murmansk front, the Nazis launched a fresh offensive. In other theatres of war there was not much to report, the Egyptian front reporting a period of lull and the Far East describing the Japanese as digging in where they had already crept.

A HEALTHIER POST-WAR WORLD — HOT SPRINGS CONFERENCE POLICY

AN increase of four inches in the average stature of the poorer people everywhere, end of stunted growth among children, longer span of life—four years more in England, 10 in Scotland and many more in India and China.

These are some of the things you can look forward to if the Hot Springs Conference policy—freedom from want of food—is carried out thoroughly.

Sir John Boyd Orr, diet expert, outlined the possibilities to a conference of the London International Assembly. Under the Hot Springs feeding policy the one-third of the American and British population which did not enjoy an adequate health diet before the war will be fully fed. But a food revolution cannot be brought about without a revolution in agriculture.

Sir John said that the important decisions of the Hot Springs Conference on food and agriculture were an undertaking by every one of the United Nations to bring nutrition to their peoples up to the standard required by health and to co-operate in bringing about the same standard in every part of the world.

" If these recommendations are put in practice," said Sir John, " you will bring about a great social and economic revolution in international politics." Even in Britain and America, two of the wealthiest nations, about one-third of the population did not enjoy diet on the old standard before the war and deficiency diseases were still prevalent. If the health standard of nutrition were made available, children in that third would grow as well as the children of the wealthy and their stature would be increased by about four inches.

" If we get the health standard of nutrition, the expectation of life of a child in England would be increased by four years and in poor and backward Scotland by about 10 years. In South America, the present expectation of life is only 40 years and in India 27 years as compared with 67 in New Zealand, the best fed and the best housed people in the world."

Mr. Richard Law, M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary, Foreign Office, said that at Hot Springs representatives of 44 nations realized that the things which divided them were less important than the things which united them. An orderly international society depended upon three elements—military, political and economic. The belief that " if only you can hold down Germany and Japan in perpetuity everything else will fall in its place " was an oversimplification. Military security was vitally affected by political instability and political stability by economic conditions. These in their turn affected military security. " Each one of these problems, whether military, political or economic, can be solved only on an international plane. It is only if we are able to create a genuine international society that we shall be able to create genuine peace."

SEQUENCE ON A THEME

[Out of this nettle Danger we pluck this flower Safety.]

I

Rousing from restless sleep and nightmare years
The English turn and half-awakened see
The homes of Warsaw battered down, the free
Norwegian hunted through the snow, the tears
Of Dutch and Belgian multitudes. O fears
Of May and June! Flanders and Picardy
Are heaving with the hosts that frantic flee
And grimly follow. Then the sea-fog clears

And proudly to the German might the bare
High cliffs of England lift defiant lips;
The troops who waded to the little ships
From Dunkirk beaches now with millions more
Share jests and toils; and with a thunderous dare
Winston invites the invadar to the shore.

II

Men had despaired of England. How shall she,
Her weapons lost, her allies in the dust,
Weather the storm that gust on deadly gust
Beats on her head across the narrow sea?
As Jenghiz' hordes once trampled Muscovy,
Ravening and spoiling in cold rage and lust,
Now screaming flight on flight, with thrust on thrust,
The eagles swarm to tear out liberty.

All through the summer day the engines drone,
All through the winter night great cities burn.
Plymouth, Southampton, Bristol, Liverpool
Are mowed with flame. But, like the gambler cool
Who calmly stakes until his fortune turn,
The English stand and beat the odds alone.

III

Never was fleet so thinly spread. The globe
Entire these ships patrol, these airmen scan,
As here from prison-hulk the sailor-man
They pluck, there pot and minefield deftly probe.
Of pride and power the Bismarck to disrobe
Their hands the Atlantic with Thor's hammer span;
And Oran's sad necessity they plan,
Disarming former friend turned Anglophobe.

Bravo, who vaunted yours the Middle Sea,
What of Taranto? What of Matapan?
Still English cruisers stalk and still you flee
And cannot end what bragging you began.
Malta defies Caproni and Messerschmitt
And Nelson's shade salutes the ghost of Pitt.

IV

Daring and merciless the undersea
Destroyer slides to station, till the haunch
Of tanker lean or freighter fat and staunch
Slip past the hairline and no more can flee
The questing shark with nose of T.N.T.,
That tears apart a good ship's iron paunch.
She, that men built with love and laughed to launch,
Staggers, tilts, plunges—and so gone is she.

The sweating riveter, the welder true
Have sworn the ruinous game to win, when sore
Is England's need, when builders dare not fail.
The slipways shudder and rattle; more and more
The hulls slide down. While shipwrecked seamen sail
There shall not lack a ship, nor yet a crew.

V

Hold fast the desert gate! Though nearer home
Flat-bottomed barges take the load of grey
Automa o s dri led ready for the day,
Their endless lines shall level England's foam,
Yet round the Cape and north the freighters come
With tank and plane where Wavell stands at bay,
With how small forces making shift to stay
The huge tide lapping in the name of Rome!

Across the sandy gulfs war's tides wash west
And east again. The pitifully small
Battalions fell an empire. Auchinleck
Strikes up the sword already at his neck,
And Panzers surge in vain, until there fall
New thunderbolts to rout them without rest.

—*R.G.*

INDIAN SOLDIERS BECOME "WATER-WISE"

WHAT is the "Wormleighton Raft?" Very few people, not excluding veteran seadogs, can tell you.

Take a few planks, add four 45-gallon oil drums and a certain amount of rope, put the lot together in a tearing hurry, and you have a Wormleighton Raft.

Making it and dozens of other odd, improvised rafts of all shapes and materials and sizes—is one of the things Indian soldiers learn during intensive "water craft" courses, designed to make them as nearly amphibian as man can be.

And Wormleighton? Wormleighton was the name of an instructor at one of these schools up and down India where water loses its terrors. He it was who first improvised this inelegant but effective expedient for getting 20 fully-equipped men across a river in a hurry.

During the first week of his fortnight's course in military aquabatics, the soldier learns to handle an oar and sail a boat. During the second week, he learns to make a boat. And though it may not look very like a boat, it will be good enough to carry him and his comrades across a river 150 feet wide.

OFFICERS TRAVEL ON FOUR ANNAS A DAY

WITH only four annas a day a-piece and scanty emergency rations, five British officers recently set out a long experimental trek through some of the remotest parts of South India, where a soldier is a rare sight indeed.

But far from fighting, shy of any of these visitors, the villagers along the officers' route did everything possible to ensure that they wanted for nothing.

Back from their adventure, the five officers with one voice paid one more tribute to the famed hospitality of the simple Indian villager. In every village, they reported, they were received with the warmest welcome, offered food from the villagers' scanty stocks, and provided with guides along their way when they left.

The portable typewriter which one of the officers carried became the sensation of the hour in these remote villages, and whenever its owner opened it up and began to type, he could be sure of attracting a large crowd of fascinated watchers in the space of two minutes.

TURKEY AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

SUMMER seems to have settled down in Ankara and with it there is a cessation of all political and diplomatic activity. The Mejlis will shortly go home for its vacation, a number of Cabinet members have already started their holidays, and the diplomatic corps is dwindling. All this seems to indicate that there will not be much doing in Turkey this summer.

Nevertheless, one feels that behind this apparent calm something is "going on". A corner of the veil was lifted the other day by Mr. Churchill himself in his Guildhall speech and his glimpse of events to come, hurried though it was, indicated that events might come to pass in the Mediterranean which might have a decisive influence on the course of the war. Turkey, therefore, cannot remain indifferent to this speech. Falih Rifki Atay in an article in the *Ulus* on the British Prime Minister's speech underlines Britain's determination to prosecute the war in the Far East to its successful conclusion and not to lay down arms until this object has been achieved even if the European partners of the Tripartite Pact are down and out. Atay finds this declaration important in that it confirms the solidarity of the Anglo-Saxon nations, and he points out that now that the Germans have failed to achieve a *blitz* victory over the United Nations, their only hope lies in prolonging the war as much as possible so as to tire out their opponents. Atay observes that the Germans have in their propaganda tried to picture the United States and Britain as being disunited and asserts that they have failed in their attempt.

SUCCESS AGAINST U-BOATS

Atay hails as the best news of the day the Prime Minister's statement that the United Nations have scored an important victory over U-boats in May. As Turkey depends for her supplies on maritime communications and Allied shipping, it is not difficult to see why Atay rejoices in this.

Commenting on the writhings and wailings of the German Press after the recent raid on Cologne, in which the cathedral is alleged to have been damaged, Atay says that the Germans are now paying the price for their wanton destruction of English churches in 1940. This is significant because every day the arms in Dr. Goebbels' arsenal are dwindling and the day will come when there will be none left to fire as far away as the outside world.

Atay comes to the conclusion that as things stand, and as there is less chance with every day gone for a big offensive on the eastern front, the words of the British Prime Minister referring to "heavy fighting in the Mediterranean before the leaves fall" are pregnant with meaning. They show that decisive battles are about to be fought.

Ahmed Shukru Esmer, also writing in the *Ulus*, observes that the results achieved against U-boats may be the decisive factors in the war and herald important developments in the near future. After reading Churchill's speech, declares Esmer, one cannot but implicitly believe the Prime Minister's words.

Esmer underlines the fact of British national unity and the success of the National Cabinet and ascribes it solely to Churchill's fine leadership. He says in conclusion: "The development of operations during the last three years has proved to what extent the confidence placed in Churchill by the British Commonwealth of Nations is justified. Already Churchill occupies the place of honour in British history which he justly deserves."

APPROVAL OF COMING EVENTS

In all this there is not much about the Mediterranean, I must admit. The fact, however, that two of Turkey's leading journalists comment so fully on the Prime Minister's speech is indication enough that they have seized its meaning and in praising Churchill they indirectly approve of coming events as outlined. Churchill himself has said that operations against Italy may break out at any point from the Gulf of Genoa to the Dodecanese. It may be one of these points and it may equally be along the whole front. The Dodecanese islands can easily be seen from the Turkish shores and Italian occupation of them is a thorn in the flesh of the Turkish security system.

The possibility of German or Italian aggression against Turkey is diminishing every day. Atay, in the article from which I have already quoted, repeats the belief that the Germans will probably not try a large scale offensive on the Russian front this summer. No offensive in Russia means that the Germans fear invasion and that the manpower problem is worrying the General Staff. To attack Turkey now would be foolish even if Bulgarian troops are employed here in the majority, because Germany relies on Bulgarian troops for the defence of the Balkans.

In the meantime the country is endeavouring to put its finances in order, and despite financial difficulties the railway line which is to link Turkey with Iraq has progressed and has now reached the Batman river in south-east Anatolia, while another 4,000 kilometre programme has recently been approved. Thus, working hard, the Turkish nation is looking to the future with quiet confidence.

JAPAN'S INJUSTICE TO MUSLIM RULERS

IT was announced recently that the Japanese Government had ceded to Siam the States of Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu. To realize the dangerous potentialities of this announcement so far as the Muslim States of the Far East are concerned, it is necessary to know something of the history of these as well as other Muslim States in the Far East and their relations with other Powers in that region.

Kedah, which has a population of nearly half a million and an area of 4,000 square miles, has undergone many vicissitudes of fortune during the last two centuries. After being an independent State for centuries it became for a time tributary of Burma and then of Siam. In 1771 Francis Light treated the Raja of Kedah as an independent ruler and a treaty was signed between Great Britain and Kedah in 1791 under which Penang was ceded to Great Britain. In 1821 the Siamese overran Kedah. This aggression was the result of a dispute whether Kedah was a vassal State of Siam or not. The rulers of Kedah had been sending Bunga Mas (golden leaves) to the Siamese Kings. This was interpreted by the Siamese as an acknowledgment of their suzerainty over Kedah. On the other hand, the rulers of Kedah contended that this was only a token of respect and not of vassalage. In the treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Siam the supremacy of Siam over Kedah was acknowledged though she was not allowed to interfere in the administration of the country. The Siamese, however, insisted on the separation of Perlis which then formed a part of Kedah and placed it under the rule of a separate Raja.

KELANTAN AND TRENGGANU

As regards Kelantan and Trengganu, overlordship of Siam was always in dispute and these two States were governed by their respective Sultans. These disputes continued till March 1909 when a treaty was signed transferring the suzerainty of the four States to Great Britain. These States were subsequently known as the Unfederated Malaya States as distinguished from the Federated Malaya States of Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan (that is, nine States) and Pahang. According to the 1937 census the total population of these Unfederated States was 1,133,644, of whom 80 per cent were Malays (Muslims), 12 per cent Chinese, 6 per cent Indians and others two per cent.

SIAMESE ANTIPATHY TOWARDS ISLAM

Since 1934 the attitude of the Siamese Government has been one of persecution and intolerance towards the 2,000,000 Muslim population in southern Siam. This area originally formed part of Muslim Malay States but was gradually grabbed by Siam. In pursuance of the policy of pushing forward the programme of Siamese nationalism as formulated in 1933, systematic efforts have been made to suppress the culture and religion of the Malays. The Malays (Muslims) in Siam have now to wear Siamese dress, use the Siamese language and follow Siamese customs. No one below the age of 14 can be given religious instruction in schools. Study of Buddhist history has been made compulsory in place of religious instruction with the result that a Muslim child grows up without any knowledge of his faith and inspired with ideas of the glories of Buddhism and its achievements. Muslims cannot observe Friday as a holiday nor can they establish their own schools. The Malays are not permitted to have Muslim names or hold any Government posts. The Siamese Government have been sending their long-term convicts to the areas inhabited by the Malays and have demoralized the Malays somewhat in consequence. As mentioned earlier, a considerable portion of southern Siam was under Muslim rulers who were called Sultans. However, as each Sultan died the Siamese Government refused to allow his successor to ascend the throne and absorbed the State into Siam.

If the past is any guide to the future, it can be safely assumed that the States of Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu will soon cease to be governed by Muslim rulers and will share the fate of those Malay States which passed under the domination of Siam in the last century.

AND NOW WE GO INTO EUROPE

By WALLACE REYBURN

TUNISIA is cleaned up and the next step . . . we go into Europe. Right now the whole country here is alive with conjecture. When, where, and how will we strike?

I'll dismiss the question of when in one sentence. I don't know and you don't know and our enemies don't know: it is a surprise that Messrs. Churchill, Roosevelt and Company have for us.

Where we'll go I'm not going to say much about either. It is obvious we have four gateways into Hitler's unhappy estate—Norway, the Channel Coast, the Under-belly, and the Balkans. We'll burst in at one or more of these gateways without notice. But I think it is pretty clear that at some stage—either at the very beginning or later—we'll be crossing the English Channel into Western Europe.

It is about that and how it will be done that I'd like to talk.

How is Hitler going to try to stop us?

He has five chief lines of defence. He has his U-boats, with range far out into the Atlantic and the North Sea, and can be used against our invading forces while they are seaborne. His U-boats are supplemented by his E-boats and other smaller surface craft, as well as his major ships such as *Tirpitz* which, as Admiral Tovey warned only recently, show indications of preparing to put to sea.

Hitler's first defence line then is his sea forces, particularly his U-boats.

Second, he has his Luftwaffe. We learn that he has increased his fighter strength in the West considerably in recent months. The figures generally accepted over the last six months or so for Luftwaffe strength in the West must now be considerably revised—all types or reserve planes kept in the West awaiting invasion have been augmented.

Third line of defence is his minefields in the sea lanes along the coastline.

Fourth defence line is his much-vaunted Atlantic Wall, his chain of concrete forts, pill-boxes, barbed wire entanglements, supplemented by shore batteries and heavy artillery guns, many of them mobile railway guns.

STEEL AND CONCRETE FORTIFICATIONS FOR 1,800 MILES?

This Atlantic Wall stretches from the top of Holland to the bottom of the Bay of Biscay, and in a furious splurge of propaganda Hitler and his chiefs are inviting us to believe that every inch of this eighteen hundred miles is fortified with steel and concrete. Eighteen hundred miles is something like the distance from Toronto to Calgary, or New York to Salt Lake City. Quite a wall!

Fifth line of defence, and his main one, is his concentrations of troops deployed in groups at key points between twenty and forty miles from the coast. These are held ready to be rushed to the danger spots to meet our forces when they land.

How will our invasion get under way?

The assembling of all the necessary ships and landing craft and the concentrating of the troops at the setting-off ports presents a major problem of security. How is it to be done with the least possibility of the enemy getting wind of it?

It is well known that before the Dieppe raid many of the men involved were sent off on what they thought were merely manœuvres. This is a logical ruse to cover up such movements of troops. They were sent off on what was supposedly an exercise to find that it developed into a real show.

When the recent 'Spartan' exercise was held—the biggest military manœuvres ever held in Britain—the great majority of the troops thought that it was just a plan to get them together for a real operation with a minimum of suspicion. As it turned out, of course, that was not the case.

With our invading forces assembled here, how are we going to ring up the curtain?

When Hitler planned his invasion of Britain after the fall of France, he started by attempting to neutralise the Royal Air Force. The Battle of Brittain resulted. The Luftwaffe was licked in the air, so the land invasion of Britain didn't come. An invasion from the sea is out of the question without neutralising the enemy's air strength and establishing air superiority over the area of operations. Whether we'll follow the German plan and do it before we go in, or fight the air battle while the landings are in progress is open to debate.

TWO WAYS OF RINGING UP THE CURTAIN

We have that choice before us. We can send over our air forces to blast Hitler's Atlantic Wall with bombs and to engage his fighters and put a maximum of them out of action. After that softening up from the air, our land forces could be sent in. Alternatively, we could follow the Dieppe plan and do the softening up by sneak methods, using commandos and paratroops to put shore batteries and forts out of action and capture airfields and aircraft on the ground.

If we use the first method—air power, supported perhaps by shelling from naval ships—we loose the element of surprise. Once we lay on such a barrage the enemy gets an idea of where we are going in and can rush up his rearward concentrations of troops to meet the forthcoming threat from seaborne invasion forces.

If we use the second method—commandos and paratroops going in immediately before our main land forces—everything hinges on our maintaining the element of surprise. At Dieppe we had it only in one sector, and through losing that element of surprise on the left flank the shore batteries and forts there were never silenced.

These forts that Hitler has in his Atlantic Wall must be put out of action—and early in the proceedings. Commandos can do it.

Can our bombers be as effective against them? The propaganda photographs published of the Atlantic Wall forts claim that they are bombproof. Those we saw at Dieppe were certainly formidable looking propositions. They were square and some thirty or forty feet high, and the bare white concrete of the outside walls was broken only by narrow chinks which were the gun apertures. Though, of course, they are proof against small arms and mortar fire, my view is that direct hits by our eight-thousand pound bombs would have the desired effect on them.

Whether it is done by bombing, shelling from the sea, or by commandos and paratroops using sneak methods, there must be a softening-up process before the main body of our troops goes in. While that is being done the main land forces are being transported across the Channel. The minefields along the enemy coast, though a danger, are not the stumbling block they might seem. Our system of minesweeping is so good that paths will be cleared effectively and quickly for our ships and invasion craft. This is borne out by the experience of Dieppe. Though it took the hundreds of ships that were used in that operation over an hour to pass through the minefields not a single vessel was destroyed or damaged by a mine.

Once on the beaches, our first obstacles are mines of another sort—those set in the sand. That is something we weren't worried with at Dieppe. I remember after running up the beach and taking shelter under the sea wall, the thought occurred to me about mines . . . why there hadn't been any. I made enquiries and learned that it isn't possible to lay mines in pebbly beaches because the waves move them around among the stones and explode them. However, not all the beaches are pebbles as at Dieppe, so that is going to be something to contend with when we go in.

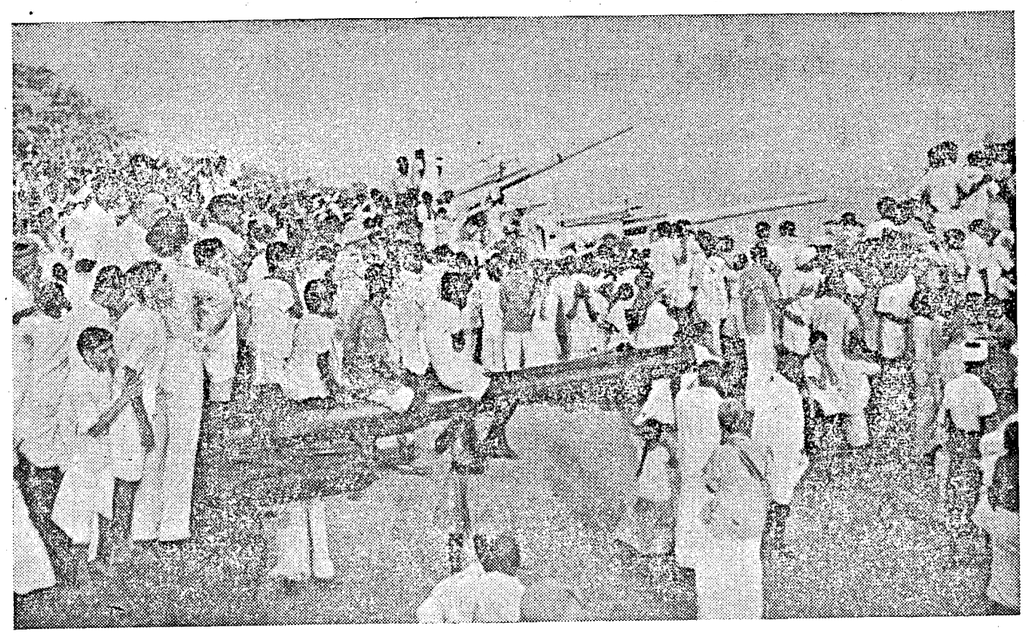
We learned a lot of very useful lessons at Dieppe—but so did the Germans. One thing that was brought home to them was that for effective defence along their coastline the houses right on the shore would have to be cleared away. On the raid we were able to get up off the beaches and take up good positions among the empty houses and hotels. Though they knew we were there, the Germans couldn't get at us.

So now they're feverishly pulling down all the shore-line buildings along the coasts. By demolishing the buildings and clearing a way they have exposed stretches of open ground above the beach, which will mean that our men are in plain view and open to cross-fire as they dash off the beaches and make for the first available buildings.

(*Continued on page* 12)

Bigger and Better War Exhibition

Features of Show to be held in Madras



WAR SERVICES EXHIBITION.—A section of the crowd watching a recent demonstration by anti-aircraft and other guns, at Trichinopoly.

The biggest show of its kind on earth. That is how the War Services Exhibition has been rightly described. Certainly no free entertainment on this large scale exists in any part of the world. And entertainment is only casual; the real value of the Exhibition is the education it imparts to masses of people without distinction of age, sex, colour or creed.

The Exhibition will be opened in Madras at the Island Grounds by His Excellency the Governor on Friday, August the 27th, and will last for ten days. This will be the fifth of a series which started in Delhi in March and has since visited Bombay, Bangalore and Trichinopoly. The average attendance figure is 50,000 daily, and it is estimated that over twenty lakhs of people have already visited the Exhibition.

Bigger, brighter and better than the four Exhibitions which have gone before, the Madras show will boast all the usual features—tank battles, gun duels, bridging operations by Indian Engineers, aerobatics, 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 of warships, together with a complete reconstruction of the forepart of H.M.I.S. *Bengal*, complete with bridge and 12-pounder gun.

The Technical Training Scheme will again be represented by a large workshop erected by the Labour Department, in which trainees will be shown actually producing trade test work. Local industries, the Red Cross, the W.A.C. (I) and W.V.S., the National War Front and "Grow More Food" will all be represented.

Many new features have, however, been included in the Madras Exhibition. Chief of these are a battle-scarred Blenheim bomber, a veteran of the Battles of Britain, Malta and Burma; a bombing demonstration by aircraft flying in "pattern" formation; Combined Services operations; "deep-sea" diving; and a riding, jumping and tent-pegging display by His Excellency the Governor's Bodyguard. Two military bands will be in attendance daily, and there will be a cinema, located in the spacious auditorium specially erected by the National War Front.

A show like the War Services Exhibition has never before visited Madras. It will not only educate and entertain; it should lead many people on the road to an assured future, peace and prosperity.

SUCCESS OF R.A.F.'S MASTER PLAN

THE R.A.F.'s present successes are due not only to the fact that Britain pioneered a new conception of air power as an aid to economic blockade but equally to the accurate and meticulous preparation since 1939. Having conceived the aerial campaign against the structure of German war production and invented planes with sufficient bombing power to cause permanent damage, the next question was clearly the choice of targets yielding the highest returns. It was known that in basic raw materials and manpower German resources were already so strained that in 1939 men worked on an average 49·6 hours a week, and the naval blockade would add to the labour strain by diverting over 1,000,000 workers to extra food production alone while the R.A.F. diverted a further 2,000,000 to anti-aircraft defences, full-time civil defence and rebuilding—hence labour shortage would impose still greater stress throughout the German war machine. Direct air attacks might turn the stress into rupture at three keypoints: arms production facilities, transport, and civilian production.

ARMS PRODUCTION

Germany's inherent weakness was the fact that two-thirds of her hard coal, coke, pig iron and steel was concentrated in 600 square miles of the Ruhr, on which the German army depended for 50 per cent of its entire equipment. Moreover, the Ruhr concentration was closest to the R.A.F. bases, so that large bomb-loads could be carried. There was also the fact that German war industry could not be dispersed from the Ruhr. For these reasons the R.A.F. pioneers in 1939 selected the Ruhr as the main target for the British bomber offensive.

But the R.A.F. Command also knew that the British naval blockade, by cutting off vital raw material supplies, would impose further strain on the German arms output. Plans were therefore made for the R.A.F. to exploit these additional weaknesses.

For example, the Navy cut off 80 per cent of Germany's pre-war oil imports. Therefore the R.A.F. planned to bring the shortage to a head by attacking oil stocks and refineries. Again, the Navy cut off 35 per cent of Germany's pre-war molybdenum supplies, making her almost entirely dependent for irreplaceable steel-hardening metal on the Knaben mines in Norway. A single R.A.F. attack on March 3, 1943, robbed Germany of these supplies for ten months. By cutting off all raw material imports, the Navy forced Germany to divert 35 per cent of her entire electric power supply to the synthetic plants. The R.A.F. planned to narrow the resulting bottleneck even further by attacking the power plants.

ATTACK OF TRANSPORT

Germany's two inherent weaknesses in 1939 were the shortage of locomotives and waggons and the fact that her production capacity was concentrated in eight factories. The R.A.F. planned to bring this shortage to crisis proportions by attacking locomotive factories and trains, but the programme was postponed owing to other demands until August 1942. At the same time R.A.F. fighters launched their train-busting offensive.

But the R.A.F. Command also knew that the naval blockade, by drastically reducing German sea and road transport (the latter by blocking oil) would throw a tremendous additional strain on railways, which carried 76 per cent more freight in 1941 than in 1938. Therefore additional plans were made in 1939 for the R.A.F. increase this strain to breaking point with attacks on marshalling yards and communication centres. This plan was implemented in 1940 with 130 attacks on Hamm, Soest and Schwerte while attacks on communication centres were launched in June 1941, with attacks on Aachen, Muenster and Cologne.

CIVILIAN PRODUCTION

One of Germany's weaknesses was that production for civilian consumption had been reduced to the barest minimum and there was no source from which bombed-out production could be replaced except war production. Hence the R.A.F. Command saw already in 1939 that destruction of civilian consumption goods would compel Germany to withdraw materials and labour from war production to fill the gap. Implementation of this part of the R.A.F.'s offensive plans had to wait until the bomber strength was sufficient for a major assault on large centres of German industry. This assault was launched early in 1942 just after Germany had introduced further cuts on civilian production. The result was that the cuts were restored on October 23, 1942, with an emergency programme of 200,000 articles.

Thus it is seen how relentlessly the R.A.F. has followed the master plan laid down in 1939, and the amazing accuracy of this plan to-day is justified by the results achieved. Thus the attack on arms production facilities brought the Ruhr steel output down in 1942 at an annual rate of 1,250,000 tons, and coal at an annual rate of 20,000,000 tons. Transport offensives robbed war factories of key metal workers who were diverted to additional locomotive construction. In civilian production household articles competed with arms for available raw materials. The net result of these R.A.F. victories has been a fall in German arms production as a whole since January, 1942.

The Air Ministry sums up the success of the 1939 plan as follows: "In every sphere the R.A.F. attacks accentuated every unfavourable factor, wearing down workers, destroying plants and stocks, and creating at the same time demands for more labour and material for building and consumer goods. The results achieved by this carefully planned offensive on the German industrial and economic systems are very great. If the attacks are maintained and intensified, the effect may well be catastrophic in 1943."

AND NOW WE GO INTO EUROPE

(*Continued from page* 10)

CASUALTIES WILL BE HIGH

Casualties are going to be high, even before we are well ashore and can come to grips with the main body of German defensive troops way back from the coast. The casualties will be heavy because this type of military operation is the most hazardous of all—assailing strongly fortified positions from the sea.

But there is a point to remember in this regard. At Dieppe the figure of casualties was in the region of sixty per cent. When we invade, nothing like such a high figure will be likely. The Dieppe operation involved withdrawals as well as landings, and it was in coming away that we suffered most of our casualties.

I was taking to General Crerar, Canadian Corps Commander, about this and he told me that an operation such as that at Dieppe, in which there is a landing and withdrawal, is ten times more difficult than one where there is only the landing. Had Dieppe been the spearhead of following invading forces, many of the men who lost their lives getting off the beaches would have stayed where they were ashore and carried on the fight.

As we get our bridgehead established and start tangling with the Nazi ground troops inland, it is worth remembering that the German defenders are going to have around them and behind them vast numbers of anti-Nazis who have been waiting a long time for this chance to rise up against them.

It is reasonable to suppose that those thousands of the underground movements in Europe are not merely organized among themselves, but that the Allied Governments in Britain and our military chiefs of staff have definite plans worked out as to how the active co-operation of these people will be co-related and fitted into our tactics.

We recently got an insight into how much alive the Germans are to the menace that the underground is going to be to them. We got wind of the Germans organising fake commando raids at points on the coast to see whether the local people would show signs of co-operation. The interesting thing about this is that these fake commando raids were planned by the Germans not so much to find out who would co-operate, but how they would co-operate. They were trying to get a line on the methods that are going to be used to utilise this tremendous underground army to the full.

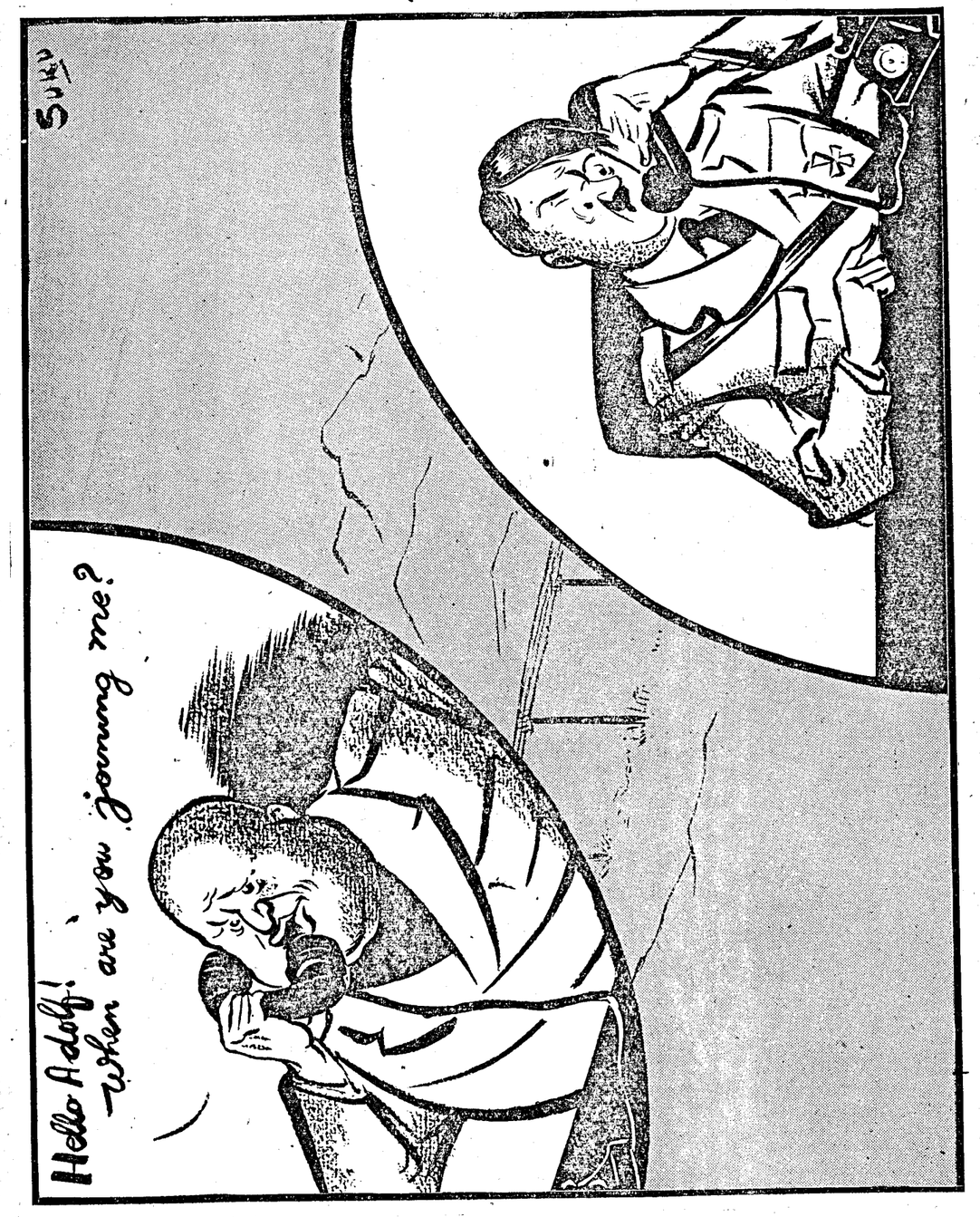
So there the Germans sit behind their Atlantic Wall of fortifications and wait.

"MODERN WEAPONS OF OFFENCE ARE VASTLY STRONGER . . ."

I'd like to finish by quoting something that a well-known statesman said about fortifications. He said it ten years ago on May 16, 1933, the year that Hitler came to power: 'Modern weapons of offence are vastly stronger than modern weapons of defence . . . forts, trenches, wire entanglements, coast defences—in a word, fixed fortifications—are no longer impregnable to the attack of war planes, heavy mobile artillery, and land battleships called tanks.'

The man who said that was Franklin D. Roosevelt. How right he has turned out to be. This war has proved—from the Maginot Line to the Mareth Line—that static fortifications, however strong, will not stop a modern army.

I can't see any reason to doubt that when we come to assail Hitler's Atlantic Wall, President Roosevelt will be proved right yet again.



SICILY: TRIUMPH OF NIGHT FIGHTING TACTICS

By A. J. McWHINNIE

BRITAIN'S new naval tactics, which led to the triumph of the seaborne invasion of Sicily, have surprised many text book strategists. Studying the trend of sea war from inland capitals, they have not been aware of the tremendous progress in training and scientific developments and their observations and comments have been based on out-of-date theories.

In some quarters the view has persisted that night naval action is undesirable and a matter of luck in which gunnery and efficiency must be thrown to the winds. That view was widely held in the 1914–18 war in fact Admiral of the Fleet Lord Chatfield has admitted that night fighting was among the least efficient factors in the Royal Navy of that time. He and others urged the necessity for concentration on night fighting training for the Fleet on the British Admiralty, and gradually the old naval motto, "Day action only", was discarded as old fashioned and out-of-date.

FLEET AIR ARM'S BIG PART

For 10 years before this war began, British battleships with their cruisers, and destroyer escorts were undertaking night fighting exercises against the possibility of any sea war to come. Many of those night action exercises were actually staged in the Mediterranean. The 1941 Battle of Matapan, in which the daring and skill of the British Navy coupled with co-operation of the Fleet Air Arm inflicted a grievous defeat on the Italian Navy, was fought at night. Three Italian heavy cruisers and two destroyers were sunk apart from damage to other Italian warships, including a battleship.

The battle of Matapan has already gone down in history. It was significant because it was the first instance where naval air-craft directly influenced fleet action by slowing up a faster fleet in flight.

EFFECT OF MATAPAN

But Matapan was also the chance for which the Royal Navy had been waiting to test the value of those 10 years of concentration on night fighting training.

I wrote at the time that Matapan would actually have distinct influence on the whole future of the war in the Mediterranean. The present inaction of the Italian fleet—even in the crisis of Sicily—does lend support to the theory that the Italian fleet is still not ready—or prepared—to venture out against the possibility of an engagement. Not once since the Battle of Matapan in 1941 has the whole Italian fleet come out into the open.

There was an isolated occasion when an Italian *Littorio* class battleship with cruisers and destroyers came out bent on interfering with the passage of a Malta convoy. The laurels of victory went to the inferior but skilled and determined British cruiser force.

Just a few days ago, the greatest armada in history was assembled at night around the Sicilian Narrows awaiting the signal which would precipitate nearly 3,000 ships on Sicily. But there were no Italian battleships there to interfere and it is known that U-boats—mainly Italian—were thrown in action in a belated attempt to make good their failure to intercept a single ship among the initial invasion forces, but the insouciance with which British warships have been steaming close to the shore to bombard Italian position is an index of their confidence in Allied anti-submarine units.

ALLIED ADMINISTRATION OF SICILY

JUST a week after the first landings in Sicily, Allied forces hold so much of Italian soil and are so confident of the firmness of their grip that they have found it necessary to install a complete organization for civil administration of the conquered territory, headed by Lord Rennell of Rodd, who will work under General Alexander as Military Governor.

The progress of the system, as further advance of the Allied arms extends the frontiers of its responsibilities, will be watched by the world as the first adumbration in action of Allied policy for filling the void that will be left when totalitarian despotisms have been overthrown. Its methods will evidently afford no precedent for those to be adopted when the time comes to set free those of the United Nations which have been enslaved by the Axis; for Italy, notwithstanding the obvious relief with which many Sicilians have received the invading army, remains an enemy country and must be treated as such.

The administration has been created under military control and for military ends. Lord Rennell and his staff, however, will no doubt set to their task from the beginning with an eye to the time when they can begin the gradual transfer of their powers to Italian, though never to Fascist hands. Subject only to their duty to see that the military cause of the alliance is not imperilled, the object of their administration must be a system that will take account of the Italian character and give not only at present a good order, but opportunity to lay the foundations of the future.

In assuming powers of sovereignty over the territories he controls, General Alexander has already asked subordinate Italian officials to remain at their posts; and, no doubt, encouragement will be given to Italians at higher levels of administration, especially in filling the gaps left by the local dissolution of the Fascist Party which has been decreed. If this administration is to have a chance of becoming the nucleus of Italian political reconstruction, the danger to be avoided is that of imparting a quisling taint to those Italians who are willing to serve it. It is not difficult, however, to maintain a clear principle of differentiation between Allied and Axis systems.

The United Nations seek no "collaboration" after the discredited pattern of Vichy. So long as the Fascist Government continues to exist, there must be a sphere of activity in occupied regions determined by strategical needs within which Italian officials like private subjects must simply obey Allied orders. Over the remaining field of administration strictly limited as at first it may have to be, they may be left free to act in ways suitable to the local tradition and custom. If such principles are applied, Italians taking part in the administration of "Amgot" cannot justly be reproached with disloyalty to their country even while it remains in the war.

CRACK LONDON ACK ACK BATTERY IN SOUTH INDIA

STATIONED somewhere in South India is a crack battery of London Territorial gunners with an impressive record of service in Britain and Madagascar.

Formed in the early 1920's as part of the 52nd Regiment with Lord Nuffield as Colonel-in-Chief, and known as the "Selfridge" battery from the large number of employees of that great London Store who joined it, the battery was the first to be trained for anti-aircraft gunnery.

Fully mobilised in 1939, it received its "baptism of fire" while sited at the East India Docks during the London "blitz." Time and time again the battery site was blasted, but somehow kept its guns firing, though hutments, kitchens, and quarters were gone.

One fierce night alone the guns threw up over one thousand heavy calibre shells. After the raiders had been driven off the battery Captain W. J. S. Fletcher, led a party to clear unexploded bombs, put out fires, and guide vehicles. He was awarded the M.C. for his work.

After a short spell of service at Cardiff, where the battery arrived in time to help in the South Wales attacks, it was sent out overseas with the assault troops to Madagascar.

The battery took up an unusual role when it was ordered to take over a Vichy coastal battery after the shock troops had carried it, and trains the guns the other way to cover the advance.

BRITAIN'S AERIAL ECONOMIC BLOCKADE

THERE is a wide difference between the British conception and the Nazi idea of air power, and the position to-day shows which one is better.

From the moment Britain declared war on Germany, Hitler knew that his primary aim must be the conquest of Britain. "Where Napoleon failed I shall succeed," Hitler had told Rauschning already in 1934, "because aircraft have turned the surface fleets into obsolete playthings—the day of Britain's might at sea is past." But, seeing the immense resources that Britain could mobilize, if given time, Hitler also knew that the only hope of conquering Britain was to do so quickly—and the only decisive method of rapid conquest was occupation by the ground forces, that is, invasion.

Hitler thought that he could gain a quick victory on land by designing the Luftwaffe as an additional attack weapon for the army; and hence he mass produced three main offensive types—for close support, the Junkers-87 dive-bomber; for troop carrying, the Ju-52 transport; and for preparing the army's advance, the Ju-88 bomber with a range of 800 to 900 miles. Because he knew that the army's follow-up for the occupation of towns must be swift, Hitler gave the Ju-88 5,720 pounds of bomb-load, sufficient to cause only very temporary dislocation. And with swift ground advance against weak Allied air and land forces in France this policy proved successful.

ANOTHER KETTLE OF FISH

When Hitler applied the same tactics in the Battle of Britain in 11 weeks' daylight attacks the R.A.F. fighter strength held the air and prevented the German invasion army from sailing; hence the British A.R.P. and transport organizations were fully able to keep abreast of the temporary dislocation caused by the Ju-88s and four other types of German bombers with equally light bomb-loads. Then, having failed to see the possibility of using air power independently from the army, and having no heavy bombers designed to cause permanent dislocation and pave the way for invasion at leisure, Hitler switched his medium day bombers to night bombing, for which they were never designed, solely as terror tactics which might, as a last hope, break British morale.

The fact is, in the words of the American aeronautical expert, Major Alexander Seversky, that "German vision and audacity failed to go far enough; the seven years of Nazi concentration on aerial preparedness has ended in a fiasco." The conception of air power turned out to be merely air support, that is, land weapons. And Hitler failed because, just as Napoleon tried to conquer the sea by land, he tried to conquer the air by land. As a result Hitler, unlike Napoleon, is faced to-day not only with the British naval blockade but with the additional weapon forged by the R.A.F.

R.A.F.'s LONG-TERM POLICY

Britain, however, had not only clearly understood the mistaken nature of the Nazi conception of air power but had for four years been designing the R.A.F. for precisely the opposite purpose. She knew that against the fully mobilized Nazi aggression she may be on the defensive for some time until the resources of the Commonwealth had been fully marshalled; hence army dive-bombers for land attack were useless in the initial stages of the war. While she was mobilizing for the final land battle, Britain knew from experience of the Napoleonic and Great Wars that Hitler would be exhausted for his Waterloo by the British naval blockade. Therefore, to increase this exhaustion to the maximum, Britain invented the revolutionary conception of aerial blockade—"the idea," to requote Seversky, "was to take control of the skies, and thereby establish a three-dimensional blockade of Germany wrecking the victim's interior life-lines after the naval blockade had cut him off from the outside world."

The difference between this British conception and the Nazi idea of air power is best shown by the fact that only one-fifth of Germany's war strength (measured by manpower) is engaged directly on the battle fronts while the remaining four-fifths is bound up in the war machine inside Germany itself. Hence had Britain accepted the Nazi idea of air power, the R.A.F. would have been designed precisely like the Luftwaffe to attack primarily only one-fifth of German war strength at the fighting fronts. But Britain saw clearly that any damage to the German war machine was bound to affect adversely Germany's capacity to maintain her vast forces on land, at sea and in the air, and therefore built the R.A.F. to attack four-fifths of Germany's war strength bound up in her internal economic structure. In this way the R.A.F. could supplement the navy in sapping German strength for the final battle on land when Britain had fully mobilized.

BRITISH CONCEPTION OF AIR POWER

With this conception of air power as an economic blockade weapon, Britain embarked before any other nation in the world on a large-scale foundation of a heavy bomber force: the Stirling, the Halifax and the Lancaster.

It is worth recalling that the British conception of air power as an economic weapon to undermine German resistance was even in 1940 still considered so revolutionary that not only Hitler but the French General Staff equally failed to understand it. The French General Staff viewed with the greatest misgiving any plan whereby bombers were to be used for attacks on German industry. In their opinion, the main, indeed, the only, use to which a bombing force should be put was to extend the range of artillery supporting the armies in the field. The fact is that France merely shared the worldwide view of air power at that time. The Russian air force (under the Army Command) was estimated in 1940 as consisting of only 25 per cent medium and heavy bombers, of which only two types were four-engined. The Japanese air force (under the Army and Navy Commands) consisted numerically of 50 per cent Army and 50 per cent Navy planes, with only one of the 19 bomber types being four-engined. The United States built two four-engined bomber types (the Fortress and the Liberator) for daylight precision attack only, although 1941 types numbered 15 while the air forces were left to the Army and Navy Commands. Of the first-class powers Britain alone set up a wholly independent Air Ministry to plan air attack on the enemy's war machine as a whole.

SMALL NAVIES AID ALLIES

By HARRY VOSSER

THE navies of the smaller Allies fighting with the United Nations have a total of 220 vessels and nearly 27,000 officers and men operating under the flags of their respective countries. In just over one year these navies have been increased from 170 fighting ships and 15,000 officers and men to their present strength.

The composition of the smaller Allied navies was stated recently to be:

	Ships.	*Men.*
Fighting French	49	6,150
Norway	53	5,100
Netherlands	63	6,850
Poland	12	2,600
Greece	33	5,450
Yugoslavia	3	200
Belgian section of the British Navy.	7	350

During the past 20 months these Allied navies have been replacing many of their older ships by up-to-date ones.

For most of the Allies the manpower problem is difficult; for such of their scattered nationals as can be collected there are competing claims by the army, air force and merchant service. The Allies have provided 2,300 officers and men as gunners for their own ships, the rest being supplied by the British Navy.

The fleets include cruisers, destroyers, submarines, corvettes, light coastal craft and minesweepers, working in full co-operation and under the same operational control as the British and American naval forces. The ships have reached a high level of efficiency and are worthy additions to the fighting strength of the United Nations.

In operations off the Norwegian coast, in the Channel and in the Battle of the Atlantic, as well as in the Far East, they have had successes and losses.

British decorations awarded to Allied naval officers and men are 159 in number. They include 24 Distinguished Service Orders, 57 Distinguished Service Medals, 48 Distinguished Service Crosses. Men of the Allied merchant navies have been awarded 134 decorations.

About 100 of the larger ships carry a British naval liaison officer whose duty it is to interpret signals, advise the captains on procedure and customs, and to see that their requirements for stores, ammunition, uniforms, etc., are met. In London there is a central staff of liaison officers at the headquarters of each of these Allied countries-in-exile.

—*New York Times.*

BRITON WHO INVENTED POWER-DRIVEN FLYING MACHINE

By J. E. HODGSON, HON. F.R.AE.S. (*Hon. Fellow and Librarian of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and author of "History of Aeronautics in Great Britain," etc.*)

IT is just 100 years ago since a British Engineer, W. S. Henson, designed and patented his "Aerial Steam Carriage." Henson's patent specification revealed the first design ever produced, in Britain or any other country, for a full-scale power-driven "aircraft." Although it was never constructed as a full-scale heavier-than-air machine this far-seeing patent of a British experimenter became the basis for another notable step in the progress of aviation.

At the time when Henson envisaged flight with a power-driven aircraft a Bill was presented to the British Parliament to promote an "Aerial Transit Company." The intention of the company was "to convey passengers and troops to China and India in a few days."

These two events took place a century ago, but they are important landmarks in the progress of British aeronautical development. Remote as they are from the streamlined planes of to-day, they illustrate the weight of British research which lies behind the achievements of the R.A.F. in this war.

EARLY EXPERIMENTS

William Samuel Henson is believed to have been born in Leicester in 1805, but beyond that essential date little is known of his early life. In 1820 he was living in Chard, and having shown mechanical ability of an inventive character, he took out a patent in 1835 for improvements in bobbin-net or lace machinery, as his father had done before him.

How he became interested in aeronautics is also unknown, but it is on record that in 1840 he was making experiments with model flying-machines, while a year later he was granted a patent for improvements in steam-engines. These improvements were in the nature of novel types of boiler and condenser, doubtless designed to provide an engine of high power weight ratio, which Henson realized was essential to the success of his flying-machine. By the autumn of 1842 he had completed the patent specification of his "Aerial Steam Carriage," for which, as "the true and only inventor"—to quote the official phrase—he was duly granted a patent (No. 9478, March 29, 1843).

REMARKABLE DOCUMENT

Henson's patent specification, with its accompanying detailed drawings, is a remarkable document in the annals of mechanical flight—the more remarkable, perhaps, in that it was produced at a time when to take any interest in flying was to be thought either a fool or a knave. It revealed nearly all the features essential to that type of flying-machine known, at a later date, as an aeroplane.

The main structure comprised rigid wings, built up of wood, with main and secondary ribs, the whole covered above and beneath with varnished fabric. These wings had a span of 150 feet from tip to tip, and were 30 feet in depth, the total supporting surface—including a "second tail" or elevator—being 4,500 square feet. In order to strengthen the large span of the wings, Henson provided wing-post bracing, the struts and wires of which were to be of oval section in order to reduce the factor of resistance. Beneath the centre of the wings was a "car" or fuselage—in the manner of the modern mid-wing monoplane—in which was housed a light-weight steam-engine of 25/30 h.p., driving two "pusher" propellers of 10 feet in diameter.

The car was also intended to afford space for the crew, as well as passengers, goods and mail. Steerage of the machine was to be by a vertical rudder, while a "second tail"—fan-shaped and horizontal—was to serve the purpose of an elevator. Finally, take-off and landing were to be facilitated by means of "tricycle" landing wheels, quite in accord with modern practice.

Such, in brief, was Henson's design of 100 years ago—a design sound in the main both as to the scientific and mechanical principles on which it was based. It is not to be wondered at that the possibilities of this novel invention attracted the attention of a small group of company-promoting type, who proposed to exploit the project by floating an "Aerial Transit Company."

PROPHETIC JEST

It was in connexion with this speculative scheme that the Bill was presented in Parliament by a well-known Member of the House, and read a first time, doubtless to a chorus of ironic laughter. But it got no further, and having been dropped, it gave rise to a universal belief that the whole affair was a mere stunt. From an attitude of ill-informed optimism and wonder press comments became cynical and derisive, and this "marvel of the age" became the subject of pictorial caricature and doggerel verse.

But the writer of the couplets:

> It matters not, I understand, whichever way the wind is,
>
> They'll waft you in a day or so right bang into the Indies!
>
> Or you may dine in London now, and then, if you're romantic,
>
> Just call a ship and take a trip right over the Atlantic!

would be surprised, if he were alive to-day, to find that his prophetic jest had become an accomplished fact.

ANOTHER ENTHUSIAST

It is only fair to Henson to add, that while the general atmosphere of failure prejudiced the mechanical merits of his design, he is not known to have taken any personal part in the financial scheme, or made any money from it. On the other hand, although it was not possible, for financial and technical reasons, to construct his "aircraft" on a large scale, it is more definitely to his credit that he was not discouraged.

Indeed, with the help of his friend, John Stringfellow—a fellow enthusiast in the cause of flight, who also lived in Chard, and who in 1848 earned the high distinction of being the first man to demonstrate that a small model could support itself in the air when driven by steam power—he continued to make further experimental models. About the time of Stringfellow's notable success, Henson, having doubtless exhausted his resources, gave up his aeronautical endeavours and in 1849 emigrated to America, where he died in 1888.

But while Henson's pioneer work, particularly his first composite design for an "aircraft," doubtless emanated from his own brain, backed up by model experiments, there is good reason to believe he was largely indebted to his elder contemporary, Sir George Cayley—as Henson justly addressed him, the "Father of Aerial Navigation."

Cayley, a Yorkshire gentleman with great ability of a mechanical and inventive kind, had carried out in 1804 the first experiments ever made in aerodynamics as applied to mechanical flight. These he followed up, over a period of many years, by experiments with large gliders, and as the result of his endeavours which he published from time to time, he was able to lay down the basic principles of mechanical flight.

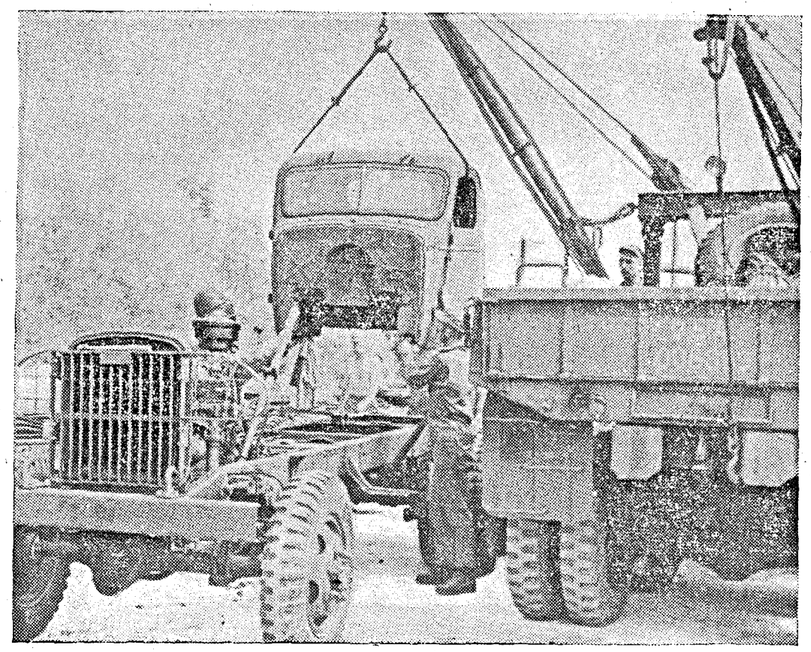
It is not known whether Henson ever met Cayley, but there is in existence a letter he wrote to Cayley, in which a strain of deference suggests he was aware of the importance of Cayley's work in aeronautics. In his reply Cayley welcomed Henson's zeal in the cause, but warned him that there was need for more experimental work. "A hundred necks," he added, with prophetic appreciation of the problems of control, "have to be broken, before all the sources of accident can be ascertained and guarded against."

As a matter of fact Cayley was not aware that some important research work in connexion with Henson's project had been undertaken in 1843, by John Chapman, a civil engineer of Loughborough. Chapman's papers which afford an interesting though incomplete record of his experiments in aerodynamics—some of which were carried out in collaboration with Henson—have only recently come to light. But studied in conjunction with Cayley's earlier work, with Henson's own endeavours, and with the later flying models of Stringfellow—the whole covering a period of nearly 80 years between 1800 and 1878—the work of these four British pioneers goes far to justify the claim that the aeroplane is essentially a British invention.

LOGIC

A trainee at a school for parachute troops approached his instructor after a lecture and asked: "Suppose the parachute doesn't open?"

"That," snapped the sergeant, "is called jumping to a conclusion!"



UNITED STATES OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY LINE IN PACIFIC TURNS OUT VEHICLES IN THREE HOURS.—A winch truck lifts the cab of a United States Army truck while American soldiers guide it into place near the end of an outdoor mass production assembly line established on an American base in the South-west Pacific. United States Army mechanics assemble trucks, jeeps, ambulances and weapon carriers, ready for action, in three hours through the use of codemarks, placed on each part of the equipment before it is shipped from the United States.

JAPANESE BRAND IS FASCISM WITHOUT A FUEHRER

By DAVID SCOTT

'BY their deeds ye shall know them.' This good and simple rule justifies the inclusion of Japan in any survey of contemporary barbarism. Whether they call themselves Fascists or not, the Japanese militarists must answer for their crimes alongside Mussolini, Hitler and company. Systems are judged by their results. On their record to date the rulers of modern Japan must be making the less efficient Western dictators green with envy.

I need hardly remind you of the samples of unbridled militarism in action that we have had from Japan in the last eighteen months. Pearl Harbour was a perfect specimen of the Fascist art of total war. And it wasn't the first time the Japanese had played that trick. Treachery raised to the nth power is the final resort of all dictatorships. The harder and dirtier the initial blow, the better the dictator's chances—or so he thinks.

Pearl Harbour put the best efforts of the European gangsters—Mussolini's attacks on France and Britain, then on Greece; Hitler's unprovoked attack on Poland—right in the shade. For sheer violence and duplicity it holds the top place in the record. But Pearl Harbour was only the culmination of a long series of experimental outrages.

The Japanese tried out the technique of provocation before any of their European imitators. Their invasion of Manchuria had for its pretext an outrage attributed to the Chinese but really committed by one of the leaders of the Japanese young-officer clique, General Doihara, who blew up the railway tracks at Mukden. Then there was the sinking of the U.S.S. *Panay* when the Japanese attacked Nanking. That was the work of another extremist officer, Colonel Hashimoto. Both these men now hold high positions in Tokyo.

Do you see much difference between affairs such as the Mukden incident, the bombing of the *Panay* and finally Pearl Harbour and exploits such as Mussolini's shelling of Corfu and Hitler's bombing of Guernica in Spain? I see none at all. If there is a difference, it is only that Japanese preparations were more secret than those of the European dictators; and their blows, when they struck them, were more shrewd. The Japanese have always been efficient slaughterers.

THEIR CLOCK STOPPED LONG AGO

The Japanese Fascists and militarists have no need to 'put the clock back' in their country, for the simple reason that the Japanese clock stopped long ago. Japan has never been a true Democracy or anything like one. A hundred years ago she was a medieval State governed by one dominant clan and severely cut off from the outside world. Those depots, the Japanese Shoguns, were so afraid of civilising influences that they forbade their subjects to travel and even prohibited the building of ships that could go overseas. A human darkness unequalled in any corner of the globe was for centuries the distinguishing feature of the Land of the Rising Sun.

The Shoguns were the first to invent autarky, now so dear to Fascist economists. They prohibited foreign trade and kept up a closed economy which, in practice, meant grinding poverty for the masses. Apart from that, they maintained themselves in power by exactly the same methods as Hitler and Mussolini in our time: only they were more thorough.

Not only was no Japanese allowed to go abroad, he couldn't even go from one place to another in his own small country without showing a passport and complying with a host of regulations. The Shoguns even invented an internal system of hostages to keep the big landowners under control. They were compelled to spend part of their time on their estates each year; but, when they left the capital, where they carried on their profiteering activities, they had to leave their wives and families behind as hostages for their good behaviour.

Three centuries ago the Japanese despots perfected a system of police government only rivalled by Himmler since. Their spies were everywhere; the Gestapo would have found in seventeenth-century Japan a perfect model. 'Preventing dangerous thoughts' was then, and still is, one of the official functions of the Japanese police.

The society over which this terror-system ruled was organized on the strictest lines of class-cleavage, and still is. The fundamental distinction was between the Samurai, or warrior class, and the workers on whose toil they lived. Among his other privileges, a Samurai had the right to cut down a mere worker with his sword if the worker showed any lack of due humility.

Every detail of every individual's life, from the cradle to the grave, was controlled by endless and rigid regulations which he broke at his peril. How he was to behave, what clothes he was to wear, what he should eat, what ceremonies and sacrifices he must perform, how he should earn his living, what were to be his relations with those around him—none of these details was left to his private choice. The rights of the individual were unheard of. Every Japanese citizen was a duly appointed

cog in an absolutely merciless machine, controlled by forces beyond his ken. You see my original definition of Fascism coming true once more? Denial of liberty and social progress, enslavement of the individual by the state, naked force as the basis of all government—all these conditions have existed from time immemorial in the Japanese Empire.

None the less, the growth of freedom in Europe did at last produce waves of unrest in this benighted land. Only about fifty years ago, revolts and disturbances became so ominous that the ruling powers had to give the country the semblance of a Democratic constitution. But only the semblance, not the real thing. The Government could always fall back on the supposedly divine authority of the Emperor to enforce its will. In any case, the new parliamentary system was carefully designed to have no real power.

The Japanese House of Representatives was set up in 1890. It has never had any authority, for the simple reason that its ministers are not responsible to the Japanese Parliament. They are not even responsible to the Prime Minister or to each other. They are responsible only to the Emperor; and in vital matters, such as defence, the individual minister refers directly to the Throne. The Emperor's decision on any subject is final; he is the Son of Heaven and his word is law.

More important still, the Minister of War *must* be a general and the Minister of Marine *must* be an admiral; no civilian can hold these posts. It follows that no civilian Prime Minister can control these men. And because they are nominated by the Services, the Ministers of Defence are always under the thumb of the secret military societies that are the curse of Japan. Of these, the young-officer clique, whose ideas are now based on the principles of militant Fascism, is the most prominent.

Such a state of things explains the eclipse of the wretched Japanese Liberals, who achieved some prominence for a time. It also explains why Japanese foreign policy is totally subservient to military aims. Of course, there is always the Emperor, and one might think that his final authority could be used to counteract these influences. But, in fact, the Emperor is the prisoner of his own armed forces, as he was unpleasantly reminded seven years ago. The young-officer clique, led by the tireless Colonel Hashimoto, then staged a mutiny accompanied by a blood-bath for statesmen whom the Fascist officers found too moderate for their taste.

MILD DESCENDANT OF THE GODS

Hirohito, Son of Heaven, the 124th of his line, is, according to the Shinto religion, the direct descendant of the gods. His position is certainly unique. Personally he is a mild sort of fellow, chiefly interested in marine biology, on which he is quite an authority. Fishing up seaweed and studying the habits of jelyfish would be more in his line than sitting on the throne of the Sun Goddess. He is credited with Liberal inclinations, and it is said he disapproves of the extremists. But dictatorships, whether of individuals or of secret groups, have a short way with such scruples, even in the highest quarters. Pulling a fast one on the Son of Heaven is just child's play to them. They'll hand him a *fait accompli* in the best Hitler style.

Did you notice that Hirohito's edict declaring the state of war with Britain and the United States was issued two days *after* the attack on Pearl Harbour? That dastardly blow was prepared and struck without the Emperor's knowledge, just as the invasion of Manchuria was started without consulting Parliament or the civilian ministers or the Japanese Foreign Department. The same men—the Doiharas and Hashimotos—were responsible. Once the thing was done—once the state of war existed—what could the little spectacled Emperor do but toe the line.

And the Japanese-people: what do they make of all this? Are they blind to the tyranny that rules them; to the destruction it leads them to? Not at all. The more intelligent Japanese loathe the system. They frequently protest against it. But the only recognized form of protest against higher authority in Japan is to commit suicide, which really doesn't help much. And the people as a whole have been so conditioned to the state of under-dogs that they are powerless to shake off the collar.

Even religion in Japan has been for centuries the chosen instrument of militarism. What Goebbels does to his people through the press and radio, the Japanese jingoes do to their people through their shrines. Shintoism is really nothing but a military cult. It is unique among religions in offering no theory of a future state and having no moral code at all. It makes no appeal to reason or natural emotion. It inculcates rabid nationalism as the sovereign virtue.

It is called 'the way of the gods,' and with it goes Bushido, 'the way of the warior,' a code of conduct based solely on the conception of military hardness. We know what such codes lead to—the murder of captured airmen, the rape of captured women, the use of helpless prisoners for bayonet practice.

This Shintoism makes the Japanese the aptest people in the world—more apt even than the Germans—for blind obedience without a thought of individual rights. Their slavery to the State is as total as that of any people under Fascism. Far more so, in fact, for they have nothing else to remember, and their bondage begins when they first see the light. And that State lies at the mercy of a completely ruthless military caste.

Japan to-day is a Fascist totalitarian State as surely as Germany. Much more surely than Italy, where Fascism now shivers on the brink of retribution, or Spain, where the nation was bled white to establish Fascism. But this Japanese brand is Fascism without a Fuehrer—power exercised not by an individual but by an anonymous gang working behind the scenes, with an apparently all-powerful but really captive demi-god as their tool and cloak.

I repeat: 'By their deeds ye shall know them.' The deeds of the latter-day Samurai cry to heaven for vengeance. Their cruelty and bestiality far outdo the best efforts of the Hitlers, the Himmlers, and the Mussolinis of this world.

"LET US GET ON WITH THE JOB"

"Now let us get on with the job. Together with our American allies, we have knocked Mussolini off his perch. We will now drive the Germans from Sicily. Into battle with stout hearts. Good luck to you all."

—GENERAL MONTGOMERY'S *message to the Eighth Army on August 2.*

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(From start of War to 30th July 1943)

Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	25	4	47
Destroyers	74	20	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types	24	3	17
Total	138	30	152
Non-combatant ships	247	24	112

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	21	3	24
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types	1	1	1
Total	51	5	52
Non-combatant ships	143	30	188
Unidentified	12	..	13

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 252 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

29TH JULY.—Strong formations of United States heavy bombers attacked aircraft factories in central Germany including the aircraft factories at Kassel and Magdeburg. Over 60 German aircraft were destroyed.

Offensive sweeps were also carried out over the Dutch Coast, Zeebrugge and northern France.

American heavy bombers bombed Kiel and the Fockewulf factory at Oschersleben.

30TH JULY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Hamburg in very great strength. Enemy airfields in Germany and France were also attacked. Two enemy planes were destroyed over the Bay of Biscay.

31ST JULY.—The port of Hamburg was in flames. Remscheid, the centre of German machine tool industry, was attacked. United States heavy bombers attacked the Fiesler aircraft plant at Kassel. German airfields in northern France were also attacked.

1ST AUGUST.—There was slight enemy air activity over the coastal districts of East Anglia. One German aircraft was destroyed.

Allied aircraft attacked enemy targets in northern France. Two enemy fighters were shot down.

2ND AUGUST.—It was reported that Dr. Goebbels had ordered the immediate evacuation of all school children and all non-essential adults from Berlin as a big raid by the Royal Air Force was anticipated.

3RD AUGUST.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command in great strength attacked Hamburg and other targets in north-western Germany. This was the 8th attack on Hamburg.

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that the United States Government were transferring 150 to 200 ships to the British Flag.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

29TH JULY.—In a broadcast to the United States on Wednesday (28th), President Roosevelt declared that the war would go on.

British sloops destroyed two U-boats in the Atlantic.

30TH JULY.—President Roosevelt warned neutral countries against giving asylum to war criminals.

31ST JULY.—United States diplomats in neutral countries conveyed President Roosevelt's request to their Governments that they should refuse asylum to Mussolini, Hitler, Tojo or any of their "gang" wanted as war criminals.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

29TH JULY.—United States airforce bombers bombed and sunk an enemy vessel near Tavoy island. The Japanese radio station on Diamond island and enemy installations at Kaingthaung island at the mouth of the Irrawaddy were also attacked.

31ST JULY.—Bombers of the United States airforce attacked enemy targets in Chank, Pintha, Myingyan, Meiktila and Meiaung. An enemy steamer docked at Chathan island and another ship near Rons island in the Andamans were bombed.

1ST AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force bombed Myingyan, an important railway centre on the Irrawaddy. Enemy occupied huts near Buthidaung were attacked. It was revealed that more than 650 rivercraft were damaged by the Royal Air Force in Burma last month; over 300 goods wagons of various types were also damaged.

2ND AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force bombed enemy objectives at Tanngup and Akyab.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

29TH JULY.—General Eisenhower, in a message to the Italian people, said: "We are coming to you as liberators. Your part is to cease immediately any assistance to any German military in your country. If you do this, we will rid you of the Germans and deliver you from the horrors of war."

Reuter's correspondent on the Italo-Swiss frontier wrote: It is reported that Italy is considering the peace conditions put forward by General Eisenhower.

According to a Madrid report, Sgr. Mussolini had been transferred for his own safety to the Royal Villa at Via Reggio on the Gulf of Genoa.

It was reported that German troops had moved to the Brenner Pass and taken complete control of Trieste, Fiume and Pola and were rapidly occupying the Istrian Peninsula.

The Seventh Army captured the towns of Pollina, Castelbuono and Gangi in Sicily. Fierce fighting continued on the Canadian sector of the front.

It was officially announced that 75,000 Axis prisoners had been taken in Sicily so far.

It was reported that the Italian fleet had been ordered to put to sea.

The Badoglio Cabinet decided to prohibit formation of any political party for the duration. Leading personalities of the Fascist regime were taken into custody.

Four Axis ships were sunk in the Aegean Sea.

30TH JULY.—The Rome radio said that the Italians were considering "with great understanding" the Allied peace conditions. "The whole Italian people is aware of the seriousness of the dilemma."

Communist processions took place and clashes occurred in Genoa. The troops in Milan were reported to have revolted.

Communist processions took place and clashes occurred internal conditions in Italy were rapidly deteriorating into a situation bordering on open revolution.

The American Seventh Army took Nicosia in Sicily. It was announced that so far 56,000 prisoners had been taken by Americans and 21,000 by the British and Canadians.

31ST JULY.—The Algiers radio broadcast a warning to the Italian people: "The lull has ended. Be ready —soon the air offensive will be resumed with all its violence."

It was reliably learned in London that nothing was known of any Italian approaches for Armistice.

The *Daily Mail* correspondent reported that German reinforcements in northern Italy and the Istrian Peninsula were swiftly extending their grip on strategic points.

It was reported that German troops began disarming Italian troops in the neighbourhood of Larissa in Greece.

The islands of Favignana, Levanzo and Marittimo off the western tip of Sicily surrendered unconditionally.

Count Ciano resigned his Ambassadorship to the Vatican.

1ST AUG.—Sgr. Mussolini's wife, his daughter Edda and her husband Count Ciano were arrested.

The Badoglio Government issued an order calling up for military service all Italians of 1927–1942 classses.

The American Seventh Army was within 75 miles of Messina and the British Eighth Army 65 miles from that port. The pressure on Catania was increased.

The Royal Air Force bombed rail installations at Reggio di Calabria. It was revealed that the Allies had now occupied 25 airfields.

The Duke of Spoleto, appointed King of Croatia in May 1941, abdicated his throne on the orders of the King of Italy.

The Algiers radio announced that Badoglio was facilitating the evacuation of German troops from Sicily. The German forces in northern Italy were estimated to number 18 divisions.

2ND AUG.—The Eighth Army launched a big push against the main Axis defence line south of Catania. American forces captured San Stefano and took 10,000 prisoners while capturing Mistretta.

Heavy bombers attacked docks at Naples and the airfield at Capodichino.

The Algiers radio broadcast a warning to the Italian people: "We insist on an unconditional surrender. You have been betrayed by Mussolini, now Badoglio is betraying you. We are at your gates. You will be made to feel the grim realities of war by our future operations."

3RD AUG.—A meeting of the British War Cabinet was held. According to the *Daily Express*, "Special steps have been taken to make it quite clear to King Victor and Badoglio that the Allies will not modify their capitulation terms whatever action Italy may take."

The situation in Milan was tense. Owing to hunger, all Fascists in Como surrendered.

The Germans disarmed the Italian soldiers in the valley of the Po. Two Fascist millionaires of Turin were lynched.

Emperor Haile Selassie, commenting on the fall of Mussolini, said: "The Duce's crimes have been many and serious. Having been one of his victims, Ethopia sees in Mussolini's passing the vindication of justice and humanity."

The Canadian troops captured Regalbuto. Allied troops entered the western end of the Catanian plain. Naples, and localities in Sicily and Sardinia were attacked by Allied planes.

It was revealed that Indian troops played a great part in Allied landing in Sicily.

According to the *Daily Mail's* special correspondent, Italy's principal Senators met in Rome and decided to inform Marshal Badoglio that the war should be terminated as speedily as possible—by capitulating, if necessary. It was also reported that a "peace march" on Rome was being organized.

Demands for the abdication of King Victor and the resignation of Badoglio were made by Italian patriots in Turin and Milan.

Mr. Mackenzie King, Canadian Prime Minister, in a broadcast, envisaged the "complete political and social collapse" in Italy.

4TH AUGUST.—British and Canadian troops pressed steadily towards the Etna foothills. The American Seventh Army captured Caronia. American cruisers and destroyers bombarded Axis positions and laid down a ceaseless patrol of Messina Straits.

Marshal Badoglio ordered an enquiry into the fortunes amassed by Fascists under the Mussolini regime.

Mussolini's first newspaper *Avanti* turned against him calling for his arrest and trial as war criminal.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

29TH JULY.—General Rokossovsky made new progress in his drive to encircle Hitler's 250,000 men in Orel. The Red Army closely pursued the retreating Germans.

30TH JULY.—The German Command was reported to be rushing troops from France and Germany in an attempt to hold the Russian drive on Orel.

31ST JULY.—The *Red Star* reported large-scale German attacks on the Donetz front. The Germans made four counter-attacks at Orel and lost over 2,000 men. It was revealed that around Orel alone, the Germans lost nearly 1,300 tanks and over 1,300 planes.

1ST AUG.—The Russian army continued its offensive in the Orel direction and occupied more than 100 inhabited localities.

Heavy fighting broke out near the Briansk-Orel railway line.

2ND AUG.—The Soviet army captured Kuma town.

3RD AUG.—Soviet troops widened their bridgeheads to the north and south of Orel. It was officially announced that the German offensive in the Donetz basin had stopped. The Russians captured Sych, the last station before Orel.

4TH AUGUST.—It was officially announced that the Russians broke into Orel. It was revealed that the Reds had captured 840 towns and villages in the Orel sector.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

29TH JULY.—The British submarine *P* 615 was lost.

1ST AUG.—A new aircraft carrier *Bataan* was launched at Camden, New Jersey, United States.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

29TH JULY.—Following the fall of Mussolini, several authentic reports indicated that monarchists in Spain were planning Franco's overthrow.

3RD AUG.—It was reported that seven Liberators returning from the Ploesti raid made a forced landing in Turkey.

VICHY, FREE FRENCH AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

29TH JULY.—It was reliably learned that Hungary was putting out peace feelers through Turkey.

30TH JULY.—It was reported that the Germans had presented a definite demand in Budapest that Hungarian troops shall, if necessary, take the place of Italian troops in the Balkans.

31ST JULY.—China severed relations with Vichy.

The unification of all the French armed forces was achieved. General de Gaulle was appointed President of the Council of National Defence and General Giraud the Commander-in-Chief of all French forces.

1ST AUG.—American Liberators from the Middle East bombed seven Rumanian oil refineries at Ploesti. More than 175 aircraft took part and nearly 600,000 pounds of high explosive bombs and hundreds of clusters of incendiaries were dropped. The attack involved a round trip of 2,400 miles from base to target and back. At least 51 enemy aircraft were destroyed. The raid on Ploesti was ranked with the battles of Britain, Stalingrad and Tunisia as one of the major events of the Second World War.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

29TH JULY.—Allied planes set on fire a Japanese destroyer and a merchantman off New Guinea and also attacked a number of Japanese barges. Japanese airfields at Lantem and Cape Chater on the island of Timor were also attacked.

Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, said: "Our determination to defeat Japan is no one whit less than our determination to overthrow Hitler. Our cause and the cause of China is one."

30TH JULY.—General Kisaburo Ande, Japanese Home Minister, warned the Japanese people to prepare for air raids on a large scale.

The United States Navy Department announced that United States submarines had sunk ten Japanese ships and damaged four others in the Pacific and the Far East.

31ST JULY.—China took over the Chinese section of the Indo-China railway for reasons of military necessity.

Chinese forces launched attacks on Japanese positions north of Hangchow in Chekiang Province.

A Japanese counter-attack against the American forces closing round Munda (the Japanese air base on New Georgia), was repulsed.

Dr. Evatt, Australian Prime Minister, said that he had secured from Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt "very substantial allocations" of additional aircraft.

1ST AUG.—Allied dive-bombers made a heavy and concentrated attack on Japanese positions on New Georgia. More than fourteen Japanese barges were sunk along the coast of New Guinea.

2ND AUG.—Japanese out-post positions in the Solomons were bombed.

General Chiang Kai-shek was formally chosen as acting President in the place of Dr. Lin Sen who died.

3RD AUG.—American forces on New Georgia made a general advance around Munda airbase. A Japanese destroyer off New Britain was set on fire. Allied artillery shelled Salamaua airfield.

The Tokyo radio stated that General Oshima, the Japanese Ambassador to Germany, conferred with Hitler and Ribbentrop on the European military situation.

4TH AUGUST.—It was reported that several thousand troops started a new drive on July 22 along the west bank of the Salween river from Tengchung in western Yunnan province.

HITLER'S GUN SPIKED

"When the Russians abolished the Comintern they spiked the last big gun of Hitler propaganda. Russia, in frigid but correct way, is neutral towards Japan. We could not wish them be otherwise now if that were to bring down upon the Red Army an attack from East *via* Japan coincident with Hitler's drive on Orel, Byelgorod and Kursk. But Russia, by abolishing the Comintern, I believe, has contributed directly to our Chinese ally by promoting unity in China. It has given Chiang Kai-shek and his Government real help in the propaganda war, which the Chinese Quisling Wang Ching Wei and his masters have been waging against Chungking. This has been recognized and commented on favourably by the Chungking Press."

—MR. JOSEPH DAVIES, *ex-Ambassador to Russia, at New York, on July 31.*

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1943 No. 48

THE BATTLE FOR SICILY

GENERAL MONTGOMERY

The Germans in Sicily are doomed. The days of the Boches are numbered

General Montgomery, Commander of the British Eighth Army on Monday (August 9)

The Battle for Sicily is over, and won

Reuter's Special Corresponden with the Eighth Army

It is now a question of who can walk the fastest

An Eighth Army Staff Officer

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Sicily: "The Battle is Won"	6
Indian Comforts Fund, London: Madras Contribution, "An Inspiration to Our Work": High Commissioner's Visit to Indian Seamen's Hostel	7
This Week—In Retrospect!	8
Second and Third Fronts	11
Fall of Fascism: A Sequel to Hard Knocks	12
Between Scylla and Charybdis	12
An Anarchist who confiscated the State	14
Mussolini tricked Italy into War	15
Palermo's Aid in Strategy	16
Japan's Two Campaigns	17
Bombardment of Hamburg	18
The Setting Sun: Jap Naval Losses	18
War Diary	19

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR TO BROADCAST

His Excellency has agreed to broadcast either in person or by means of a recording at 7-45 p.m. on September 3, on the occasion of the Fourth Anniversary of the War.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NATIONS

There remains the system of co-operation between nation groups based on some principle of unity, whether of geography or of political outlook or of racial or historical connection. Our enemies have grasped one aspect of this world need in their posing as the champions of a European "New Order" or of a Far Eastern "Co-prosperity Sphere." What they have not realised is that such a new order can only live if it is based not on domination of *Herrenvolk*, but on equal partnership between free nations. The evolution in Europe, in the Far East, in South America of free Commonwealths comparable in scale and importance with the British Empire, the United States or the Russian Union of Republics seems to me to offer the most promising line of evolution towards a more peaceful and better ordered world that we can hope for in the future. In that evolution, it is for us of the British Commonwealth to give a lead at the first experimental stage, in methods of consultation and co-operation in wireless communication to help us maintain an united policy and united outlook on all our essential problems of defence, of mutual trade and of co-operation in social progress. Ever more important than a mere mechanism of co-operation is the spirit that must animate it.

—MR. L. S. AMERY, *at York, on August 9.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

THE SUPREME TEST

The supreme test of our whole system will lie in whether we succeed or fail in the years after the war, in winning a free India, united and at peace within herself to the acceptance of her own unfettered choice of privileges and responsibilities of the Commonwealth and to that high place in its counsels as in those of the world to which her political greatness and gifts of her people should entitle her. Nothing can be of greater consequence to our own peace and to that of the world than to prove by our example that the free Commonwealth can embrace peoples of every race and colour and that the internecine conflicts of Europe need not be a mere prelude to even greater and more terrible racial conflicts in future.

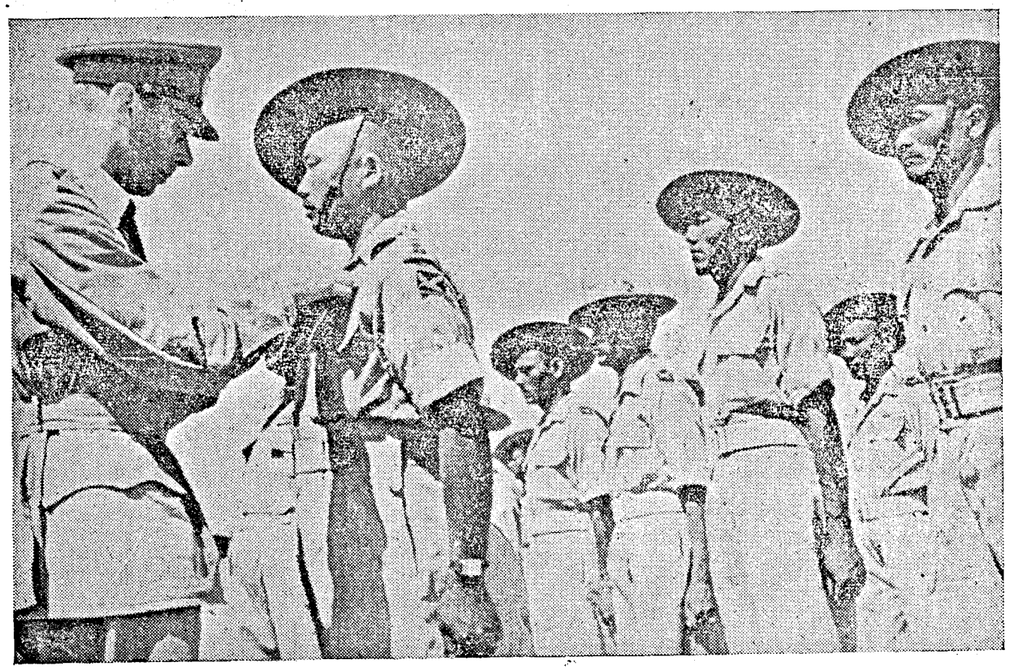
—MR. L. S. AMERY, *in an address to teachers at York, on August 9.*

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1943 No. 48



KING AWARDS VICTORIA CROSS TO INDIAN SOLDIER.—Subadar Lalbahadur Thapa of the Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army, is awarded the Victoria Cross by King George of England during the King's recent visit to North Africa. This was the fifth Victoria Cross awarded to a member of the Indian Army since the start of the war. This picture was sent by radio from North Africa to the United States.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Italy: Allied Warning Put into Effect after "Breathing Space."

ON Saturday night (August 7), a strong force of Royal Air Force Lancasters bombed Milan, Turin and Genoa, three of the most important towns of Italy, where two-thirds of her total industrial production is centred. The Swiss radio said, "The raid on Milan was carried out in several waves. The attack lasted about one hour. Ground defences and night fighters were active. From the frontier huge fires were clearly visible. Towards the morning these disappeared behind a vast cloud of smoke." Thus the Allied warning that heavy bombing of Italy would be resumed because of Marshal BADOGLIO's procrastination has been put into effect. A short "breathing space" was afforded to the new Italian Government to make up their mind. Speaking in the House of Commons on July 27, Mr. CHURCHILL said that it would be wise to let the Italian crisis work itself out a little longer, that "there may be several stages of transition," and that "it would be a grave mistake when Italian affairs are in this flexible, fluid and formative condition for the rescuing powers of Britain and United States so to act as to break down the whole structure and expression of the Italian State." Five days after Mr. CHURCHILL'S

Fourth Anniversary of War

The following official announcement was issued from Buckingham Palace:

"It is the desire of His Majesty that Friday, September 3, being the fourth anniversary of the outbreak of war, should be observed as a national day of prayer and dedication."

speech, that is, on August 1, the United Nations radio at Algiers warned the Italians that the "breathing space" allowed them since July 25, was drawing to a close and that the time was come when Badoglio's Government should unequivocally declare its policy and intentions about the war. "Soon," added the Algiers radio, "the air offensive will begin again in earnest, by day and by night." And the air offensive has begun in right earnest, because the Allies could not wait indefinitely for the Italian crisis to work out its own leisurely course!

* * * *

Choice before Italians—New Government and Old Folly.

The Allies wanted that the initiative should come from the Italian people themselves, who had been held in bondage for a period of 20 years. This bondage was broken by, to use Mr. Churchill's words, the "external shock of war," and now the choice before the Italian people was whether they would secure for themselves, "relief from war, freedom from servitude and, after an interval, a respectable place in the new and rescued Europe" or decide to continue the war against the United Nations as a partner-in-crime with Hitlerite Germany. Mr. Churchill felt convinced that the Italians wanted to be quit of their German taskmasters and wished to revive their former democratic and parliamentary institutions. He was also convinced that the Germans desired Italy to remain a battle-ground so as to keep the war away from Germany itself. If Badoglio's Government decided to remain under the German yoke, the Premier made it clear that it would not "affect seriously the general course of the war, still less would it alter its ultimate result." If the new Government persisted in the old folly, the consequence would be an Italy "seared, scarred and blackened from one end to the other." The bombing of Milan, Turin and Genoa is only a beginning of this blackening process.

* * * *

One Obstacle between Italy and United Nations.

President Roosevelt has emphasized the fact that it was essential that the Italian people should be made to realize the futility of continuing the war. General Eisenhower made the position very clear in his statement. He said that two obstacles stood between them and the United Nations—Fascism and the presence of German aggressors on Italian soil. Italy had got rid of Fascism, but not the German aggressors. Italians no doubt gave themselves up to joyous demonstrations after the fall of Mussolini, but the Government which had stepped into the shoes of the Fascist regime did not seek peace. Ardent political debates about the future of Italy have been taking place, but the Allies could not wait for any length of time for the Italians to come to a definite decision. To them Italy was still a belligerent nation; to them the war was still an unfinished business. The Algiers radio reminded the Italians of the need of acting in time and told them that the "breathing space" given was used by the Germans to strengthen their defensive positions both in Italy and in the Balkans.

Badoglio has declared that the "war continues" and nothing has happened till now to show that Italy is willing to sue for peace on Allied terms. So the bombing has started again. Sometime ago, Mussolini squealed at the terrific pounding inflicted by the Royal Air Force. Now Badoglio must be made to squeal.

* * * *

Axis Propaganda—Goebbels Talks of Germany "Carrying on Alone."

German reactions to the fall of Mussolini afford an interesting insight into the psychology of Axis propaganda. The suddenness of the changes in Italy found Goebbels, for the first time perhaps, literally speechless. On July 26th he cancelled the usual three main radio talks for the German Home Front; for over 30 hours the Berlin radio only broadcast the bare news of Mussolini's resignation, which was attributed to ill-health. But, later, another explanation was given with a view to removing any feelings of bewilderment or uncertainty as regards the repercussions which the exit of the Duce might have on the security of Germany itself. The explanation was that the resignation was only a constitutional formality which did not affect Italy's alliance with Germany. This line of propaganda was emphasized for all it was worth during the week. Goebbels was anxious to persuade the German public that Italy would not desert them. Badoglio's phrase "the war continues" was included in every news-bulletin broadcast from Berlin.

Later, Goebbels began to develop the theme that Germany was still strong, the implication being that even if Italy deserts Germany, the war can still be carried on. Lord Haw-Haw said, "Germany to-day relies on her own strength, and she can rely on it in the perfect certainty that it will suffice to gain for her arms the reward and blessing of a total victory." For some time of late, German home propaganda and, to some extent propaganda to the occupied countries of Europe, have been stressing the idea that Germany is strong enough in her well-organized central position to maintain herself, if necessary, alone, or at any rate to live on her victims and do without her Allies. This was the undercurrent in the main stream of Nazi propaganda after Mussolini's fall, and it has now distinctly come up to the surface.

* * * *

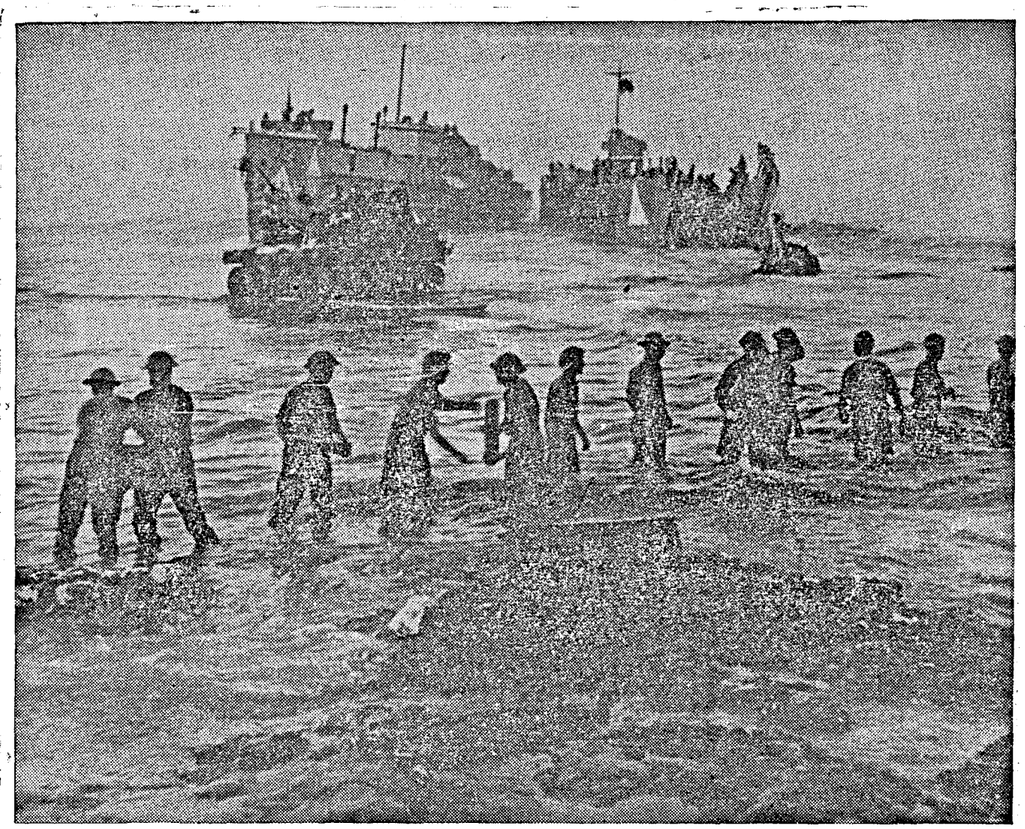
Goebbels Planning for Propaganda Retreat in Advance.

The point to be noted is that Goebbels is emphasizing, not the strength of *Festung Europa* but Germany's own strength. The concept of the "impregnable fortress of Europe" has been quietly dropped. The official summary of the Berlin Press stated, "The German people will continue the struggle until final victory, conscious of its military power and its inner strength." The underlying idea seems to be to impress on the public that Germany alone will continue the war. Goebbels is thus preparing the way for the big propaganda campaign which must follow later if Italy collapses. A Nazi-controlled Czech newspaper has, in a revealing comment, said on July 28, "Germany is invincible on the mainland as long as her population remains united and as long as the German army holds the fundamental European key positions. These positions are the coasts of Norway, the French Atlantic coast, the lower reaches of the Rhine, the Brenner Pass and the Danube Gates with other points in the Balkans." It is not clear from this or from German propaganda in general as to where the eastern wall of the "fortress of Germany" lies! It is as yet too early to say whether the German High Command has planned a retreat to the Brenner Pass and the Danube Gates, but it is clear that Goebbels has already planned out in advance a retreat from "unassailable" European fortress propaganda theme to that of an "invincible" fortress of Germany.

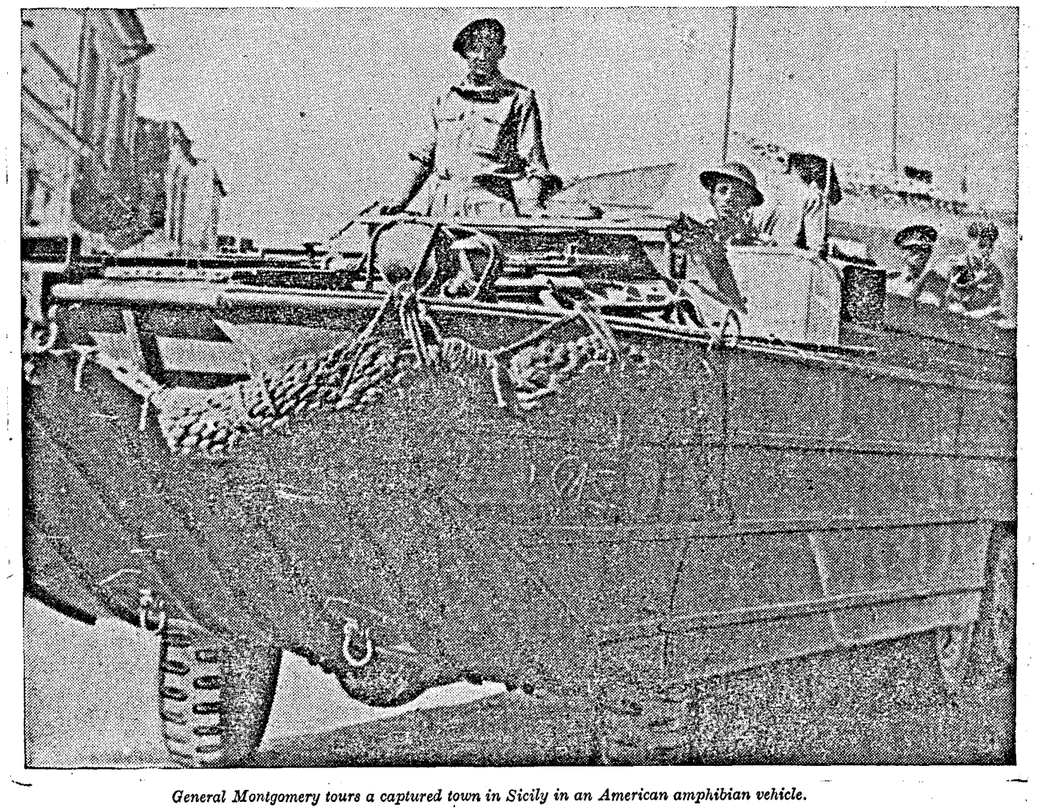
A CORRECTION

The map illustrating the article on Japan's Military Position in the Pacific by Mr. R. W. Robson, published in *Madras War Review*, dated July 30, 1943, represents the war situation at the time the article was written. Since then, the Allies have occupied a large part of New Guinea and a considerable portion of the Solomons.

INVASION OF SICILY



SICILY: Scene on the beach as troops, guns, tanks and transports are rushed ashore to go straight into action.



General Montgomery tours a captured town in Sicily in an American amphibian vehicle.

SICILY: "THE BATTLE IS WON"

AN announcement issued by the British Home Office on Wednesday, refers to an unspecified occasion on which His Majesty the King-Emperor might wish to call the nation to prayer. The announcement says, "Notice for this might have to be short, it is therefore hoped that all those who have the responsibility of leading worship of the people will prepare themselves in advance and make such plans as may be practicable and desirable in their own areas for the Sunday so appointed." It is not quite clear from the announcement whether the occasion for thanksgiving will have something to do with the Allied victory which will shortly be completed in Sicily.

THAT such a victory will be fully achieved there is no doubt. In his summing-up of the operations on Monday, General Montgomery, the great Commander of the British Eighth Army, declared, "The Germans in Sicily are doomed. The days of the Boches are numbered." *Reuter's* Special Correspondent with the Eighth Army's vanguard, said that the Battle for Sicily was over, and won. A Staff Officer of the Eighth Army said, "It is now a question of who can walk the fastest." The position at the time of writing is that Allied troops are very near Randazzo, the focal point of the German defences north of Mount Etna, and have captured Acireale on the east coast of Sicily, which is within 45 miles of Messina and within 25 miles of the Sicilian side of the Messina Straits. If Randazzo is captured, the Germans in the coastal corridor east of Etna and in front of the Eighth Army's right wing will be in danger of being trapped in the bottleneck by the advance of Allied troops from Randazzo to the east coast. The Germans are now desperately trying to delay the Allied advance and their resistance is assuming a back-to-the-wall character. Guardia, north of Acireale on the east coast, has since been captured, and the Eighth Army is now in sight of the Italian mainland.

THE present position of Axis troops in the triangular bridgehead in the north-east corner of the island affords a close parallel to the Tunisian campaign. Both in topography and defences, the north-east corner of Sicily resembles the Tunisian tip. Just as the Allies maintained a concentrated and sustained pressure on the hundred-mile enemy defence line in Tunisia, so also in Sicily there is a similar pressure on the sixty-mile Mt. Etna-Nebrodi line. There is, however, one difference between Tunisia and Sicily, and that is, the close proximity of Axis troops to the Italian mainland from which they are able to bring up reinforcements.

THE object of the Allies in carrying out repeated and concentrated bombing on Messina, Reggio di Calabria and other mainland towns is to prevent enemy reinforcements and supplies going to Sicily. In spite of continued bombing of Messina, the enemy is still using its harbour, and this shows that he is prepared to risk anything in the hope of getting reinforcements and supplies across swiftly, as they are urgently needed.

BUT there seems to be something mysterious about the whole Axis defence of Sicily, one of the main entraces to the "European Fortress." If Sicily is captured by the Allies, they will have a base from which their land, sea and air forces in combination can operate under the most ideal conditions. In other words, with the sea and air supremacy of the Allies, Sicily will be as good as a part of the European mainland.

THEREFORE, it was to be expected that the Germans would have thought it worth while to defend Sicily with German armies in a much greater degree than they did Tunisia. They also boasted that an Allied landing from the sea at any point in Europe would immediately be destroyed. Further it was to their interest to have concentrated a good deal of their military strength in Sicily. They had 8 weeks, after the Tunisian defeat, in which to prepare for the defence. Though they had to watch the Balkans, Crete and other danger spots in Europe, they knew well that a major amphibious operation was being mounted in the Western Mediterranean. But still there was no rush of German divisions to Sicily. Even after six days of the Allied landings in Italy's outpost, Allied headquarters reported that our forces were "not meeting with any srious opposition."

TO what is the absence of any concerted counter-offensive on the part of the Axis due? The question deserves some attention, as it has some bearing on the subsequent stages in the invasion of Europe. It seems that the German High Command have, in spite of Italian protests, abandoned all idea of defending Sicily in force with German troops, and have decided to limit themselves only to a delaying action. This is being carried out by the two or three German divisions and some parachute and anti-aircraft personnel.

THE real reason for such a decision on the part of the German High Command is the expulsion of the *Luftwaffe* from North Tunisia and the resultant military debacle. In Tunisia an army of 300,000 men suddenly became an aimless mob anxious to surrender themselves and their vast quantities of first-class equipment. The Allies had exploited their great air supremacy there only too well. After Tunisia, the Allied air offensive pushed forward to Sicily. The *Luftwaffe* made strenuous efforts to save the situation and brought in bomber squadrons and strong reinforcements of fighters. But they became dangerously expensive, and there was nothing left except the question of depleting the fighter cover of West Germany and "western approaches" or of the Russian front. Without doing that, it was highly impossible for the Axis to hold its own in the Sicilian skies, and without sufficient air strength, it would be foolish to risk the destruction of precious German divisions, drawn at very great risk from Norway or France, on the Sicilian battle-front.

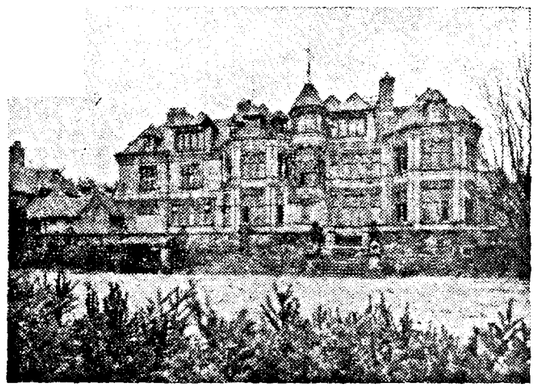
NOW the fate of Sicily is sealed. It is only a question of time when its "Cape Bon Peninsula" would fall. It is possible that remnants of the Axis forces may evacuate to Italy through Messina, which is only four miles distant from the Italian mainland. It may be asked whether it is not possible to cut the line of retreat. Though Allied air forces are pounding Messina and trying to render the port unusable, the narrow sea passage will be helpful to small Axis speed-boats to make swift journeys to and fro. And the Royal Navy cannot operate in the too narrow straits of Messina which are very near to hostile air-fields.

STALINGRAD and Tunisia are too fresh in our minds—and now comes Sicily, to add yet another laurel to the Allied brow. It may be said that Germany's decision over Sicily has decided the fate of Italy itself—not immediatey, perhaps, but in the no distant future.

INDIAN COMFORTS FUND, LONDON

MADRAS CONTRIBUTION, "AN INSPIRATION TO OUR WORK"

HIGH COMMISSIONER'S VISIT TO INDIAN SEAMEN'S HOSTEL



HOSTEL FOR INDIAN SEAMEN IN LIVERPOOL.—A hostel for Indian seamen in Liverpool has been opened at Mere Hall, a country house in Birkenhead. The house, whose grounds cover nine acres, has been refitted to suit the convenience of the seamen, and is said to be the best equipped hostel in Britain. The cost of the venture, including that of running the hostel, is being borne by the shipowners, and in this respect it is the first hostel of its kind in Britain. Photo shows a general view of Mere Hall.

IN a broadcast to India on Tuesday (August 10), Sir Samuel Runganadhan, High Commissioner for India in London, referred to the great assistance received by the Indian Seamen's Hostel from the Indian Comforts Fund, which provided standard parcels of clothing and comforts to all Indian seamen of the merchant navy who came to ports in the United Kingdom. It may interest our readers to know that a contribution of £15,000 was recently sent from His Excellency the Governor's War Fund, Madras, to the Indian Comforts Fund to be utilized for the benefit of Indian Seamen. "This gift" says Mrs. Florence Amery, Chairman of the Indian Comforts Fund, India House, London, in a letter to His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, "has been an inspiration to our work," and she has requested His Excellency, on behalf of the Committee of the Indian Comforts Fund, to "express our most grateful thanks to all who have contributed."

Our readers would be interested to learn that the Indian Comforts Fund has been doing quite a lot for Indian fighting forces in Britain and Indian prisoners of war abroad.

DETAILS OF WORK DONE

The following facts gathered from the annual report of the Fund for April 1942—March 1943 throw a good deal of light on the details of the work done by the Fund:—

In April, 1942 the Fund was caring for some 2,500 Indian Prisoners of War (including seamen) in Europe. This number gradually increased throughout the summer as the campaigns in North Africa developed, until in August, 1942 it had to be prepared for a total of 18,500 Indian prisoners. Sanction was accordingly obtained from the Indian Red Cross to pack 20,000 weekly food parcels with effect from September 7th, and the Stores Department of the Fund had to be considerably expanded to permit of 704 next of kin clothing parcels being packed each week.

By December, 1942, it had become evident that fortunately this estimate had proved unduly pessimistic, so by the end of November it was felt safe to cut down food parcels to 15,000 and clothing parcels to 608 weekly. By 2nd January, 1943, a further reduction was found possible to 10,000 food and 400 clothing parcels respectively each week.

The excess number packed during the last quarter of 1942 were by no means wasted as they formed a very valuable reserve at Geneva against unforeseen contingencies.

One important decision with regard to the next of kin clothing parcels was made with effect from 7th September. From this date it was decided that the parcels should last six months instead of three as heretofore. Accordingly no article of clothing is now included that has not a life of at least six months, and the miscellaneous comforts have been increased to what is considered adequate to last for half a year.

During the 52 weeks from 6th April 1942 to 3rd April 1943, 544,388 special Indian food parcels were packed and despatched to Geneva.

"CASTE-PROOF" PARCELS

Each parcel contains a complete and balanced diet which has been specially planned with the assistance of dieticians and nutrition experts to supply what is lacking in the prison camp rations. Here is a standard parcel:

*Margarine	*Milk	Sugar	Indian lentils
Indian flour	Biscuits	Tea	Rice
Curry powder	*Chocolate	Vegetables	Tinned fruit
Salt	Salmon		

* Specially fortified with vitamins.

The parcel is "caste-proof" and can be fully enjoyed by all classes, castes, religions or creeds. Toilet soap is included.

Clothing parcels are all paid for and packed by the Indian Comforts Fund which acts as next of kin to each prisoner. During the 12 months 6th April 1942 to 3rd April 1943, 23,162 of these parcels have been sent to Geneva for distribution, enough for 2 parcels for each man.

A typical parcel contains selections from the following.—

Towel	Pullover	Chewing gum	Tooth paste
Shirt	Cap	Razor	Shaving soap
Vest	Scarf	Razor blades	Belt
Pants	Gloves	Tooth brush	Bootlaces
3 prs. socks	Shoes	Hair brush	Mending material
Sunlight soap	Comb	Pencil	Keating's powder

The Fund also sends out hair oil and special articles for Sikhs when it is possible. Others have been sent direct to Geneva from India by the Indian Red Cross.

Both food and next of kin clothing parcels bear special markings to show they are for Indians only and are sent in bulk and not addressed to individuals for the following reasons:

(a) Prisoners may be moved from camp to camp.

(b) If part of a consignment is lost, the remainder can be divided between camps.

(c) New prisoners can receive parcels before their names reach London.

It is now known that there are approximately 14,000 *Indian prisoners of war in German and Italian hands in Europe. Arrangements have accordingly been made to pack and dispatch* 14,000 *weekly food parcels and* 560 *weekly clothing parcels with effect from* 17th *May* 1943.

BOOKS

In December, 1942, His Majesty The King expressed a wish that a portion of his gift towards Prisoners of War Libraries should be allotted to Indians. Unfortunately, one large consignment of Indian books, sent by the Indian Red Cross from India, failed to reach Britain. Others however were available and were sent off as token parcels to the camps in Germany and Italy, each book bearing a label affixed by the Librarian of Windsor Castle to commemorate the nature of the gift. Payment for the books was made to the Indian Red Cross from His Majesty's privy purse. During the year other books were also despatched whenever available, and the Fund now holds its own special export censor permit.

INDIAN SEAMEN

During the 52 weeks under review 27,298 bundles of clothing have been packed and sent to Indian Seamen of the Merchant Navy in Britain. These have been distributed to ships, and shore establishments by the High Commissioner's special Indian Seamen's Welfare Officers and other voluntary representatives of established organizations.

The following further grants have been made to Hostels from the gracious gift of Her Majesty the Queen, allocated for this purpose:

£100 between the three Welsh ports of Swansea, Newport, and Cardiff.

£40 for furniture and a gramophone to Mersey Missions, Birkenhead.

£200 for Mere Hall, the new residential club for Indian seamen at Liverpool.

£200 for the recently opened Indian seamen's club at Hull.

£100 promised to British Sailors' Society for projected club for Indian seamen at Avonmouth.

In his broadcast speach from London on Tuesday, Sir Samuel Runganadhan, referred to the lounge room in the Indian Seamen's Hostel at Birkenhead (see photo on this page) which was furnished from the allotment made to the Indian Comforts Fund by Her Majesty the Queen.

Photo shows the lounge of the Indian Seamen's Hostel.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

By "CHRONICLER"

According to Lord Trenchard, Marshal of the Royal Air Force in England, it was Mr. J. M. Spaight who styled the series of aerial engagements in 1940 over Britain as the Battle of Britain, 1940. Mr. Spaight is the author of a volume entitled "The Battle of Britain, 1940" and the Marshal of the Royal Air Force has furnished a foreword for the same.

Mr. Spaight, however, explains: "The U-boat campaign is as definitely a part of the Battle of Britain as is the air attack upon our cities. It is indeed the greatest of the dangers with which we are confronted . . . To defeat the submarine is for us the most important task of all. Defence against the air attack is, in comparison, of secondary moment." We are here, however, concerned with the aerial battle of Britain which raged over Britain during this week and continued in the succeeding ones with increasing intensity.

Major-General J. E. Chaney of the United States Army Air Corps who served for a month as Official Observer in Britain said on December 3, 1940, in a statement to the press that the aerial battle waged over England in August and September would be bracketed in history with Marathon and Waterloo as one of the world's decisive military engagements.

"The Knights of the Round Table, the Crusaders," said Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons on June 4, 1940, referring to the work of the Royal Air Force, "all fell back into a prosaic past, not only distant but prosaic, before these young men going forth every morn to guard their native land and all that we stand for, holding in their hands those instruments of colossal and shattering power, of whom it may be said that 'every morn brought forth a noble chance and every chance brought forth a noble deed.'" The British fighters had already won their spurs from the beaches of Dunkirk and established their superiority in combat to the airmen of the *Luftwaffe*, achieving what, in the words of Mr. Churchill, "was a victory inside this deliverance."

BEGINNING OF THE BLITZ

The air battle over England began on August 8, 1940. Major-General Chaney regards this battle as divided into three phases, the first stage commencing from August 8 to 15, the second from September 5 to 15, and the third from September 27 and still continuing. In the first phase the German attack, carried out by waves of bombers escorted by fighters, was directed against shipping and aerodromes. In the second phase the German aircraft flew at a greater height and tried to flank their targets; but in both the phases they were met and defeated by the Royal Air Force. The third phase was marked by the flying of enemy fighters at far greater heights 25,000 to 30,000 feet, for bombing by day, and of big bombers for bombing by night.

No doubt there had been earlier engagements than August 8. There was one at Dover on July 29; another on May 9 when incendiary and high explosive bombs were dropped in a wood near Canterbury. Even still earlier raids had taken place, so early as 16th October 1939 when the first German raid of the war against Great Britain took place. On that day a dozen enemy bombers attacked various naval units at Rosyth and the Firth of Forth.

These were, however, mere raids, what General Goering would call armed reconnaissances. The regular aerial offensive against Britain by the *Luftwaffe*, the series of battles in the air, began on August 8, 1940, when more than fifty enemy aircraft were destroyed over or round British coasts. The ultimate purpose behind these massed air attacks in August and September was the creation of conditions favourable to the landing of a German army in England. There is ample evidence that invasion was actually planned for mid-September, which was only prevented from materialising by the blows which the Royal Air Force struck at the "invasion ports" in Holland, Belgium and France.

The Royal Air Force began regular raiding of the interior of Germany before Germans began that of the interior of Britain with this difference that the former was directed mainly against military objectives, while the latter was, in effect at least, upon civil population. British Aircraft of the Advanced Air Striking Force in France attacked lines of communications in Germany so early as May 14, 1940, with a view to easing the pressure upon British and French armies. The German News Agency stated on May 18 that the raid on May 17 was the seventy-second to be made on German territory since May 10. Thenceforth the nightly raids of the Royal Air Force into Germany have been almost continuous.

On August 8, 1940, a force of about 400 German aircraft, largely dive-bombers with escort of Messerschmitt fighters, attempted repeatedly to attack convoys in the narrow waters and were engaged by British Hurricanes and Spitfires in a series of encounters which continued from 9 o'clock in the morning until 5 in the evening. Britain lost nineteen fighters and seventeen pilots and destroyed thirty-six of the German fighters as well as twenty-four bombers, the total bag for the day being sixty enemy aircraft. Three days later the *Luftwaffe* made a mass attack on Portland and Weymouth and Germans lost sixty-five aircraft out of the 400 engaged all round the south coast of Britain. On the 11th, Britain lost twenty-six fighters and twenty-four pilots. On the 12th Portsmouth was attacked and British fighters shot down fifty-five German aircraft and the anti-aircraft gunners destroyed seven more. Southampton was raided on the 13th and 14th when the *Luftwaffe* lost seventy-eight and thirty-one aircraft respectively.

* * * * *

In the Italian invasion of British Somaliland, which took place in the first week of August 1940, the first points in the game went to the Italians. The British garrison retired from Somaliland and embarked at Berbera under naval protection. The garrison put up a gallant defence; but it was very small compared to the Italian forces, and consisted mainly of the units of the Somaliland Camel Corps. During the war it had been reinforced from India up to the point where it was thought that, in combination with the somewhat larger forces of the French in French Somaliland, it would be strong enough to repel invasion. These calculations were upset by the collapse of France, when the Italians saw their opportunity and invaded the country in three columns. The affair was of no great importance except as regards prestige. The Axis powers naturally stressed their success in glowing terms and the evacuation of Somaliland was interpreted as a definite defeat.

CONVOY TO MALTA

When, however, the desperate Battle of Britain was going on, the British Government despatched an immense convoy through the Mediterranean with reinforcements and war material for the Navy, Army and the Royal Air Force. The convoy braved the Axis submarines and flotillas in the Mediterranean and without losing a single vessel, dropped a part of the supplies and men in Malta and disembarked its precious cargo at Alexandria. From that moment the situation in the Middle East improved, as will be evident from the British offensive commenced from the middle of September 1940.

But the improvement was far from being satisfactory. Two events had taken place almost simultaneously which endangered the Middle Eastern situation. The term Middle East, it must be remembered, is applied to countries east and south of the Eastern Mediterranean, namely, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Libya, with extensions to Iraq, Iran, the Sudan and Abyssinia; while the term Near East is applied to countries of South-eastern Europe, mainly to the Balkans. One of the events was the entry of Italy into the war on 11th June 1940 and the other was the cessation of hostilities in France on the 25th June 1940. These were events which had far-reaching and dangerous consequences and which, according to Major-General H. Rowan-Robinson, were the following:—

Domination of the Mediterranean by the Allied Navies seemed for a time likely to become a thing of the past. The strength of the British fleet in that sea had been calculated in expectance of co-operation with the French fleet and was now far below that of the Italian fleet. The latter, moreover, contained a large number of light craft, surface and sub-surface, that seemed certain to render the transport of British reinforcements and supplies for the Middle East a perilous, if not impossible, undertaking.

The loss to the Allied cause of the French air squadrons in Syria and North Africa and the entry into the battle of the *Regia Aeronautica*, completely changed the balance of power in the air. The Fascist fliers possessed a frontline strength estimated at 1,500 aircraft, and with many world records and the honours of Abyssinia and Spain emblazoned on their wings, their inherent weakness was unsuspected. Their service to the strategy of the Axis, not being required elsewhere than in the Central and Eastern Mediterranean, they could develop in that theatre the maximum of power and thus be assured of an immense preponderance in numbers in an area where they already possessed every advantage of position.

Based on Sardinia, Southern Italy and Sicily they were well placed for an assault on British fleet and transports. In such action they would be practically unopposed, except by machines of the Fleet Air Arm which always suffer in comparison with Land Aircraft, owing to limitations of space, both of housing and take-off. On the borders of Libya, Italian aircraft would be within easy bombing reach of the Suez Canal, and the naval base at Alexandria, both of them objectives of cardinal importance to the Empire. From the Dodecanese the Italian bombers could strike British oil refineries and oil tankers at Haifa and damage that excellent little harbour.

The entry of Italy and the exit of France had another adverse effect on our prospects in the Mediterranean. It deprived British aircraft of stepping stones to Egypt in France and North Africa and determined that British fighters at least must travel there at a snail's pace, packed on shipboard.

On land the defection of France left on the Levantine front a huge gap which might be exploited for Axis advance eastward, should Italy win command of the sea. It also deprived Britain of the fine leadership of Weygand and of the help of what had probably been the best French army in the field.

Finally it enabled Mussolini, instead of having to face both ways in Libya, to ignore his Tunisian front and to concentrate the bulk of his great army in that province towards Egypt.

Abyssinia would now play a part by the sea, land and air. From her modernized ports of Massawa and Assab, she flanked at very short range shipping in the Red Sea; and at Mogadishu, she threatened the route round the Cape to India.

"Seldom, if ever, in our history, except through direct defeat, has there been so sudden, and to all appearances so catastrophic, a transformation scene in a situation which had previously appeared eminently satisfactory. Certain it is that our position in the Middle East in the months of July and August was decidedly precarious and must have caused the gravest anxiety to the Government."

COUNCIL OF PLACENTIA

In a boadcast message from London on 14th August 1941, while H.M.S. the *Prince of Wales* was still at sea on her homeward voyage after the Council of Placentia, Mr. Attlee gave the world the text of the Atlantic Charter. The fact, however, is the Charter was approved by the President and the Prime Minister on August 12, 1940, shortly before Mr. Churchill sailed on his return voyage. Actually there was no signing of any document at all, as it is often misunderstood, no sealing of any document with wax. After the draft of the Charter was agreed upon by Mr. Roosevelt and by Mr. Churchill, the text was telegraphed to London and Washington. In London a special meeting of the War Cabinet considered it, and having agreed upon all its points, the Cabinet telegraphed its approval to Mr. Churchill, while Washington telegraphed approval to the President. The original Atlantic Charter is several sheets of typescript, while the Charter, as approved by the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, takes the form of two long telegrams.

THE COUNCIL OF PLACENTIA, HELD ON AUGUST 9, 1941, MADE HISTORY. It was as a result of the deliberations of this Council, composed of Mr. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, and Mr. Churchill, Premier of Great Britain, that the Atlantic Charter, approved by both of them and by the Governments of the two countries, came into being on the 12th August 1941, by which the leaders of the two English-speaking nations strove not for new territory or dominion over mankind, but to prevent the carving up of the world and the enslavement of humanity. Time will show that it was a landmark along the flinty road of freedom, like the Magna Carta or the Declaration of Independence. In the famous words of George Washington at the Constitutional Convention at Philadelphia in 1787 what the two leaders sought to do was only to raise a standard to which the wise and the honest could repair, leaving the rest in the hands of God.

THE ATLANTIC CHARTER

The following is the full text of the Atlantic Charter:—

The President of the United States (of America) and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, being met together, deem it right to make known certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a better future of the world.

First, their countries seek no aggrandisement, territorial or other.

Second, they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned.

Third, they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.

Fourth, they will endeavour, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further enjoyment of all States, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access on equal terms, to the trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity.

Fifth, they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field, with the object of securing for all improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security.

Sixth, after the final destruction of (the) Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurance that all the men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want.

Seventh, such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance.

Eighth, they believe (that) all the nations of world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten, or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armaments.

The Atlantic Charter was accepted and endorsed by the representatives of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, and Free France at a meeting of the Inter-Allied Council held at St. James's Palace on September 29, 1941. On August 24, Mr. Churchill gave a broadcast speech, giving an account of his voyage in the Atlantic and the circumstances which led to the Charter. "The United States and Great Britain," he said, "do not now assume that there will never be any more war again. On the contrary, we intend to take ample precautions to prevent its renewal in any period we can foresee by effectually disarming the guilty nations while remaining suitably protected ourselves." Referring to postwar Germany he said: "Instead of trying to ruin German trade by all kinds of additional trade barriers and hindrances, as was the mood in 1917, we have definitely adopted the view that it is not in the interests of the world and of our two countries that any large nation should be unprosperous or shut out from the means of making a decent living for itself and its people by its industry and enterprise."

One more incident regarding the Atlantic Charter and the picture is complete. In reply to President Roosevelt's message through Mr. Wendell Willkie with a quotation from Longfellow (given in the last issue of the MADRAS WAR REVIEW) Mr. Churchill sent to the President the following four lines from Arthur Hugh Clough:—

"And not by eastern windows only,
When daylight comes, comes in the light,
In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,
But Westward, look, the land is bright."

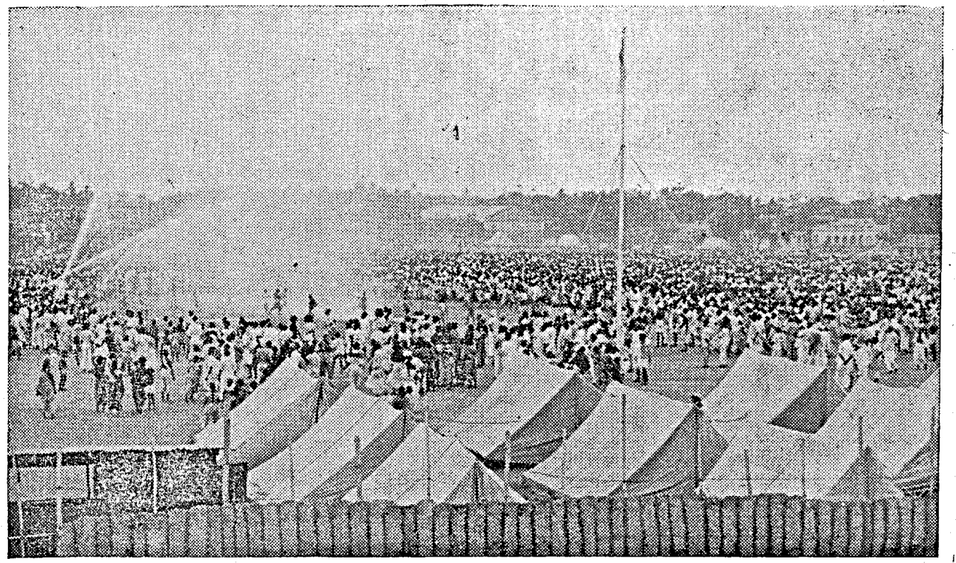
RUSSIA: CAUCASUS SITUATION GRAVE

This week in 1942 saw the fortunes of Russia at its lowest. The Caucasus situation was very grave, Russians withdrawing near Belaya Glina, and facing the fiercest fighting at Rzhev and in the Kletskaya area. Armavir was lost by the Russians and Von Bock continued his drive towards the Maikop oil fields. The position in the North Caucasus deteriorated every moment and the Nazis claimed to have captured Maikop and Krasnador. The position in the Kuban area was also equally critical for the Russian army. In the Stalingrad area the battle flared up with renewed intensity, the Germans bringing up reserves and regrouping them in the Don elbow. Besides this most depressing situation in the fighting front, there was widespread talk of a real threat to Russia from Japan, in spite of the fact that there was the Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact.

This week in 1942 witnessed definite events taking place in South-west Pacific, the Allies launching an attack on the 10th of August in the Japanese fortified area of the Solomon islands. The Allied Air Command attacked Japanese shipping and ground installations in Timor in New Guinea. On the North African front it was authoritatively stated in London that both General Auchinleck and General Rommel were preparing for the next impending move in Egypt.

Madras War Services Exhibition

VISUAL DEMONSTRATION OF COUNTRY'S EFFORT



A typical crowd at the War Services Exhibition during a fire fighting demonstration.

The Madras War Services Exhibition, which will be opened by His Excellency the Governor on August the 27th and will last 10 days, is a fifth of the series which started in Delhi in March and has since visited Bombay, Bangalore and Trichinopoly. It is estimated that over 20 lakhs of people have already visited the Exhibition, with an average daily attendance of over 50,000. The next Exhibition is scheduled for Indore, to open early in October. This will be followed by another Exhibition in Nagpur in the middle of November.

The War Services Exhibition has been organized 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 is technical, and the organizers have not attempted to produce more static exhibits than possible.

The Exhibition is divided into five main sections—Royal Indian Navy, Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Labour Department and Civil.

Royal Indian Navy.—The main exhibits are torpedoes, mines (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 as part of its permanent equipment.

Indian Army.—This section is well represented with tanks (including General Lees and Valentines), several armoured cars and carriers and a variety of anti-aircraft guns. There are also workshop lorries and bridge-building equipment. The tanks take part in a mock battle and guns fire blank shells; this performance is repeated daily. There is also a variety of captured enemy equipment, assembled to form the Exhibition's famous "Desert Scene." Separate Army sub-sections are devoted to Sappers and Miners, Signals, Inland Water Transport, etc.

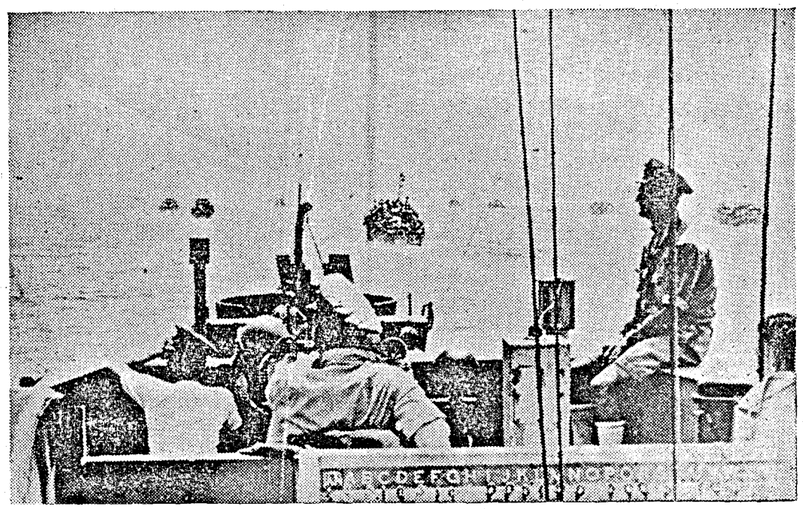
Indian Air Force.—A Hurricane fighter has been displayed on different occasions, also a "made-in-India" aircraft. This has been replaced in Madras by a battle-scarred Blenheim bomber which has taken part in the battles of Britain, Malta and Burma. Another new feature is a "hoppity" plane, specially manufactured recently, which taxis around the ground carrying passengers. There is also a full-scale model of a Hurricane. A smashed-up Japanese bomber is part of the "permanent equipment." There are also model aerodromes and a good working model of a Blenheim bomber showing the mechanism of the under-carriage and safety device. Other exhibits comprise barrage balloons, parachutes, cameras, bomb-sights, gun-turrets, 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.

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. (I), Civil Defence, Grow More Food, Local Industries, etc.

An endeavour is made to increase the variety of the exhibits as the Exhibition moves from place to place. Special new features of the Madras Exhibition will be Combined Services operations, displays of aerobatics, a model town and a model farm and trick riding (motor-cycle and horse).

A permanent feature is a free cinema, which will be located in Madras in the spacious auditorium erected by the National War Front. Two military bands will be in daily attendance at the Madras Exhibition, which will be held on the Island Ground. Admission to the Exhibition, and to each individual stall, is free.



UNITED NATIONS TROOPS IN SICILY INVASION ARMADA —Photo shows a view of the United Nations invasion fleet as it set sail for Sicily in the first Allied move to crack the "Fortress Europa." Looking toward the invasion fleet, this photo was made from one of the British landing craft.

SECOND AND THIRD FRONTS

By WICKHAM STEED

NEMESIS, the Greek goddess who punished crimes swiftly, is overtaking the Fascist delinquents of Rome. She has appeared in Sicily. On the Italian mainland her coming is awaited in the near future.

The Sicilian people have welcomed with flowers and songs the Allied armies that execute her behests. On the outskirts of Rome itself the blast of Allied bombs has announced her irrevocable sentence. Mussolini and his gangsters tremble before her. Millions of Italians, like Sicilians, prepare to welcome her as the bringer of freedom.

Among the many episodes characteristic of the Sicilian spirit none is more significant than the request of the clergy that a British officer should take the place of a Fascist satrap who for 20 years held the place of honour at high mass at the Pachino Cathedral.

MORE HOSTILE TO NAZIS

No less significant of the Allied planning is the prompt establishment of a regular Anglo-American military Government in Sicily with the approval of the local population. This Government has annulled Fascist decrees and has liberated political prisoners. Provisions are being made to feed the population and to supply fuel. Between 50,000 and 80,000 tons of coal may be sent each month from Britain.

However cautiously military and political repercussions of the Allied operations in Sicily and Italy are estimated, many signs suggest that may entail a major crisis for the Axis. One such sign is the meeting between Mussolini and Hitler. Far more than the fate of Italy is involved. Hungary, Rumania and the whole of the Balkan peninsular might become a heavy liability for Germany should Italy escape from German control.

Bitter resentment of German behaviour is shown by tens of thousands of Italian troops who with their commanders have voluntarily surrendered to the Allied forces in Sicily. These troops come from many parts of Italy. If other portions of the Italian army share their temper, military resistance on the Italian mainland may have to be entrusted chiefly to German troops.

TIME TO DECIDE

Now it is a question not only of expelling the Germans from Italian soil but of overthrowing a tyrannical Italian system which Germany upholds in the interest of Germany alone. Literally, the choice before Italy is that defined by President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill in their message to the Italian people.

The message told the Italians that all their interests and traditions has been destroyed by Nazi Germany and by their own false and corrupt leaders. Only by destroying both, it said, can reconstituted Italy hope to occupy a respected place in the family of European nations. Therefore, the time has come for her to decide whether the Italians shall die for Mussolini and Hitler or live for Italy and for civilization. Sicily is now making this choice. It would be strange if Italians on the mainland should choose otherwise. I who lived many years in Italy before Fascism polluted her cannot doubt what her choice will be. She will choose freedom and civilization.

The hour is approaching when the Germans also will be obliged to choose. For the first time since Hitler attacked Russia two years ago, the German summer offensive on the Russian front has ended in total failure. For the first time, a Russian summer counter-offensive has been successfully launched.

German reports that from the north to the south, from Leningrad to the Kuban, a fierce struggle is blazing up along the whole Russian front, are still unconfirmed from Russian sources. Yet last winter's fighting proved that Russian commanders never strike more heavily than on the morrow of an unsuccessful German attack.

Could Hitler replace his serious losses in men and material, his prospects might be less gloomy. But British air raids on the Ruhr have laid in ruins his chief sources of military supplies and have obliged him to keep large numbers of men, guns and aircraft in the west.

EAGER HOPE OF MILLIONS

If Sicily and Italy form a second front, the Ruhr and the Rhineland form a third front. Meanwhile, the Allied success in Sicily forbids Hitler to weaken the German forces that guard the European coasts from Norway to Greece.

Viewed comprehensively, this position may well fill Hitler's mind with forebodings of disaster. It certainly fills hundreds and millions of downtrodden European peoples with eager hope. They too hear the approaching steps of Nemesis. They too make ready to hail her as the bringer of redemption from evil. For they too remember that she is a Greek goddess charged with the punishment of crime.

KEEP GOING AT HIGHEST PRESSURE

Germany might attack again on the Eastern Front, although she was being defeated there now and was also being defeated in Sicily as in Tunisia. Japan had not yet received the full force of the Allies' might but was being checked and workers could rest assured that we would settle with Japan all right.

In the Balkans, and the satellite countries, the Germans were looking apprehensively over their shoulders. If it took the risk, Germany might still make a substantial attack on Britain some night somewhere. "We have yet to defeat the major enemy. The German army is still great and I bid you keep going at the highest pressure."

—MR. HERBERT MORRISON, *speaking in Lancashire, on August* 11.

FALL OF FASCISM: A SEQUEL TO HARD KNOCKS

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

THERE is nothing wrong in rejoicing over good news so long as the probable consequences of the happy event is not overestimated.

The man who has been responsible for leading Italy to disaster has disappeared from the scene, but the news means much more than that; it is the first practical expression of the nation's change of heart. The lesson we have to learn is that this change of heart has been brought about by hard knocks and not by hard words!

As I see it, the problem now facing the Axis in Europe will be solved in Berlin and not in Rome. The German General Staff must decide (or in truth must already have decided) whether they can afford to prop up their tottering ally by sending him reinforcements or whether to leave him to his fate.

Let us face up—as the General Staff have had to do—to the advantages and disadvantages of these alternatives.

Before considering academically the pros and cons of the first course, I feel sure that the businesslike and highly efficient members of the German High Command will have taken stock of their resources; I am pretty confident that they will have been sadly disappointed. They can hardly have thought it the right moment to take troops or aircraft from Leningrad, Orel, Kursk or the Kuban; they cannot more easily be spared just now from France—at least not until Eisenhower has taken Sicily and played his next card. It is very awkward to move troops from the long, much advertised, Continental West Wall when the air forces of Britain and America have loosed a crescendo of falling bombs over Hamburg and Ruhr and there is nothing much more to be got out of the Balkans. At this stage of their discussion, I fancy that the German High Command will have discarded any idea of sending the Italians any reinforcements; but they will have got some solace from finding an excellent reason for not doing so. They will say that Italian morale is so inferior to that of the Herrenvolk that it is not worth the life of another German soldier to keep such a miserable ally by their side. They can thus escape admitting the real reason—their resources are insufficient for the task.

The second alternative will, in my view, have been accepted and it will be very quickly implemented. But this will not mean a hurried departure of all Germans from the Italian soil. It will develop into a well-conducted retreat covered by an effective rearguard. The first Germans to start for home will be the administrative services in the rear for whom there is no further need; these will be followed, or their movements may well be concurrent, by a thinning of the front opposite the Eighth Army at Catania. The last to come will be the German armies of the north which will be left to the end to execute reprisals to bring discredit on the new regime, should the Italians in the south show any disposition to interfere with orderly withdrawal of German troops. This forecast will be proved or disproved in the course of the next few days; but of one thing there is no possible doubt—the first major crack has appeared in the Axis facade.

The good news in the south must not be allowed to obscure the continued Russian successes in the east. The great German offensive in which 15 armoured divisions took part was brought to a standstill in a week; and the immediate Russian counter-attack which followed has not yet been halted. This is a wonderful achievement on the part of the Red Army without anticipating that the fall of Orel will be a second Stalingrad. As soon as the German offensive against Kursk failed, the Russian counter-offensive against the Orel salient was the most likely sequel. The reasons which made the Germans select the Kursk salient for their offensive were equally cogent in suggesting to the Russians the Orel salient for their counter-stroke. It is for this reason that I am not buoying myself up with any hope that the fall of Orel will be a German disaster on the scale of Stalingrad; I think it is wrong to expect it to be so.

There seems, however, to be a general restlessness all along the eastern front. There are stirrings at Leningrad and the German hold on the Kuban is once more at issue.

But above all looms the mighty fact that the Russian movements to the west are taking place four months earlier than they have done before. The winter had been looked upon as Stalin's ally heretofore. Is the summer changing sides?

BETWEEN SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS

By C. M. FRANZERO

HOMER tells in the Odyssey that Scylla was a dreadful sea monster with six heads, 12 feet and a voice like the yelp of a puppy; that she dwelt in a cave in a high rock out of which she stuck her heads and snatched seamen out of passing ships. Within bowshot was another rock under which dwelt Charybdis, who thrice a day sucked in and thrice spouted out the sea water.

Ancient legends always had a rational origin in some natural phenomena. Scylla was on the toe of the Italian peninsula where Reggio Calabria is now; Charybdis stood where Messina is. The ancient saying still used in current language—finding oneself between Scylla and Charybdis—referred to the dangers of crossing the Straits of Messina.

If you stand on the quays of the beautiful port of Messina, you see trains leaving the tip of the Italian peninsula with their passengers for Sicily for the narrow channels crossed by ferry boats which carry complete trains coming from Naples and Rome along the west coast of Italy and from Metaponto along the east coast. At their widest point the Straits are some ten miles wide, at their narrowest only two; but the ferry crosses by preference not from Reggio but from Villa San Giovanni, eight miles north of Reggio, whence the distance to Messina is only five miles. Reggio was totally destroyed in the famous earthquake of December 1908, and in the centre of the town nearly 40,000 persons perished.

MESSINA

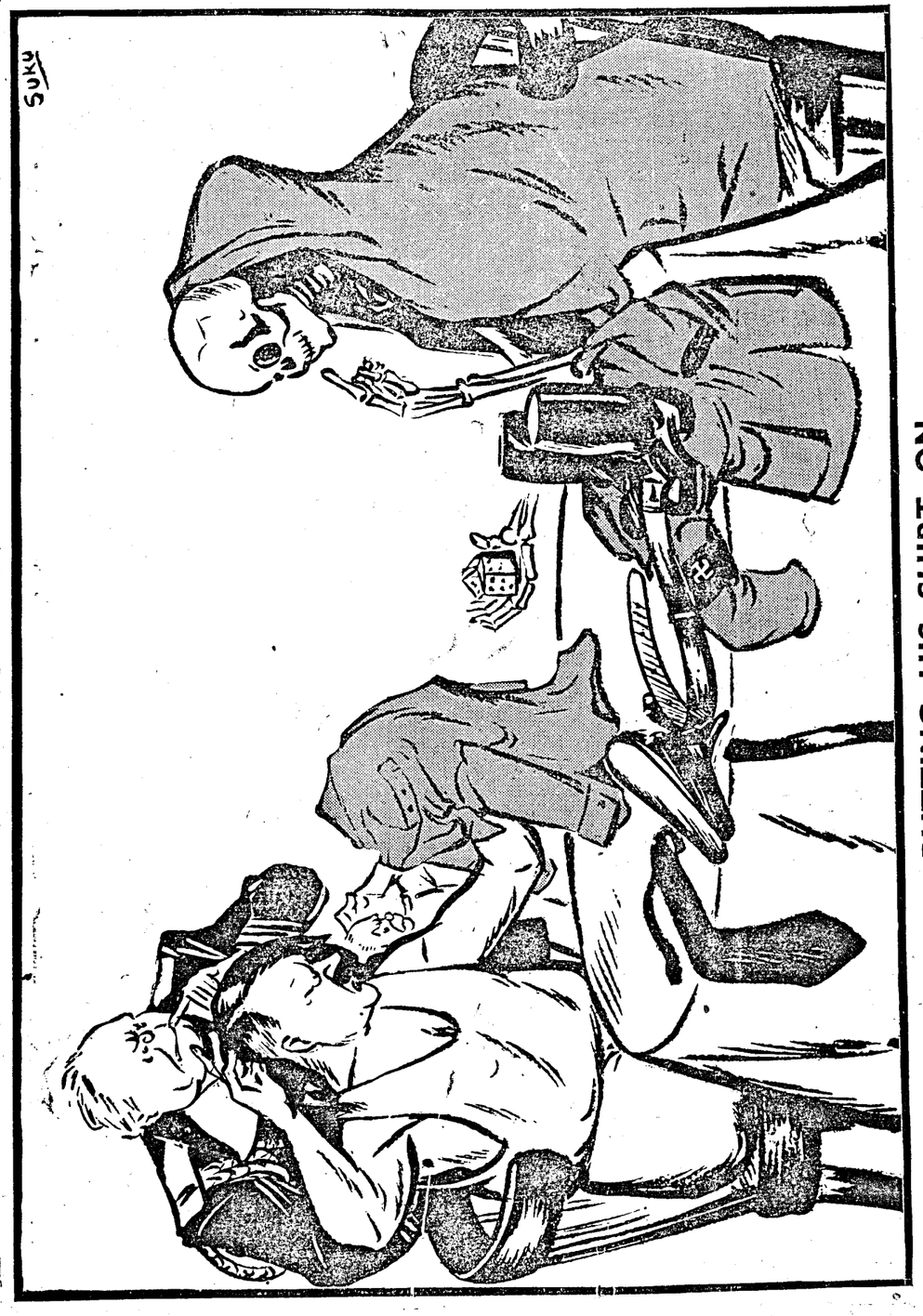
Messina is, of course, the most important end of the Straits. It is a city of some 185,000 inhabitants, a population which for Italian cities is fairly large. Its history which would be too long to recount, goes back to the eighth century B.C. when Greek colonists changed its name from Zancle to Messene.

The importance of Messina is due to its harbour—a circular basin open on the north only, formed by a strip of land curving round like a sickle from which the city took its original name, Zancle, before it was changed to Messene.

EXTRAORDINARY SIGHT

The basin of Messina and the straits proper from one of the most extraordinary sights recorded by geography. At the north end a lowering of the water level by about 300 feet would produce a small isthmus which leads geographers to believe that the origin of the separation of Sicily from Italy may be post-Paleolithic. The straits were most feared by sailors owing to the rocks and whirlpools which gave origin to the legend of Scylla and Charybdis; and the currents do in fact present considerable difficulties, especially in a strong wind. The main current runs south to north and a subsidiary current in the reverse direction. They generally alternate every six hours and are affected by the sun, moon and winds. When the current runs from south to north, the level of water in the straits falls by six to eight inches. It rises as much with the other current; when the current is particularly strong it tears the seaweed from the bottom and sometimes throws up fish with abnormal eyes, and on stormy nights these luminous creatures of the sea give the straits a terrifying appearance.

It is over these narrow and most dangerous waters that the Germans will have to endeavour to transport their troops from Sicily when they will abandon, as usual, the Italians to their fate. Allied bombers overhead may well induce these Nazi invaders to think that the Homeric monsters of Scylla and Charybdis are not yet dead.



PUTTING HIS SHIRT ON

—Specially drawn for the *Madras War Review*.

AN ANARCHIST WHO CONFISCATED THE STATE

MUSSOLINI is an anarchist who has confiscated the State. He saw that the only means of conquering the State was to become the State.

"Down with the State in all its forms", he wrote in the *Popolo d'Italia* on April 6, 1920; "whether it be the State of yesterday or the State of tomorrow, bourgeois or socialist . . . The only faith we individualists hold is Anarchy." Mussolini was in his 37th year when he wrote that.

It would be wearisome to trace all the incoherence in Mussolini's writings and speeches. One thing is constant: the desire of the man to "arrive". And at the age of 37 he had not succeeded in arriving. The passage quoted above is a revealing *cri de coeur*. The man is irritated, exasperated beyond measure: he is capable of any violence, ready for any crime. His temperament is sombre. If others have too frequently made the mistake of not taking the Duce seriously, at least Benito Mussolini has always taken himself tragically.

It is impossible to discuss any dictatorship without studying the personality and character of the dictator; and that is peculiarly so with Fascism. No man has ever exteriorized a country, as he sees it, as he conceives it and as he wills it to be, more completely than Mussolini has done in the case of Italy.

He is the god of his own religion: he is his own god. He is man made god. He despises God made Man.

"As for Christ", he wrote at the age of 21, "he is probably a legendary figure, and in any case he is *piccolo e meschino* (ridiculously small and of no account). All he did was to convert a dozen ignorant vagrants, the dregs of the Palestine plebs." Mussolini never, in his most virulently anarchistic days, reproached the Church for being powerful (as he might have done). He reproached Christ for being weak (which He was not).

Mussolini confuses violence with strength. He is not the first man to have done so. But it is the key to his character..

AN UNPRINCIPLED CYNIC

In his political outlook Mussolini is entirely devoid of principle: he is a confirmed cynic. He has paraphrased Cowper's line in a hundred speeches "the age of virtuous politics is past."

The other quality is even more personal. It is that he is entirely unemotional. There is no tender spot anywhere in his composition. Even in those poignant moments that occur in all men's lives, not even his closest friends have ever seen Mussolini either moved, or manfully hiding emotion. At the time of the Matteoti crisis he was livid with terror—terror of the possibility of being dethroned, as he would have been if his Blackshirts had not countered opposition by instituting a reign of terror.

Bludgeon and castor oil did their fell work. The brilliant young Piero Gobetti—poet, philosopher and publisher, physically frail and constitutionally delicate—got on Mussolini's nerves.

Gobetti's pen was mordant, penetrating and ironical, and his publishing house had issued innumerable works against Fascism by the best Opposition writers. "Make Gobetti's life impossible" was the telegram the prefect of Turin received from Mussolini. His order was obeyed. Gobetti's house was pillaged, his books and manuscripts burnt, and he was beaten unmercifully. Desperately ill, he escaped to Paris, but hardly had he arrived there when he died of a heart attack.

The same thing happened to Giovanni Amendola, editor of the *Leonardo* review at Florence; he too had to go abroad to be operated for a lesion to the liver. He did not recover from the operation. "They have suppressed the liberty of the Press and I can no longer write", he groaned on his death-bed. "They have abolished Parliament, and I can no longer speak. They have struck me down, and I am dying. But all that is nothing. There is a tragedy far greater: they have murdered Italy."

It has been easy for him to play on the emotions of the Italian people. Like a clever actor-manager he has feigned emotion with consummate artistry. He has known how to make his effects tell, because he himself has been completely unmoved. He has played to the gallery when it suited him, but he has always performed with one eye on the box-office receipts.

The Duce has always been concerned to give a better life to the average Italian, because to be able to do so has flattered his egoism. But the life and liberty of Italians are mere "idiocy" if either stands in the way of Benito Mussolini's ambition.

He made this view quite clear in a speech he made in July 1924 before the National Council of the Fascist Party. Opposition to his unscrupulous methods had been universal in Italy, even in his own Party. "'I am accused", he cried, "of taking away their liberty from the Italian people!" (Here, says the official account of the proceedings, the Duce smiles, crosses his arms and looks fixedly before him.) "But the Italian people", he went on, "has never asked me for its liberty!"

"I shall speak to you", he said to his audience at Milan, "with much calmness and frankness (the histrionic candour of the actor-manager) as becomes one Milanese when speaking to other Milanese." Then, after a speech of some length in which the beauty of Fascism was vaunted, he led up to this climax: "If there is a historical truth, it is this: the whole history of civilization, from the cave Man to so-called civilized Man, consists in a progressive limitation of liberty."

It was in this same speech (in 1924) that Mussolini proclaimed that Italy's choice was between "becoming the colony of another country and remaining a Great Power", adding that a Government such as his own had no need of collaborators. Well, it took something less than 15 years for Italy to become a German colony, precisely because Mussolini disdained the collaboration of some of the best intellects in Europe—Italians whose intellectual integrity was at the service of sane patriotism but not of a political pimp who was prostituting patriotism.

PERSONAL AMBITIONS

Both Hitler and Mussolini have always confounded their personal ambitions with their view of the national ideals of their compatriots. In Hitler's case, it was because he was a man of only one idea, the perfect specimen of the monomaniac, that he was able to convert the Greater Germany ideal of his fellow-countrymen into a bloody reality. But in Mussolini's case, it was only by abandoning every principle that he once professed and by throwing all the ideals of the Italian people to the winds, that he bludgeoned his way to power. The German dictator incarnates the *Fuehrerprinzip*, which has been the only permanent principle in German political conceptions from time immemorial. But the Italian dictator represented nothing and nobody but Benito Mussolini.

For the rest of mankind the ill-effects of what Fuehrer and Duce stand for may be much the same. But there is at least the possibility of difference, because of one fundamental dissimilarity in the make-up of the two men. Hitler never reasons. His is the terrifying obsession of the monomaniac, to whom all places of the earth are alike and with whom all argument is futile. There is in Hitler's brain no reasoning *processus* which an argument could set in motion.

With Mussolini the machinery of reason may not be an instrument of precision; but it exists and it works. It is, therefore, susceptible to modifications induced by currents of outside opinion. (Incidentally, Mussolini understands several languages.)

But—and the proviso is crucial—Mussolini's egoism is so strongly developed that he instinctively cuts off the current of any outside opinion which threatens to upset the line of reasoning by which he has already convinced himself.

MUSSOLINI'S EGOISM

A good proof of Mussolini's egoism is that he pretends to be annoyed that others should try to explain him. "I detest those who take me as a subject for their books and speeches", he exclaimed on one occasion. That is natural, for egoism is a tender plant which requires to be watered with ample doses of flattery; the fresh winds of criticism wither it.

On the other hand, there is a submerged element of commonsense in the Duce. At times it appears on the surface. "As a matter of fact", he confessed on one occasion, "my life is not really anything wonderful. There is nothing extraordinary about it that could strike the imagination; it contains no conceptions of new systems. It is an existence full of movement. That, yes. But after all, it is less interesting than that of Savage, the great English explorer."

That is an interesting piece of self-revelation and seems to give us the key to a permanent element in Mussolini's character. He is essentially restless. He adores *movimento*, and in another age he might have been, not perhaps a Columbus or a Bartolomen Dias, but a Cortez or a Pizarro—a ruthless *conquistador*. (Condensed from *World Digest*.)

UNITED STATES PRECISION BOMBING DESTROYS OIL REFINERY IN ITALY.—A stick of 500-pound bombs from a Flying Fortress bomber of the United States Army Air Forces drops toward an important oil refinery at Leghorn, Italy. The bombardier's targets in this precision attack are the oil tanks in the centre of the picture and the cracking and refining plants surrounding them. The bombs landed directly on the target.

MUSSOLINI TRICKED ITALY INTO WAR

BEFORE the war a violent anti-German mood prevailed all over Italy, among all classes, even among the Fascists; this fact has been attested by all who then lived in Italy and have since come from there.

The common-sense Italian man-in-the-street realized that 80,000,000 Germans entrenched in the heart of Europe, and led by men carried away by reckless imperialist exultation, could not be downed by either the 42,000,000 French or the 44,000,000 Italians—if French and Italians did not join hands to convince the Germans that war would not pay. Not even a Franco-Italian alliance would stop the German tide. Nothing less than a triple alliance of England, France and Italy could enforce peace. Disruption of France or England under a German onslaught could yield no advantage for the Italian nation. Italy would be confronted in Europe by one overwhelming power, and would be forced to act as a mere cog in the machine. This would mean the end of Italian national independence in favour of a single predominant power.

These thoughts existed more or less clearly in the mind of every Italian. It is no wonder, therefore, that the great majority of the Italian people revealed themselves unwilling to go to war on Hitler's side. Mussolini threatened "to clean up that small group of human dregs" that dared to disapprove of his policies. If that group had really been small, he would not have felt it necessary to get so excited over it. The truth was that he was not only disarmed but isolated and powerless among a hostile people. He had to avoid war as long as Italy was militarily and spiritually disorganized. It was necessary for him to gain time.

THE ARMY HAD NO BOOTS OR TROUSERS

At that time the Italian navy was in good shape and could make life difficult, if not impossible, for the British and French in the Mediterranean. But the air force was insufficient and obsolete, and the army had fallen into utter destitution. There was an appalling shortage of artillery, uniforms, boots and raw materials. The Ethiopian and Spanish wars had depleted all supplies. What had been left had been squandered in Albania. If one prefers to put it less heroically, one can say that Mussolini could not go to war since he had neither boots nor trousers.

Count Ciano admitted that he had informed Hitler that, especially as a consequence of the Ethiopian and Spanish wars, Italy needed at least three years to bring her war preparations up to the necessary level. Signor Farinacci, wildest among pro-German Fascist leaders, wrote in April 1940: "Last September, both because the conflict was then localized and because it had just broken out after four years of Italian wars, no other attitude than non-belligerence was possible." As a matter of fact, the conflict was not localized at all, since England and France had come in as soon as Hitler had attacked Poland. Thus, the only explanation for Italian non-belligerence was lack of armaments after four years of war.

Throughout the whole of the autumn and winter of 1939–40 no one spoke of the alliance with Germany. The silence was regarded as proof that Mussolini had split with Hitler, and that, had the English and French helped him to refurnish his army and air force and build up his defences at the Brenner Pass, he would certainly have

remained neutral. Or who knows? Perhaps he would even have joined the Allies against Hitler. While the English and French were dreaming with their eyes open, Mussolini organized throughout Italy a new campaign of propaganda. Germany was forgotten. No one spoke of anything except England and France. It was necessary to keep oneself in readiness to go to war, not at the side of the Germans, but rather against England and against France. Men are so made that it is easier to incite them to hatred than to love.

At the same time, the Rome foreign correspondents, channels of Fascist information and not independent observers, were instructed to send out the news that the King, the Crown Prince, and Badoglio had forced Mussolini to remain neutral, that the Pope was also exerting himself to remain neutral, and that therefore "Italy will no doubt remain neutral." This skilful campaign of misinformation had the desired effect. Mussolini, with the time so gained, remedied the hopeless military situation of the preceding summer, through help given him by the French and the British. According to a statement of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace of February 1, 1940, England bought from Italy 160,000,000 dollars worth of ships, machines, cars, and the like. French purchases amounted to about 80,000,000 dollars. As part payment, both the purchasers permitted importation into Italy of raw materials, such as coal, iron and metals. Mussolini took all this material, often postponing payment, and made very slow deliveries to his customers. Evidently he worked in the first place to restore the armament of his own army.

THE ITALIAN PEOPLE WERE TRICKED

Only a mad man would believe that Badoglio or the King or the Crown Prince could have hindered the outbreak of war. The King is incapable of taking any initiative for war or peace. And what about the Pope? Here, too, Fascist manœuvring with the Press was subtle. On May 5 the Pope delivered a sermon in a Rome church, at the end of which he implored the Most High to "disperse the whirlwind of death which crushes humanity." The foreign correspondents were instructed to give great prominence to this prayer, and to point out the fact "that the streets were jammed with enthusiastic citizens who cheered and clapped and waved," and that at the conclusion of the sermon the "congregation gave him a five-minute ovation." Italian newspapers of May 6, however, kept utter silence concerning the crowds in the streets, the sermon, and the applause at the end of it. Rather, on May 7, they announced that on the preceding day the Crown Prince had been received by the Holy Father. Thus the Press was made to represent for readers outside Italy that the Pope was working for peace, whereas the account of the reception of the Crown Prince, one of the two Italian Army chiefs, was meant to bring home to Italians that the Pope and the Italian Government were in agreement. Thus Mussolini succeeded in tricking the Italian people, as well as the peoples of the Anglo-Saxon countries.

When, on June 10, war was declared on France and Britain, it was more of a surprise in Italy than abroad. Mussolini had played a double game well, but he—and the Italian people—have since learnt that it is not worth the candle.—From *World Digest*, condensed from an article by *Gaeano Salvemini* in *the Dalhousie Review*, Nova Scotia.

PALERMO'S AID IN STRATEGY

THE possession of Palermo undamaged opens a new strategical vista encouraging to the Allies and disturbing to the enemy. Its implications are great, because they spring from the strategical principle known in military jargon as that of alternative objectives, observes the *Sunday Times* military correspondent. Our presence in Palermo in strength puts the enemy on the horns of a very awkward dilemma. Are they to expect further Allied landings in Sardinia or on the Italian mainland—say, near Naples? Those places are the same distance from Palermo and are not much more than 160 miles away. In the west of Sicily the Allies have captured other ports and excellent airfields. Both Sardinia and Naples are well within range of airborne troops. After their experience in Sicily, the Axis has good reason to fear them.

Mark the implications of this development so disconcerting to the enemy. The first reaction of the Germans will undoubtedly be to demand stronger, local reserves wherever they are threatened by sea-*cum*-airborne attack. But Axis armoured reserves are limited unless they start withdrawing panzer divisions from Russia, where they have just used up 15 in the Kursk salient, need all they can find at Orel, and are clamouring for more, no doubt, in the Kuban, on the Donetz and at Leningrad.

The Germans find that they are threatened by sea-*cum*-airborne attack in Rhodes from Cyprus, in Crete from Cyrenaica, in Southern Italy from Sicily and in Sardinia from both Sicily and Tunisia.

If the Axis Command—a polite euphemism for the German Command—decide that they must concentrate on the most likely line of Allied attack, which are they to call the most probable? There is so much to be said for each. It is true that some lead to Germany through the Balkans and some through France.

If the Allies want to meet the largest number of Germans in the shortest possible time, they will go through France. If they decide to knock Italy out of the war as the next step, they must enter Italy itself. If they wish to raise a hornets' nest around German ears in the Balkans, they will not invade that difficult area as the first step, for that would need an army of a million men with a huge fleet of transports and landing craft operating without any near-based fighter cover; they will feed the guerilla warfare there. The potentialities of that warfare are very great, and Germany in all probability will fight in Italy to hold it off.

The most confusing aspect of the matter from the German point of view, however—as they say themselves—is that Allied strength in the Mediterranean is now probably large enough to allow more than one operation to be launched at a time. This makes the allocation of reserves an impossible problem to solve with any certainty. All that the Germans can do is to guess the answer. Let us leave them to their guessing.

WOULDN'T THAT BE WORTH?

A Swedish industrialist who visited Berlin brought back this story of the temper of the German people.

A German conferred with the director of his bank. "I have saved 1,000 marks. How can I best invest them?"

The director suggested war bonds. "Der Fuehrer guarantees the security of your money."

"But Der Fuehrer is mortal, too. If he dies, what then?"

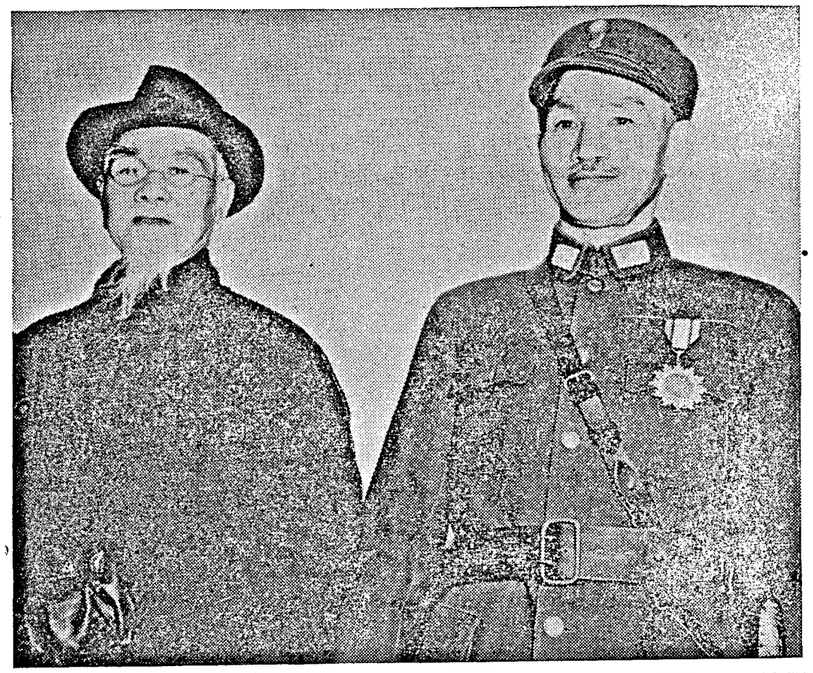
"Then Goering will be the guarantor of your money."

The client still protested, "Goering is a flyer. He might have an accident."

"Then," shouted the director, "you will have the whole Nazi party to be good for your money!"

The client was still unconvinced. "If the army is beaten, the party may also fall."

Thereupon the director leaned over and whispered, "Mein Gott, man, wouldn't that be worth to you 1,000 marks?"



GREAT LEADERS OF CHINA.—The late Dr. Lin Sen (left), President of the Chinese Republic, who passed away at the age of 81 on the 1st of this month, and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the new President of the Republic. Referring to the late President, a Chungking broadcast said, "Dr. Lin Sen was not merely a chief of the Chinese National Government: he was the embodiment of all the virtues that go to make up what the Chinese consider a statesman's greatest power".

JAPAN'S TWO CAMPAIGNS

By LORD STRABOLGI

THE combined offensive by American and Australian forces in the South-West Pacific should have important results. After the crippling of the American sea power at Pearl Harbour and the British and Dutch naval losses sustained in the attempt to defend Malaya and the Dutch East Indies, the Japanese position was so strong that they were able to make a series of advances until August of last year.

Their conquest of Burma created a serious threat for India and, at the same time, their occupation of the greater part of New Guinea and the islands in the east of it, including the Solomons group, brought them to a position in which they could begin to menace the lines of communication between the Pacific coast of North America and Australia.

American naval recovery was primarily due to the heavy warship building programme begun three years before the Japanese intervention in the world war. Whatever the strength of the American isolationists before the declaration of war on the United States by Japan and her European allies, all parties had agreed on the necessity of building a two-ocean navy and construction of a vast number of warships, authorised by Congress, was well in hand.

American and Australian air forces in this theatre of war have established a marked ascendancy, both numerically and technically, over their opponents. The only advantage the Japanese have enjoyed is possession of forward airfields and naval bases. If these are captured, their situation will become very much worse.

Whether the Japanese can make a great naval diversion depends on whether they are prepared to risk the remnants of their somewhat attenuated naval forces. Since the beginning of hostilities, the Japanese have lost three battleships sunk and another 10 have been heavily damaged. Even allowing for repairs to the latter, it is doubtful if the Japanese can muster more than half a dozen heavy warships fit to fight in line of battle. It is known that six of the American battleships put out of action at Pearl Harbour are again on commission; it is known also that a strong force of newly built American battleships are at sea and ready for action.

HEAVY LOSS OF AIRCRAFT

The Japanese have also lost heavily in aircraft-carriers, cruisers and destroyers and the tendency will be to preserve the remainder of the Japanese fighting fleet for operations nearer home.

An action fought off New Guinea between the opposing fleets would take place at a great distance from Japanese dockyards. These are the nearest repairing bases where large warships can be docked. This would mean that damaged ships would probably become total losses.

The same disadvantage would rest on the American naval forces which would be about the same distance from Pearl Harbour or Sydney as the Japanese would be from their own home bases.

But behind the American fleet is the British Navy, the war losses of which have all been made good and which has a margin to spare over and above the requirements of the Mediterranean campaign and the force needed to counter any action by German warships in north European waters.

Japanese commanders owe their spectacular successes in the Pacific to a temporary naval advantage, as already described, but if this situation were reversed, then it would only be a question of time before their conquests were in their turn isolated from the Japanese islands.

The present operations may, from the Allied view-point, be aimed only at a defensive offensive; that is to say, removal of any further threat to the territories of Australia. Later, however, they may be developed on more ambitious lines. Roosevelt has stated publicly that he and his advisers have rejected the policy of inching their way forward from island to island in the Pacific.

Certainly, it would be a long and costly business in difficult climatic conditions to drive the Japanese from Dutch East Indies islands one by one. With the exception of Java, these islands are mountainous and for the most part covered with thick jungle and with a great lack of roads and railways. But if the Japanese could be ejected from the easternmost group, where battles are now raging, it would be possible to mount an assault making use of the predominant air power for the capture of the scattered archipelago formed by the Caroline Islands.

ALLIED STRATEGY

These with the Marshalls further east were mandated to Japan under the treaty of Versailles and, contrary to the terms of that treaty, have been converted into advanced naval and air bases. They are many and scattered and cover an immense area of the ocean. Their conquest

(*Continued on page* 18)

BOMBARDMENT OF HAMBURG

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

IT is not possible at present to tell the story of the detailed planning which has brought about the most concentrated air attack on any city in the world. The full results of the recent day and night raids on Hamburg will not be known for some time, but it is clear that the air forces of Britain and America based on the British Isles have now been forged into a single weapon capable of inflicting unprecedented destruction on the enemy's war machine. Besides this combined attack even the 1,000-bomber raids of the Royal Air Force of 14 months ago are dwarfed.

It is significant that this greatest air blow of all time was achieved with such proportionately small Allied losses. The defences, powerful though they were, could not cope with the aircraft arriving with clockwork precision.

After such a prolonged attack, it is hardly surprising that long after the last raider had left, Hamburg was still covered by a dense pall of smoke. That fact alone makes it obvious that full damage cannot be quickly estimated. Impossible as it was to photograph more than a fraction of the port, however, those taken by an early reconnaissance pilot are already some guide to the destruction which the Royal Air Force and American air force have wrought between July 24 and 26.

WHERE BISMARCK WAS BUILT

One of the best known firms in Germany is Blohm and Voss. Their Hamburg shipbuilding yards are one of the largest and the most important in the Reich. Both the 3,500-ton *Bismarck* and the 10,000-ton *Admiral Hipper* were built there and many submarines besides.

Photographs, giving only a fraction of the damage as they do, show that many of this firm's buildings have been hit. The fitters shop, smithy, boil-makers and coppersmiths shops, engine erecting shop, boilerhouse and power station, construction shops, foundry, two tool sheds and the Diesel testing shop—all these are already known to have been damaged. One of the dry docks has sunk, another is heeled over. Blohm and Voss will not be able to deliver their full quota of U-boats for some considerable time.

Another important shipbuilding yard in Hamburg is Howaldswerke which like Blohm and Voss has an international reputation. Photographs also show that this large yard was badly hit. Its framebending and plate furnaces were still burning when the Royal Air Force reconnaissance pilot flew over the port. Its angle bar smithy and shipbuilding machinery sheds were all hit.

Further devastation is hidden under the great clouds of black smoke and can hardly fail to be considerable. The city's industries generally may be counted with those in the Ruhr in the growing list of German industries devastated by air bombardment. There will be more.

PLANS OF LONG MONTHS NOW IN ACTION

Hamburg is the second largest city in Germany with 1,700,000 inhabitants. For 72 hours, the A.R.P. services fought fires—and failed to put them out.

Bombing in the ordinary way can be crippling. The battle of the Ruhr proved that. But the Allies have waited 18 months for this scale of round-the-clock bombing to come true. Significance of the Hamburg attacks is that it is no longer a dream but an established fact.

JUDGMENTS

I. Lost Leaders

You that talked loud of freedom but excuses found
To turn your backs when others fought the tyrant—
Mourn!
Heaven knows you not at all; and when you tread
their ground
Hell's legions, vile but faithful, turn their backs in scorn.

II. Mercenaries

Brave men, that heard the call to arms, and fought,
and won,
Returning to your own land proudly say
"We took our wages from our King: our duty done.
We ask our critics, Whence sought you your pay?"

III. India's Dead

In life divided by pride, tongue and creed,
In death you shared a single faith. And Fame
Casting in Africa your blood for seed
Plants unity for India whence you came. —*R.G.*

JAPAN'S TWO CAMPAIGNS

(*Continued from page* 17)

would not be so formidable an undertaking as, for example, land operations for the recapture of the great islands of Java, Sumatra and Borneo.

If the Allies could establish themselves in the Caroline Islands, they would be on the flank of the Japanese sea communications between Japanese home bases and the Philippines, French Indo-China and Malaya. Successful operations of this nature would go far to weaken the strong strategical position won by the Japanese during 1942 by their conquests in the South-West Pacific. Apart from the heavy losses suffered by the Japanese regular navy, merchant ships, acting as transport for troops and supplies, have also been depleted.

Japan is fighting two campaigns. That in China and Burma is being fought by armies and air forces. It will be decided by soldiers, fighting on land, and aircraft, based on landing fields on the mainland of Asia. The second campaign is being fought over the immense ocean distances of the Pacific. It will be decided by warships and by aircraft which are now an integral part of our naval strength and by possession of island bases.

The first battles for the defeat of Japan in this ocean campaign are now being fought in and around the great group of undeveloped tropical islands east of New Guinea.

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(*From start of War to 6th August 1943*)

Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	25	4	47
Destroyers	74	20	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types	25	3	17
Total	139	30	152
Non-combatant ships	250	24	113

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	21	3	25
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types	1	1	1
Total	51	5	53
Non-combatant ships	198	30	191
Unidentified	14	..	15

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 280 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

5TH AUGUST.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in the Ruhr and the Rhineland. Three German E-boats were sunk off Calais.

A meeting of the Pacific War Council was held in London, the Premier presiding.

The German U-boat headquarters spokesman, Helnrich Schlick, said: "The enemy defence in the Atlantic has got the better of us."

6TH AUGUST.—Goebbels announced that Berlin had been partly evacuated. He said: "We expect the German capital will be the target of enemy attacks."

8TH AUGUST.—According to a New York message, a military coup was likely to occur in Germany to replace Hitler by an army veteran.

M. Emmanuel Tsouderos, the Greek Prime Minister, said he would not be susprised if Germany suddenly collapsed well within six months.

9TH AUGUST.—According to *Journal de Geneve*, not only Berlin, but most other German cities were being evacuated. According to an Istanbul message, Berlin was to be declared an open city.

10TH AUGUST.—The Gestapo headquarters were shifted from Berlin to Prague.

According to a neutral report, four million people had been evacuated from the bombed towns in western and north-western Germany.

11TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force bombed Nuremburg. More than 1,500 tons of bombs were dropped. Four E-boats were blown up off Brittany.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, arrived in England.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

7TH AUGUST.—Admiral Ernest J. King, United States Chief of Naval Operations, said to-day (on the anniversary of the invasion of the Solomon Islands), that the Allied world strategy aimed at keeping China in the war against Japan and exerting "every possible effort" to assist Russia.

8TH AUGUST.—Colonel Frank Knox, United States Secretary for the Navy, proposed a three-point programme as a contribution by the United States to the rebuilding of the world after the war. They were: (i) Contributions from its military strength to world security; (ii) contributing to an economic system for a free exchange of goods throughout the world; (iii) establishment of a world in which people wanting freedom could achieve it.

9TH AUGUST.—President Roosevelt returned to Washington after a week's holiday in Canada.

10TH AUGUST.—Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the United States Office of War Information, predicted at a press conference that a third front would eventually be opened in Western Europe.

Mr. Churchill arrived in Canada for war talks. Mr. Churchill, it was reported, would confer with President Roosevelt after his talks with Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister.

Previous Churchill-Roosevelt meetings were: (1) In August 1941 on board H.M.S. *Prince of Wales* to draw up the Atlantic Charter; (2) in December 1941 in Washington after Pearl Harbour; (3) in June 1942 in Washington with shipping experts; (4) in January 1943 at Casablanca where the "unconditional surrender of the enemy" declaration was signed; (5) in May 1943 in Washington with Field Marshal Wavell to plan Allied offensive in south-west Pacific.

The Daily Mail's diplomatic correspondent said: "Mr. Churchill's immediate object is thought to be reconsideration of the plans laid down at the Casablanca Conference."

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

5TH AUGUST.—Heavy bombers of the United States airforce attacked the Japanese rail road base at Thanbyuzayat in Burma. Targets in Central Burma were also attacked. At Wetlet, rolling stock tracks and supply dumps were hit. At Moksogyon rail road installations were damaged.

General George Stratmeyer, former Chief of Staff, United States Army Air Force, arrived in Delhi on an "undisclosed but important" mission.

6TH AUGUST.—A Chinese military spokesman declared that the Japanese were increasing the number of troops in Burma.

8TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force bombed Maungdaw. One hundred and fifty Japanese river craft were attacked and damaged along the Irrawaddy.

9TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force attacked Japanese railway and water communications in Lower Burma. Country-craft and samhans along the coast between Gwa Bay and Ramree Island were attacked with cannon and machine-gun fire.

General Sir Edward Pellew Quinan, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, North-Western Army, retired from service for reasons of health at his own request.

10TH AUGUST.—American bombers attacked the Irrawaddy ports of Katha and Bhamo in Burma.

Twenty-four men from a British ship torpedoed in the Indian Ocean arrived at a group of islands in the Indian Ocean after being at sea for nearly a month.

11TH AUGUST.—The Government of India sanctioned the raising of fourth unit in the Civil Pioneer Force in Madras Province—two Tamil companies and two Telugu companies.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

5TH AUGUST.—Allied troops occupied Catania-Paterno also was captured. The Eighth Army veterans broke the greatest bastion of the Etna line. With the fall of Catania, the Sicilian campaign entered its final phase.

Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, announced that American casualties in Sicily up to July 22 were 6,741, including 500 killed; 3,871 were wounded and 2,370 missing. The Axis losses were substantial.

According to Allied military observers, the autum and winter would see the beginning of major assaults against Hitler's European Fortress.

According to well-informed American sources, Badoglio had already made definite approaches asking for an armistice.

It was authoritatively stated that Italian aircraft in certain parts of the Balkans had been forcibly taken over by the Germans.

It was revealed that the Anglo-American Governments were subsidizing bread for the Sicilian civilian population.

6TH AUGUST.—According to messages received from the Italian frontier, there was a widespread conviction throughout North Italy that peace negotiations had begun.

According to reports from Italy, crowds in Italian cities were shouting for Marshal Badoglio's resignation and his replacement by Crown Prince Umberto. In Turin, the demonstrators shouted in the streets "Badoglio must go!"

At a meeting of the Italian Cabinet, it was decided to proceed with the elimination of all laws not corresponding to the spiritual and legal traditions of the nation.

The Rome Radio said: "The Italian financial situation is very grave". Fascist Party funds in all banks were frozen.

The vanguard of the Eighth and the Seventh Armies were only 50 miles from Messina. There was fierce fighting round the town of Troina. In the central sector of the Sicilian front, Italian and German units were engaged in defensive combats.

The Algiers Radio announced: "No Axis ships have entered into Messina Straits for a whole fortnight."

It was officially revealed that the Punjabis, Rajputs, Pathans and Baluchis were operating in Sicily as defence troops.

7TH AUGUST.—A Royal decree extending the state of siege over the whole of Italy was published.

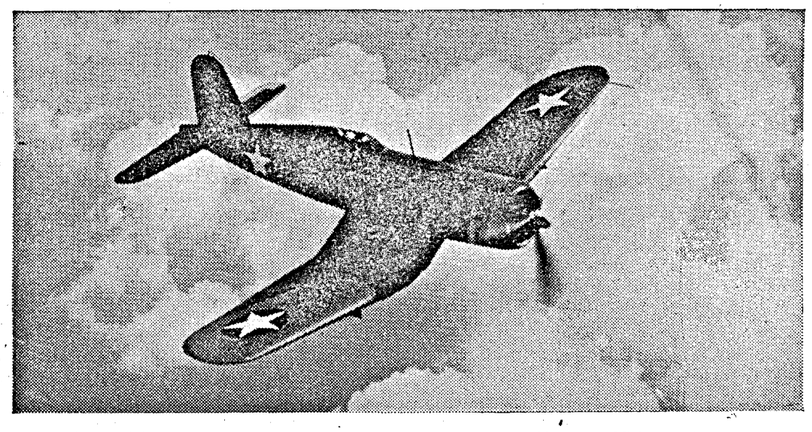
The Diplomatic Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* stated: "The present Italian Government fears popular upheaval in the country at least as much as the Allied invasion."

The Italian Foreign Minister and the German Foreign Minister, Von Ribbentrop, met in northern Italy. It was reported that the Germans had concentrated 15 to 18 divisions in north Italy.

The Americans captured Troina. The Eighth Army was near Adrano. Pravina, an important key town on the central front in Sicily, was entered by American troops. United States naval and military force, it was reported, occupied the island of Ustica on August 5. Heavy air raids were made on San Giovanni.

8TH AUGUST.—The Allied troops captured Adrano. The Eighth Army captured Mascalucia and Belpasso. There were air raids of great dimensions on Turin, Milan and Genoa. Considerable damage was caused.

9TH AUGUST.—The Eighth Army was 25 miles from Messina Straits. Acireale and San Maria de Licodia were captured. The Seventh Army made unopposed landing behind the enemy lines on the north coast and captured 300 prisoners.



NEW UNITED STATES NAVY FIGHTER PLANE GOES INTO ACTION.—This is the new United States Navy F-4 U Corsair fighter, now in action in the South Pacific. The plane has a 2,000 horse-power engine, and is armed more heavily than other pursuit ships without sacrificing its manœuvrability and its speed, which is in excess of 400 miles an hour. In a recent engagement over the Russell Islands against 25 Japanese Zeros, Corsairs accounted for 15 or 16 enemy planes shot down by United States fighters.

Reuter's Special Correspondent wrote: "The battle for Sicily is over and won. It is now a question of who can walk the fastest." The German evacuation of Sicily was speeded up.

General Montgomery said: "The Germans in Sicily are doomed. The days of the Boches in Sicily are numbered." Three crack German divisions were trapped in the Messina bridge-head. The Germans seized an Italian ship in the Adriatic port of Pola after overwhelming the sentries on guard.

According to a Swiss correspondent, the Germans were ready to withdraw from southern and central Italy, if the Italian Government would guarantee that Italy would not be used as an Allied base.

Sir Stafford Cripps, British Minister for Aircraft Production, in a speech at Bristol, said: "We want to see a real people's Government in Italy which has the courage to break with Germany and surrender to the United Nations."

10TH AUGUST.—Certain German units were trapped behind the Bronte-Cesaro line. Allied troops advanced on Randazzo, keystone of the German defences in Sicily. All possible Axis escape routes were pounded by Allied bombers.

The Italian News Agency said: "Nobody wants to deny that the Italian people want peace, because peace means an end to the horrors and sacrifices of war."

According to a report from Madrid, Italy would continue in the war with still more active military help from Germany than ever before.

11TH AUGUST.—Guardia on the east coast of Sicily was captured. The Eighth Army was now in sight of the Italian mainland. An Axis convoy was attacked off Corsica. Prisoners taken totalled 125,000, of whom 95,000 were taken by the Seventh Army and 30,000 by the Eighth.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

5TH AUGUST.—It was officially announced that Byelgorod had been captured. The German troops evacuated Orel. The Germans retreated on all sectors of the Orel front, abandoning masses of equipment. General Rokossovsky's armies pursued the retreating Germans with the cry, "On to Briansk!" Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, said that the Red Army's advance to Orel represented a major defeat for the Germans.

6TH AUGUST.—It was officially announced that Knomy (35 miles south-west of Orel) had been captured. The Russians launched a new offensive on the Kharkov front. The *Pravda* said that the Germans suffered heavy losses at Orel and their divisions "melted like sugar in boiling water" . . . "Despite categorical orders to hold Orel at any cost, the Germans were forced to retreat."

7TH AUGUST.—Russian forces made a big advance on Kharkov, the main German base in the Ukraine. The railway junctions at Bryansk and Kharkov were raided by Soviet aircraft. The German forces stood in the greatest danger of being caught by a princer movement.

The Germans admitted that the Russians had broken through the German front south-west of Byelgorod. The German General Von Zorn was killed in the fighting around Orel. It was revealed that one million Soviet troops took part in the Orel battle.

Between July 5 and August 5, Soviet troops inflicted the following losses on the enemy: 120,000 officers and men killed, 5,605 tanks destroyed, 1,623 guns smashed, 11,000 lorries destroyed and 2,492 planes brought down.

8TH AUGUST.—The Russians captured Bogodukhov on the Kharkov-Sumy railway.

9TH AUGUST.—The Russians captured Lebedka, west of Orel. Three Soviet armies converged on Karachev, one of the vital points in the outer defences of Bryansk. The Kharkov railway was cut. On the Kuban bridge-head, the Russians continued their attacks.

10TH AUGUST.—The Russian army was battering at the suburbs of Kharkov. The Germans began their retreat. Berlin announced the launching of violent new Russian attacks east of Smolensk.

11TH AUGUST.—The Kharkov-Poltava railway line was cut. The Red Army broke into the German lines in the Upper Donetz.

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

5TH AUGUST.—Sweeden cancelled her transit traffic agreement with Germany.

10TH AUGUST.—M. Hussein Yalchin said in an article in *Vatan*: "When we are called upon to enter the conflict under our treaty obligations with Britain, we shall not need pushing."

M. Emin Yalman addressed an open letter to President Roosevelt, appealing to him not to insist on the principle of unconditional surrender which was an expression of the spirit of vengeance.

* * * * *

VICHY, FREE FRENCH AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

7TH AUGUST.—Hand-to-hand fighting between French patriots and German troops broke out in Paris.

10TH AUGUST.—The Yugoslav Government resigned.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

5TH AUGUST.—In the Solomons, the Americans on New Georgia Island pierced the Japanese defence in the eastern end of Munda airfield.

It was reported that Japan was shifting her main strength from the Solomons and New Guinea to the Netherlands Indies, presumably in anticipation of a concerted Allied drive.

Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary for War, said that the Japanese had revived their air offensive in China and were heavily attacking American airfields.

6TH AUGUST.—The Japanese drive north of the Burma Road in western Yunnan Province along the Salween river was flung back. Chinese forces attacked Japanese positions west of Nanchang (capital of Kiangzi Province), inflicting considerable casualties on the enemy.

Munda was captured. One thousand six hundred and seventy-five Japanese were killed. [Munda was the Japanese key base in south-west Pacific.]

7TH AUGUST.—A Chinese Military spokesman said that Japanese warships were cruising along the China coast, shelling coastal towns in Fukien and Kwangtung Provinces.

More than 200 casualties were inflicted when Chinese units in southern Hupeh attacked Japanese positions at Kehtien.

Admiral William F. Halsey, Junior Naval Commander-in-Chief, South-West Pacific, said: "The United States, will carry the war into Japan itself."

Mr. J. Curtin, Australian Premier, revealed that the Australian Government had established a submarine base at Exmouth harbour on the west coast of western Australia.

8TH AUGUST.—A Japanese attack in Honan Province was repulsed.

In a naval engagement in Vella Gulf, west of the island of Kolombangara, a Japanese cruiser and two destroyers were sunk.

9TH AUGUST.—The *Manchester Guardian* wrote: "Germany is too far along the road to defeat for Japan to lead her to victory and any attempt on Russia would only make Japan's hard-won task far harder by opening to Britain and the United States the way of a near approach.

A Chinese military spokesman declared that criminal insubordination and desertion were increasing in the Japanese army.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1943 No. 49

WE HAVE WON OUR WAR IN THE AIR

THE Luftwaffe is knocked out. We, in the air, have won our war. In fact, we won it one year ago. The German armies have learned to fight without air support, and in spite of the fact that we shall have increasing air superiority until the end of the war, it might be advisable if we do the same. ¶ We, in the Mediterranean, have two months of perfect weather and we have another two ahead. We shall always do all we can to help the Allied armies, but they must not lean on us too much. ¶ There are certain areas, such as the English Channel and Russia, where the Germans are putting up a semblance of a fight in the air, but their wastage in machines is terrific, while the pilots are steadily losing their fighting spirit. ¶ I do not think there is any fighting capacity left in the Italians, because we have knocked them so hard. We shall go on doing that. ¶ The next two months will present ideal conditions for a number of tricks

AIR MARSHAL SIR ARTHUR CONINGHAM, *Officer Commanding the Tactical Air Force on August 16, from an advanced Allied Base in Sicily*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
The Quebec Conference	4
This Week—In Retrospect	5
So Much for So Many (Madras War Services Exhibition)	6
"Text for Co-operators"	7
Britain's Reciprocal Aid to U.S.	8
Britain's Light Coastal Forces	8
Saga of Fourth Indian Division: No formation within Armies of British Empire has fought more battles	9
Germany's Revised Defence Scheme	11
R.I.N. Ship in Action off Sicily: Helps protect convoy from air attack	12
Allied Technique of Victory	12
After Dunkirk—What Britain has done: The Army and Air Force	13
Sternest Pages of a People's History	15
Aircraft *Vs.* U-Boat	16
Chin Levy Braves Bombs and Escapes	16
The Setting Sun: Jap Naval Losses	16
Fascist Hallucinations	17
Awards for Heroism	18
War Diary	19

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR TO BROADCAST

His Excellency has agreed to broadcast either in person or by means of a recording at 7-45 p.m. on September 3, on the occasion of the Fourth Anniversary of the War.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

10 O'CLOCK TUNE-TIME

On Wednesday brought you Half-an-hour of MUSIC, MELODY and SONG—

Jack's "Come to the Fair" and Sheila's "Sand in My Shoes" must have delighted you—

And then those Musical Quizzes!
Weren't they great fun?

Tune in every Wednesday night to Madras or Trichinopoly for the Forces Programme

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

RELIEF TO MAROONED TROOPS

A flashing light, seen from the footplate of an express train speeding across wild country in India, was the first act in an unusual drama of British troops marooned by monsoon floods.

The troops, members of a Welsh Regiment, had set out by road. When they began their journey the sun was shining. They cursed the dust which rose in choking clouds.

Then the monsoon br ke. For days the rain poured down. The dust quickly became a sea of mud, into which their vehicles sank axle-deep. Further movement was impossible.

Food was running short when the troops struggled to a single track railway built through the jungle. There were no signs of a station, but the troops were undismayed. They sat down to wait for a train.

Darkness had fallen when they saw the lights of an express. An Army Signaller flashed an S.O.S. The signal was seen by the driver, and the train halted.

The troops explained their predicament, and the guard promised to report it at the nearest station. The troops returned to their bogged transport, to wait with what patience hungry men can command.

Sure enough the railway came to the rescue. The next express stopped at the spot, and hot meals for the soldiers were handed down.

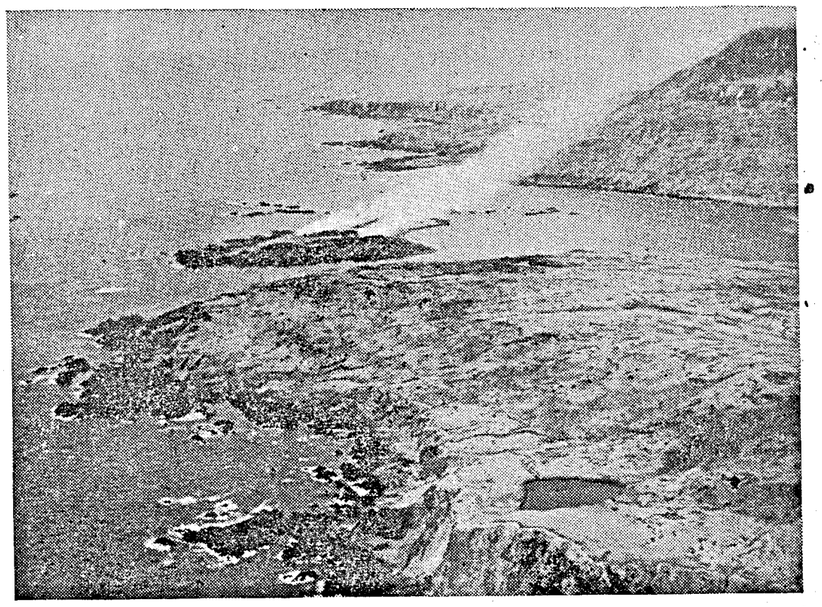
This went on for five days, each train halting in the jungle with fresh rations, until the ground was sufficiently hard for the column to continue on its way.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1943 No. 49



WHERE DEFEATED JAPANESE MADE LAST STAND.—This aerial photograph shows fires started by United States Air and Ground forces in bombarding the tiny island of Kinnaw off Chicago Harbour, Attu Island, where the defeated Japanese made their last stand. Note the shell and bomb-pocked hill in the foreground.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

First Lord on Far Eastern Aggressor—Fall of Munda and its Importance

Speaking at Southampton on Sunday (August 15), Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER, the First Lord of the Admiralty, said, "One Dictator has been toppled over in Italy, but the Huns have been fighting a hard rearguard battle, both in the north-eastern Sicily and on the Eastern Front." He added: "Even when the collapse of the Axis Forces in Europe is finally secured and the lights go up here, we must remember that the war effort must go on until the other aggressor in the Far East is finally defeated." Certain happenings in the Far East are indications that the war is definitely going against the Japanese. The fall of Munda, an important air base of the enemy in New Georgia Island, is one such indication. Munda, it may be recalled, suffered unprecedented aerial bombardment in the Pacific at the hands of the Allies, along with three other key points in the Jap supply line, namely, Kahili, Vila and Bairoko. These points were attacked by Allied aircraft which went out in formations of 50, 100, 150 and 250 at a time. But so far as the Japanese were concerned, they were not able to send more than 30 or 40 aircraft into the air simultaneously and their highest number of sorties in a single raid was on Rendova, and it was no more than 75.

The capture of the Munda airfield, which was built by the Japanese as soon as they were driven away from the Henderson airfield, represents only one stage of the present offensive. The next objective will be to secure the Vila airfield on Kolombangara Island, 12 miles away, across the Kula Gulf. If Vila and Munda are both in Allied hands, they would be in a position to carry on a Pacific aerial bombardment against Kahili, Buin and Kieta with a view to preparing the ground for the amphibious operations against Bougainville, 150 miles north-west of New Georgia and 250 miles north-east of Woodlark Island, which was occupied by the Allies on June 30.

Will the Japanese send battleships into the Solomons in the hope of regaining sea control and preventing Allied moves? This is not likely because the Japanese seem to be now outnumbered and outclassed in the air. It may be stated that, in November last year, two of the enemy battleships were sunk by air attack in the Solomons. Since then, no enemy battleships have been seen in that area. This absence is likely to be prolonged still further if the Allies make good use of the Munda airfield, as they certainly will.

* * * * *

Same Process as in Guadalcanal—Allied Superiority in the Air

It is of interest to note that the capture of the Munda airfield was achieved by the same process as that of Guadalcanal. When they lost the Henderson air field, the Japanese constructed a new one, 180 miles away, on the north-western tip of New Georgia known as Munda point.

(*Continued on page* 10)

THE QUEBEC CONFERENCE

PRESIDENT Roosevelt has arrived in Quebec to take part in what may well turn out to be perhaps the most important Allied military conference of the war. In addition to high military officials of Britain, United States Officers directly responsible for planning major Allied operations are attending the conference which is, in the words of an official spokesman, "one of the greatest gatherings of military experts." Great events are imminent, and plans for the invasion of the Italian mainland are reported to be so complete that what is required is only a flash of last-minute instructions to General Eisenhower's Headquarters. Captain Gordon Hutchins, one of the representatives at the Allied conference, declared that a knock-out blow in Europe was one of the major objectives of the discussions.

IT is most appropriate that this conference between Premier Churchill and President Roosevelt, which is the sixth of its kind, and the third this year, should take place in Quebec. It is a tribute to Canada—her strategic important position in this global war, her unique international status and her great record of war effort. Canada, like U.S., guards herself both on the Atlantic and the Pacific, and she is in close proximity to the Alaskan Highway and the north-west Pacific military bases. Canada has a dual function. She is a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations and she is also a great American power. She is thus a link between the two leading United Nations.

FURTHER, Canadians have fought in North Africa and Sicily, and gave a good account of themselves at Hongkong and at Dieppe. The Royal Canadian Air Force has an impressive record in its battle against the U-boats on both sides of the Atlantic. There are more than 30 Royal Canadian Air Force Squadrons serving in Britain and elsewhere, whose cost of equipment and maintenance is being met by Canada.

ANOTHER factor of notable importance is the far-sighted scheme called the Commonwealth Air Training Plan which is sponsored by Canada. Airmen from all parts of the Empire are being trained in Canada under this great scheme. India is also one of the countries which are benefited by it. Batches of Indian airmen now are undergoing training in Canada. The total cost of the whole scheme is about 1,500 million dollars, 50 per cent of which is paid by Canada herself. There are 83,000 members and 10,000 air planes involved in this training scheme.

IT is on such soil that the Allied conference is taking place. Whenever these meetings took place in the past Axis radios went about harping on the theme that there were differences of opinion between the Allies which were sought to be smoothened out at these conferences. The same theme is followed by Berlin on this occasion also. But the German home broadcasts do not say anything either about the meeting or about the differences of opinion. In fact, the very fact of such conference in Quebec is bad news for Germany. As regards the broadcasts to foreign countries, there has not been so much comment on the Churchill-Roosevelt meeting as formerly. This is evidently because Berlin has realized that the outside world is getting tired of the same old story which is always followed by events which disprove it.

THE main theme of such comment as there has been is the absence of Marshal Stalin, which was stated to be due to differences of opinion between Soviet Russia and the other Allies. But a Berlin broadcast to Brazil eight days ago (August 12) gave the show away by saying that "in spite of continued reports of dissension between the British and Americans on one side, and the Bolsheviks on the other, it has become clear that Moscow, London and Washington are only spreading these reports for subversive reasons, and the Jews in the three capitals are perfectly well agreed on their common aims." By "Jews" Berlin, of course, means the foes of the Axis. It is well known that the absence of Marshal Stalin at the Quebec conference is due to the fact that he is personally planning out, at each stage, the operations on the Russian front and so could not leave Russia. "Marshal Stalin," said James Ferguson in a B.B.C. broadcast last week (August 13), "can stay where he is and get on with his job, and you and we can do the same. That's just what worries Berlin." Stalin is, however, in contact with what is being planned, through the British and American Ambassadors. *Reuter* reports that "the utmost importance is attached in Washington to the alignment of British, American and Soviet war plans."

OPINION in Berlin is viewing the whole conference and its background of Allied successes with seriousness and gravity. The German paper **Berliner Boersenzeitung** is quoted by the German radio on August 11 as saying, "that the war has reached a stage when the Anglo-Americans have no alternative but to act and try to force a decision." That is exactly what they are planning to do at the Quebec conference.

IT may be stated that the rapid pace of the Allied advance in the West has outstripped the sober and comprehensive schedule chalked out at the earlier Washington conference. A few features of this rapid pace are worth our attention. In the first place, the summer offensive in Russia saw Stalin completely turning the tables on Hitler. The German advance in the Kursk salient with the strategic intention of menacing the entire Russian line was completely foiled, and what is worse, the Germans in Kharkov are now in greater peril than were the Russians in Kursk! Secondly, the sudden collapse of the Germans in Tunisia, the clearing of the Mediterranean by the capture of Italian island outposts, and the successful landings in Sicily— have all happened much earlier than even the Allies expected. Thirdly, the Battle of the Atlantic has been going on in favour of the Allies, and the success of the war against U-boats has been acknowledged by Heinrich Schlich, a spokesman of the German U-boat Headquarters. He said on August 4, "the enemy's defence in the Atlantic has got the better of us." The fourth point of importance in the spectacular progress of the Allies is their air superiority. Enemy broadcasts are now speaking of regaining **their** air superiority.

ALL these factors are having their own effect on the far-flung battle-fronts of the Allies. The battle for Sicily has been concluded. The battles for the Solomons and New Guinea are going on with increasing success. "It must be a major pre-occupation of the Quebec conference," says the **London Times** in an editorial on Tuesday, "so to plan the future of the war against Japan that the simultaneous efforts exerted against the enemy by China on the one hand, and by the United States and the British Empire on the other, may be fused into a united and still more fully co-ordinated strategy." There is no doubt that the problem of increasing supplies for the Far Eastern battle zone is one of the main items on the agenda of the Quebec conference, and it may be expected that major events of a far-reaching character will soon begin on a vaster scale than ever before, not only in Europe, but also in the Far East.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

By "CHRONICLER"

This week in August 1940, the Battle of Britain raged with increasing tempo until at last on the 15th the German Air Force sustained the heaviest of all losses till then incurred. On that day more than 1,000 German aircraft were engaged, of which six hundred were bombers. The attacks were directed mainly against aerodromes in the south-east of England, besides a number of British harbours. Not less than 180 enemy machines were destroyed on this day, while Britain lost to the tune of thirty-four. This was the most shattering defeat ever suffered by the German Air Force, and was probably responsible for the postponement of the invasion plan against Britain for about a month. On August 16 seventy-five German aircraft, and on August 18 one hundred and fifty-two were destroyed. On the latter occasion six hundred enemy machines came over to British coasts in three massed raids, and a twenty-five per cent loss of the raiders was the highest sustained in any attacks upon Britain. But the German game was a big one and the stakes were high. The *Luftwaffe* was feeling its way towards London.

FIRST SUMMER CAMPAIGN IN RUSSIA

By this week in 1941, the Russian theatre had been a few weeks old and the first summer campaign of the Germans in Russia had been in full swing. Hitler was making an all-out effort to force a decision before the winter set in, while the Russians, resiling first under the weight of the German thrust, were gradually steadying their front, but had hardly developed their defensive strategy and tactics. The Germans continued their thrust towards Leningrad and Marshal Voroshilov had safely withdrawn his army in the Leningrad sector. He had also issued an appeal to the people on August 20 exhorting them to defend the city to the last man. In the south Marshal Buddeny had fallen back to the Dnieper, and the great dam across this river at Dnepropetrovsk had been blown up by the Russians themselves, lest it should fall into the hands of the Germans. The German High Command had, by the August 19, claimed to have occupied the entire region west of the Dnieper.

By this week in 1941, the Allied Front was not what it was in 1940. Great Britain and the Soviet Union were now fighting side by side against a common enemy, and the United States was supporting this common fight, though in the words of President Roosevelt on August 16, the United States was not any the closer towards directly entering the conflict. It was, however, a matter of relief that one of the greatest political victories of the war had been achieved by the Pact signed in Moscow by the representatives of the Governments of Great Britain and the Soviet Union on the 13th July 1941, mutually undertaking to render support of all kinds to each other in the prosecution of the war, and neither to negotiate nor to conclude an armistice or treaty of peace except by mutual agreement, and now on the 17th August 1941 an Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement had also been signed at Moscow for the mutual supply of munitions and other commodities.

CAPITULATION OF FRANCE

This week in 1941 saw further developments in the complete destruction of Republican France. A new decree of the Vichy government on August 16 ordered every citizen of France to take the oath of allegiance to Marshal Petain and not to France. This, however, had its immediate reaction. Broadcasting from Beirut, General de Gaulle, replying to Marshal Petain, said that Free France would fight for revenge, greatness and freedom. On the same day a "T for Traitor" campaign was inaugurated by the Free French broadcasters in order to enable the people of France to deal severely with Quislings and time-servers who were, unfortunately for France, a good lot. These men had already begun their game for bringing about the collapse of France which was not so much due to the weight of the German thrust as to the failure of the French General Staff to withdraw their troops from Belgium when Leopold, the King of the Belgians, surrendered to the Germans, and to throw them into a battle before Amiens where the Germans, almost unopposed, were permitted to dent the French lines and to create the fateful bulge. That is why what General Weygand would call the Battle of France Mr. Churchill was referring to as the battle of the bulge. The result of this conscious, calculated failure was France capitulated, and the *entente cordiale* between France and Britain which had lasted for thirty-six years was definitely dead.

"These Quislings, these guilty men of France, their name is legion," says Cecil F. Melville, "these, however, are of two different kinds, the consciously guilty who deliberately engineered the capitulation of 1940; and the unconsciously guilty who, by their weaknesses during the years before the war, paved the way for the final catastrophe. The unconsciously guilty once were tried and sentenced as the scapegoats of the former, while the consciously guilty are now in charge of the show at Vichy."

Daladier was the first and foremost among the unconsciously guilty. There were of course many others. But the high office of the Premier he occupied in France at a time when Hitler was preparing step by step for the final outrage upon the peace and security of Europe gave him opportunities which very few else possessed of setting his foot down strongly and nipping the evil in the bud. Not only did he not do this, but he also allowed corrupt elements to breed even on the French soil. The weakness of his administration was such as to give a free hand to Hitler in the extension of his aggressive campaigns against his neighbours. When in 1938 Hitler marched towards Austria there was virtually no French Government in Paris, but only one of a series of interminable political crises. Hitler chose this moment, when France had not a government to frame a policy of any kind, to carry through the annexation of Austria. It is important to recall this, because the annexation of Austria made possible the dismemberment and occupation of Czechoslovakia, and that in turn made possible the attack on Poland, the immediate event which started the present war.

Among the consciously guilty must be listed first and foremost the name of M. Bonnet, the history of whose tenure of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the history of France's suicide as a great power. The most prominent name in this list, however, is that of M. Laval, the French Quisling. Laval is the archplace hunter in the Vichy regime. He is principally the most dangerous man from the British point of view. He is the Axis Super-Quisling and wields the real power at Vichy. He is an old enemy of Britain and one of the most detestable and consciously guilty men of France, not excluding even Bonnet. He is the blackest element in French politics who played with the freedom of France for the sake of power. More about them again.

THE CLIMAX OF THE WAR

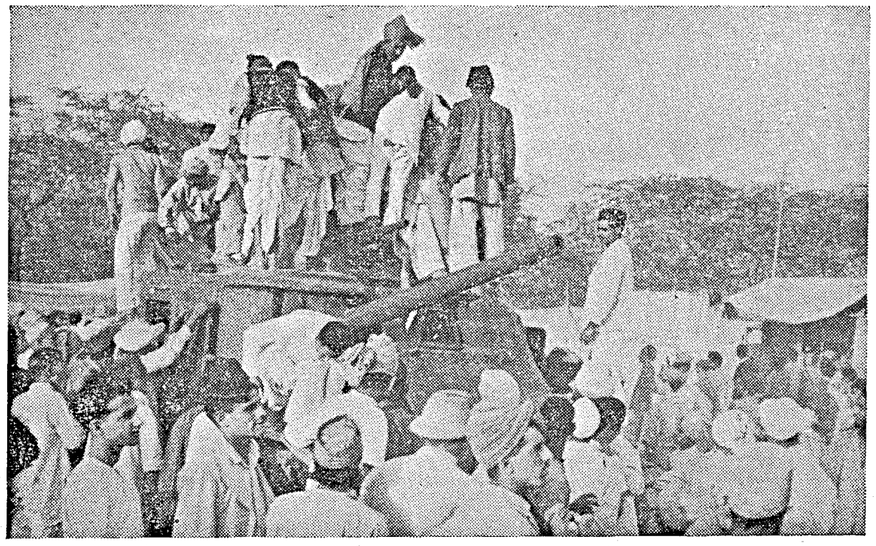
By this week in 1942 all the various theatres of the war had attained their full development. There was the Western theatre in which the German target of attack was mainly Britain. Secondly there was the Atlantic theatre which witnessed the full fury of the German attempt to blockade Britain by U-boat warfare. Thirdly, there was the Russian theatre where the second summer campaign of the German army was in progress. Fourthly there was the North African and the Mediterranean theatre where Hitler and his 'Utensil' Mussolini sought to sustain an Italian Empire carved out of ill-gotten territories, and to control the Mediterranean; and fifthly there was the Far Eastern theatre where, with lightning rapidity, Japan pounced upon a number of territories belonging to Britain, America, and the Dutch East Indies. What might be regarded as the climax of aggression of the Axis powers had been reached by this time, and the course of events that followed have indicated that the aggressive elements have been on the wane from this week.

The most important event of this week was Mr. Churchill's visit to Moscow where he met M. Stalin on the 18th August. This meeting was another important step in the close friendship that has been created between Britain and Soviet Russia, a friendship the value of which in war time we are witnessing every day in the staggering blows which Germany is now receiving, and is therefore incalculable, while in peace-time, it is sure to be unprecedented in the history of the world. A second great event of the week was the appointment on 19th August of General Alexander as the Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East in succession to General Auchinleck. This was the beginning of the final phase of the Allied campaign in North Africa, which ended with the Axis collapse in Tunis. Just before the campaign started the Allied armies had an encouraging visit on the 20th August from the British Premier on his way to Moscow. On the same day a record contingent of the American Expeditionary force arrived in Egypt.

On the Russian front a new German thrust started on August 16 aimed at the lower reaches of the Volga, and actually made some progress in the Nazi drive towards Stalingrad. In the southern sector the Red Army withdrew from Maikop after destroying the oldfields on the 18th August, while the Nazis succeeded in crossing the Kuban river. On the 19th a fierce fighting developed south of Voronezh, on the west bank of the Don, and on the 20th the Russians evacuated Krasnodar.

Madras War Services Exhibition

SO MUCH FOR SO MANY



Spectators inspecting a General Lee tank at the War Services Exhibition.

Never before in the history of entertainment has so much been offered to so many for—exactly nothing at all! The War Services Exhibition—the fifth of the series of which is due to be opened in Madras by His Excellency the Governor on Friday, August the 27th—is crammed with good things, things for which most people would travel miles and pay fancy prices to see, yet there is no admission fee!

Below are catalogued a few of the hundred and one items of interest at the Madras War Services Exhibition :—

(1) Combined Services operations—the first public demonstration yet in India. Thrills, education-entertainment, *plus* !

(2) Aerobatics and bombing displays by mass formations of aircraft.

(3) Tank battles and gun duels. Libya, Tunisia, Sicily—re-enacted before your very eyes !

(4) Captured equipment. This comprises the Exhibition's famous "Desert Scene". Tanks and guns captured by Wavell. A sight to thrill any heart.

(5) Barrage Balloons—good, old "silver sausages"! They've helped a lot in wresting air supremacy from the Hun.

(6) A Blenheim bomber, hero of over sixty raids over Burma. And do those scars prove it ?

(7) The "Bengal" gun. Remember "Bengal"? Tiny Indian minesweeper which sank a Japanese raider ten times its size.

(8) The complete reconstruction of the forepart of an Indian warship.

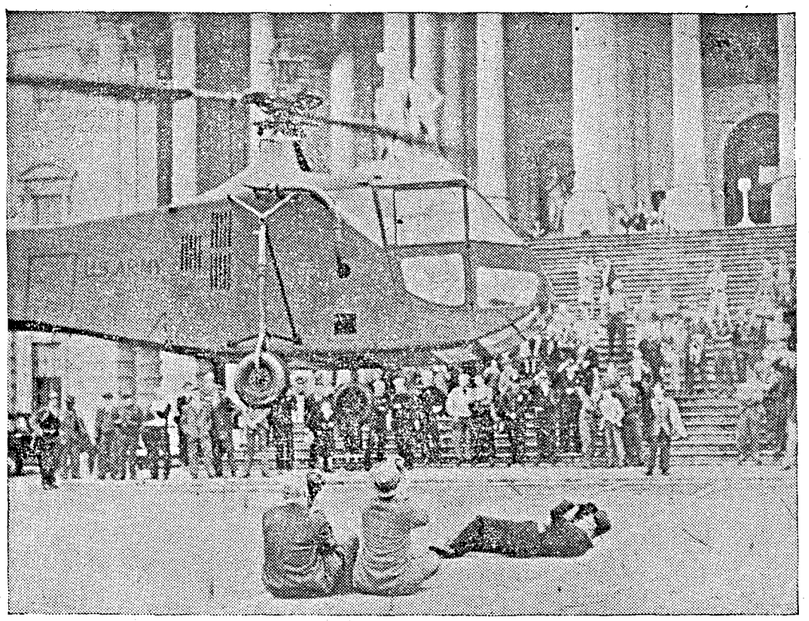
(9) A large workshop demonstrating the work and progress of the Technical Training Scheme. Many of the architects of India's future will owe their knowledge to this scheme.

(10) A model town illustrating future planning. And does India need planning !

(11) A farm in aid of the Grow More Food campaign. No cause could be worthier.

(12) A large auditorium built by the National War Front where entertainments will be staged daily.

This is just a round dozen, but there are dozens more. Special morning shows (9-30 to 11) will be held for school and college students ; the normal evening shows will be from 4 to 8. Two military bands will be in attendance daily. All this for nothing ; believe it or not !



UNITED STATES ARMY HELICOPTER.—A new United States Army helicopter takes off vertically from in front of the United States Capitol in Washington in a demonstration marking the 25th anniversary of the first air mail flight in the United States. The craft was developed by Igor Sikorsky, Russian-born American aircraft designer. It's chief advantage is that it can take off and land vertically at low speed, making it possible to operate in territory unsuitable for air-planes or land vehicles. Among its uses are carrying messages, stringing telephone lines, reconnaissance and rescue work. Helicopters are being used also by the United States Navy for patrol work with convoys. Because of the craft's stability news photographers are able to get under it for close-ups.

"TEXT FOR CO-OPERATORS"

By RAO BAHADUR J. C. RYAN

I had a visitor the other day. "We have been spared the horrors of war," he said; "our country has been spared an invasion till now. But the problem of living in the midst of this war is most trying. We cannot get rice; we cannot have fuel; we cannot have sugar and we may not have many other things very soon." A member of the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society, who happened to be present on the occasion, pulled up the spirits of this complaining visitor: "Come to our T.U.C.S." he said; "come to our Head office; or come to any of our 64 branches and you can have what you want. Our members who had joined the society with a view to satisfy their own common needs have realized that, in this war, the common cause of the country is more important than the common need of the members of the society. They have thrown open its portals to non-members, and, with the financial aid of Government, added to the liberal quotas of food-supply given to them, they are providing the requirements of the general consumers. Do call there tomorrow," he said, and rose patting the visitor on the back. The visitor held him by the hand and demanded: "But, pray, what price do you charge? Is it one measure of rice per rupee?" "No," said the member of the T.U.C.S., "that is in the black-market! In our stores, you get it at the controlled price—2-3/8 measures a rupee. We, co-operators are out for service, not for profit. We do not believe in getting on at others' expense. We believe in helping ourselves and in helping others. We believe in this principle, not only in the City but everywhere in the Province. Co-operative Stores, to-day, have increased in hundreds. There are over 950 of them now in the Province and all of them believe in the common cause. In war, we should keep the population contented. Their morale should be high. So, some of our co-operative stores situated in 34 strategic towns have undertaken to build up stocks which will come handy in the event of any emergency, should it arise. They do not hoard these stocks. They rotate them frequently, so that, they may not deteriorate in quality and may be available in good condition when they are needed. You are not a co-operator" he said, "you may become one some day. But, whether you do or not, co-operative stores will always help you in the common cause for which co-operators and others are all arrayed together now. Ours is a united front; it is the National War Front, on the economic side, at home."

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES' CONTRIBUTION

"That is grand!" said the visitor. Meanwhile, the co-operator warmed up. "The home-front is not our only front, you know!" he said; "We assist in the fighting line, too. We help to clothe the men out there who are facing fire and powder! We have 220 hand-loom weavers' societies in this Province which supply these defenders of our country with clothes, dusters, bandage cloth and such other textile goods. We have sent them till now 20 lakhs of yards of cloth, 10,000 towels, 20,000 handkerchiefs and 75,000 dusters." The visitor gazed in amazement. The co-operator grew more eloquent.

"This is not all," he continued. "We have a Provincial Marketing Society at Madras. It has collected from co-operative institutions and other producing centres ghee to the value of over 6½ lakhs of rupees and sent it to the military authorities. Government, indeed, have paid for all these consignments to the front; but our institutions have helped the Government to build up that money too. Co-operative societies have given liberally to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund from savings put into what we call the common-good-fund. Donations given in this way make up a handsome figure of over 60 thousand rupees. But, much larger amounts have been invested by them in Defence Savings Bonds and Certificates. Our co-operative banks have invested over 85 lakhs of rupees in Defence loans which represents nearly one-sixth of the total investments in Defence loans in the whole Province. We made these donations and we made these investments to help the fighting lines with the necessary equipment to win the war and save the common cause." The enthusiasm of the co-operator evoked response from the visitor. "I have a deposit maturing in the Central Co-operative Bank next week;" he said. "Can I contribute something out of it to the Defence loans?" he asked. "Most certainly" said the co-operator, "tell the Bank itself to invest the amount in Defence loans in your name. It will give you at once a receipt from the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the amount paid in, and, in about a week, it will deliver to you the required Defence Loan Bond."

POTATO MARKETING SOCIETY

At this juncture, another co-operator from Coimbatore joined us. Gathering the gist of what we were talking about, he asked us if we had informed our visitor of what the Potato Marketing Society on the Nilgiris was doing for potato cultivation. Over 4 lakhs of rupees worth of manure have been supplied to potato growers on the Nilgiris by the co-operative societies, and, potatoes are being raised with the help of this manure to supply both the military and civilian requirements. "This," he said, "was due to the help of the special staff given by Government to the society to help potato cultivation. There are many societies down in the plains, in my district and elsewhere, which have financed the cultivation of food-crops in an extensive manner. Food-grains, fruits, vegetables, all kinds of food-crops are being financed in the country-side by rural co-operative credit societies on a large scale," he said. "How does that help the common cause?" inquired the visitor. "Why, all this helps to grow more food, the lack of which you were complaining about," explained the co-operator from the T.U.C.S.

"So, in towns and in the country-side, you, co-operators, are helping the common cause," observed the visitor in appreciation. "So, we are" said both the co-operators together. "Wherever we may be, town or village, we all subscribe to that principle: 'Each for All, and All for Each!' In the midst of War, we say, producer and consumer live for each other and all of us live for the common cause, which is to win the war. Let us win it with greater faith in our creed."

—A recent talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras.

BRITAIN'S RECIPROCAL AID TO U.S.

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 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 transferred to U.S. Army Air Force command when the pilots said goodbye to the Royal Air Force 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 Royal Air Force 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 United States forces in Britain is chalked up to Reciprocal Aid. Their basic rations, such as, frozen and canned meat and fish, come from the United States, 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 book-keeping 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.

BRITAIN'S LIGHT COASTAL FORCES

By MARTIN CHISHOLM, *well-known British Naval Correspondent, who has been to sea with the Fleet*

THE operational "season" of Britain's Light Coastal Forces—the motor torpedo boats and motor gunboats—is now at its height. Since the early days of spring, announcements of engagements with Axis supply ships and their escorts, as well as with German E-boats, have been made with growing frequency.

To deliver their most deadly blows these incredibly fast little craft, descendants of the speedboats of peacetime, must make hay while the sun shines.

Being essentially weapons of surprise, relying on the stealthy approach before running in to deliver their blows, they are primarily night-operating vessels, using the cover of darkness to enable them to creep close to the enemy shore and his coastal convoy routes.

WAR CARRIED TO ENEMY'S DOORSTEP

At the same time, owing to their light construction and the smallness of their hulls, they are more suited to operations in moderate or calm seas than to the rougher conditions of winter. That is why the peak of their operational season is limited to a few short weeks in the spring and summer and again in the early autumn. The short hours of darkness during the summer months put a serious limitation on their scope. In winter, though they are seaworthy enough to live through practically any weather, sea conditions may draw much of the sting from their attack.

In the month which ended on April 8, the coastal forces of Britain and her allies had already been engaged in ten actions and had sunk ten enemy vessels, including five supply ships, for the loss of only one of their own craft. Since that time a large number of other actions has been announced, in one of which Lieutenant-Commander R. P. Hichons, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.V.R., perhaps the most famous of all the commanders of light craft, lost his life. These actions ranged over a wide area, from the Dover Strait to the Norwegian coast, from the shores of Holland to the Dogger Bank.

All of them show a very different picture from that prevailing earlier in the war. Then the chief function of the Light Coastal Craft was the protection of convoys moving along the Channel and East coasts of Britain from attack by enemy E-boats. One of the worst portions of the East Coast convoy route, for instance, became known as "E-boat alley." Now the war is being carried to the enemy's doorstep, creating plenty of "M.T.B. alleys" for the discomfort of German coastal shipping.

In this respect the parallel with developments in the air is striking. Moreover, the operation of the Light Coastal Forces provides an extremely good example of the essential unity of sea and air strategy. The major task of the little ships is to strike at inshore sea communications. Whenever Britain's fighters and fighter bombers shoot up continental railways, throwing the enemy's land communications out of gear, this tends to force a diversion of some essential war supplies to the sea. Here, once again they are liable in daylight to further air attacks, and, when darkness falls, the M.T.Bs. and M.G.Bs. are ready to take up their part in the harassing action. That the number of supply ships which they have sunk is not greater is due mainly to the comparative fewness of targets moving along the coasts within their range.

When the full story of the development of these craft and of their tactics can be told, it will provide a most interesting chapter in the story of the struggle for a balance of weapons which takes place in every war. In the early days it was largely a matter of finding a counter to the German E-boat. To-day the offensive boot, as I have said, is on the other foot.

The motor gunboat, for instance, had as its original purpose the shooting up of enemy motor torpedo boats, just as the forerunners of the destroyers of to-day were designed to counter the steam torpedo boats of a potential enemy. How developments, particularly in gun-powder, considerably influenced by the most recent methods adopted for gunners from the air, have given the M.G.Bs. such a volume of fire power and such an ability to get rapidly on to their targets that they have themselves become important components of the little ship striking force.

Side by side with technical advances there have been great improvements in tactics, worked out on the basis of the practical experience of the crews themselves. The best methods of delivering the torpedo attack itself in various conditions, the precise moment at which the M.T.Bs. may make their close approach, and similar matters, have all been considered, argued about and worked up to higher standards on the basis of operational experience. To-day Britain's tactics are far ahead of the German in these respects.

Light Coastal Forces are now operating not only in the waters around the British Isles but in every part of the world where the United Nations have suitable bases commanding narrow sea routes.

"HOSTILITIES ONLY" SEAMEN

Turning from the ships themselves and their tactics to their personnel, one finds that these light craft amount almost to an "amateur navy". They are officered almost entirely by "civies" who have put on the uniform of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve for the duration of the war. The crews, too, are practically all "hostilities only" seamen.

SAGA OF FOURTH INDIAN DIVISION

NO FORMATION WITHIN ARMIES OF BRITISH EMPIRE HAS FOUGHT MORE BATTLES

By MAJOR C. B. THORNE, M.C.

SEPOYS OF THE FOURTH INDIAN DIVISION IN THE WESTERN DESERT harassing the enemy with mortars from light armoured units.

OF all the epics of World War II, none is more inspiring than the account of the part played by the Fourth Indian Division in the battles of the Middle East. It portrays a story of heroism, a genuine comradeship, and mutual admiration of the British and Indians for each other regardless of colour, class, or creed. This inspiring example or unity of purpose was founded on a real knowledge of each other's qualities, not on academic theories. Those of us in Britain and India who know each other were not surprised, but the co-operation which made these exploits possible is a lesson to the world for all time.

No formation within the armies of the British Empire can claim during the present conflict to have taken part in more engagements than the Fourth Indian Division. Up to February 1943, it had suffered 15,000 casualties, capturing 100,000 prisoners. Furthermore, it was the first contingent of the Indian Army to go into battle. To fight a series of operations, to move rapidly from one theatre to another, to refit, and then become engaged again, and consistently to retain an exceptionally high standard of fighting efficiency are feats which cannot be performed without the most loyal co-operation of all concerned, nor can they be undertaken in the absence of determination coupled with a high standard of discipline.

JOINED WAVELL IN EGYPT

This division, which was made up of regiments in whose ranks were Punjabis, Muslims, Sikhs, Dogras, Jats, Pathans, Mahrattas, Garwhalis, Gurkhas and Rajputs, together with the First Royal Fusiliers, the Second Cameron Highlanders, and supported by British tanks, armoured cars and artillery, arrived in the Western Desert of Egypt in 1939. There it joined Field Marshal Wavell's small but highly trained army. On December 9, 1940, began the conquest of Cyrenaica. The British Forces were then deficient in aircraft. They were also outnumbered by the enemy, but despite these adverse factors a lightning success was achieved.

Moving forward, this Indian Division captured the Italian fortified camp of Nibeiwa, taking 200 prisoners together with guns, lorries, and 30 undamaged tanks. Its other elements seized enemy positions at Tummar East and Tummar West. Next day the Indians joined in the successful attack on Sidi Barrani where General Galini and another large batch of prisoners were captured.

On December 12, it was withdrawn from the Western Desert and sent hurriedly across Egypt to take part in the attack in Italian East Africa. Operations here began on January 19, 1941. Fighting through Kassala and Agordat to Keren, it broke down the defences of the supposedly impregnable Italian mountain fortress at a cost of 3,000 casualties. This was achieved only as the result of a most stern and gallant fight through the worst type of mountainous country. There were many determined counter-attacks by the enemy and some positions changed hands several times before they were finally overcome.

On the fall of Keren the Fourth Indian Division hurriedly returned to the Western Desert where it occupied positions on the Egyptian frontier in preparation for Rommel's threat. After only six weeks in Egypt, part of it was sent via the Sinai Peninsula, Palestine and Transjordania to the Syrian border. In June the Fifth Indian Brigade together with the Fighting French column struck northwards to Damascus. After heavy fighting at Kuneitra and Keswe, Messe was finally captured. This decided the fate of Damascus.

CAPTURE OF THE OMARS

Once again the division was reassembled in the Western Desert where it went into battle with General Auchinleck in his offensive which began on November 17, 1941. Crossing the line in the south, it attacked north behind the Axis frontier positions capturing the Omars, Sidi Omar, Nuovo, and Libyan Omar in quick succession, and pressing westwards to Sidi Rezegh, Tobruk, and Gazala, fighting hard all the way. It then took Derna, Cyrene, Berce, and was in Benghazi by Christmas day.

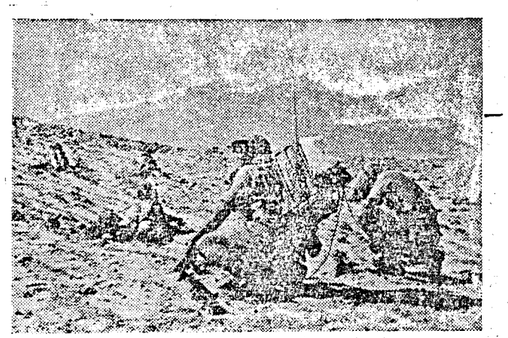
Rommel struck back at the end of January. The Indians were holding positions around Benghazi. The Seventh Indian Infantry Brigade was cut off and surrounded. Its Commander decided to break through, taking the enemy by surprise. Moving south and west—not east which was the natural direction—this Brigade then in three columns passed German tank formations unrecognized.

Enemy aircraft flew low firing a few bursts with their machineguns, but the Indians wisely held their fire. The hostile machines were puzzled and soon left. Later a petrol convoy was seized and the Indian Brigade refueled from it. After a passage of 200 miles through enemy-occupied territory, they ultimately rejoined the British forces bringing many prisoners with them. This first-class military achievement required not only courage and efficiency, but a restraint of the highest order.

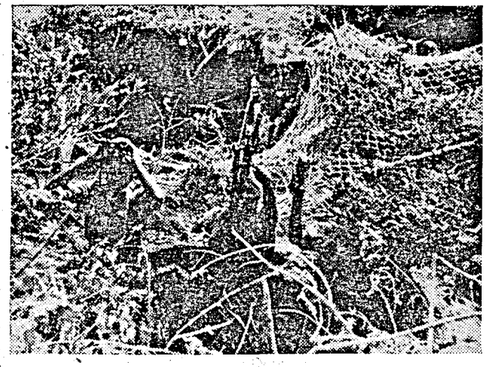
MOTORISED LANCERS' BRILLIANT LEADERSHIP

It was during the retreat from Benghazi that Major Kumar Rajendrasinhji of the Second Royal Lancers, a nephew of the famous "Ranji," won the Distinguished Service Order. The Third Indian Motor Brigade has been surrounded while holding the wells at Makili; this they were doing in order to cover the retreat of our forces to Tobruk. To avoid surrender, the regiments of this brigade charged through the encircling enemy, Rajendrasinhji's regiment acting as rearguard. Whilst waiting it was overwhelmed by German tanks.

Rajendrasinhji's squadron, however, was not seriously involved. He led off westwards, but was faced with heavy fire from artillery and machineguns. His squadron then charged the enemy's lines, its trucks roaring at top speed



FOURTH INDIAN DIVISION—An Indian signals operator with Pack wireless set follows the infantry.



FOURTH INDIAN DIVISION IN ERITREA.—An A.A. post guarding an ammunition supply point in Eritrea.

through a hostile battery position. The crews threw up their hands, but nothing could be done. Hotly pursued, he moved towards the hills where he shook off the enemy.

There his men rested, and after discarding all unnecessary kit renewed their efforts to reach the British. The going was rough, several trucks had to be abandoned and the men from them doubled up into the remainder. Suddenly, a column of 15 Italian lorries was encountered. An attack was immediately staged, but 200 Italians poured out with their hands in the air. All the Germans who were with them were also captured, and one lorry made to join our column. The British lines were reached after 30 hours of continuous driving and fighting—a most gallantly-led exploit.

Although this instance is of operational interest, it is one of many examples on the part of British and Indian personnel of gallant leadership too numerous to mention here. There are other instances depicting still greater heroism, such as Subedar Richpal Ram of the 6th Rajputana Rifles, who was the second Indian to win the Victoria Cross in this war. Subedar Richpal Ram led two charges at Keren with exceptional gallantry. During the second of these, although mortally wounded, he continued to order his men forward, declaring that the objective must be taken.

The gallantry displayed by Indian troops is perhaps best illustrated by taking two regiments at random. During the operations in the Middle East, the 6th Rajputana Rifles were awarded 1 Distinguished Service Order, 4 Military Crosses, 7 Indian Orders of Merit and 9 Distinguished Service Medals; whilst the 5th Mahratta Light Infantry were awarded 1 bar to D.S.O., I.D.S.O., 4 M.Cs., 5 I.O.Ms., 2 D.S.Ms. This high standard of gallantry was manifest throughout the Fourth Indian Division.

PAUSE FOR RE-EQUIPMENT

Having fought its way throughout the withdrawal to Egypt, the Fourth Indian Division during May 1942 was re-equipping and re-training in that country. In mid-September it returned to the Western Desert front and joined the 30th Corps in the Northern Sector. The great battle of El Alamein began on October 23. The break-through—the beginning of the end of Rommel's Afrika Korps—took place on November 4. The Indians attacked on the Ruweisat ridge and one of its patrols later occupied the Siwa Oasis. Hot on the pursuit of Rommel it reached the front south of the Mareth Line on March 15 Here it played a major role leading to the evacuation of that strongly held enemy position by forcing the Hallouf Pass on March 25 and clearing the country between Hallouf and Foum Tatahouine. Despite mountainous country, mines, and an obstinate enemy, the division cleared the area in 60 hours and occupied Toujane, Zelton and Matmata. This action influenced the turning of the Mareth position.

VON ARNIM'S CAPTORS

It must be admitted that even this brief outline of a long series of successful engagements, fought in the dusty wastes of the Western Desert, in the bush of Abyssinia, in the towering and rocky mountains of Eritrea, and in the green hills of Syria, portrays a magnificent performance for any division of any army. It is therefore a fitting reward that the Fourth Indian Division should have been transferred to the British First Army which was to share in the success of the final battle for Tunisia.

Better still, it was deserving that the German General Von Arnim should ultimately surrender to this magnificent fighting formation. It is impossible to conceive a more satisfactory ending to their North African battles.

RUNNING COMMENTARY.

(Continued from page 3)

They thought they could carry out heavy bombing raids on the newly-acquired American base, from this point. But they failed in their attempt, because they were outfought in the air. On the other hand, the Munda airfield itself began to suffer the fate which they wanted to inflict on the Henderson airfield.

The Japanese method of infiltration on the flank failed to retake the airfield. This was because American divebombers and motor torpedo boats made the waters round Guadalcanal too hot for Japanese transport-ships. After the establishment of local air superiority, larger Allied naval units were brought in, and the blockade of Guadalcanal was tightened. Ultimately the Japanese had no other go except to evacuate the island as their supply lines had been severed.

This was more or less what happened in the case of Munda. Here the Allies had the advantage of land-based air cover from Guadalcanal and an increase in the number of heavy bombers. Within a very few hours of the Allied landing on Rendova Island, there was a terrific naval bombardment of Munda from Rendova harbour, across the seven miles of sea. Thus there was speedier progress in the capture of this important vantage-point.

* * * * *

"Island—Hopping"—Two important factors.

The two important factors essential for the success of the Allied strategy of "island-hopping" in the South-west Pacific are adequate air cover for the land forces and some measure of sea control in the waters surrounding the island to be attacked. The duration and outcome of the battle for each of these islands depend upon the extent of the strength of the Allies in regard to these two factors. Last year, the Solomons group was entirely in the hands of the Japanese and the Allied air bases were away at a considerable distance. Port Moresby, Queensland and the New Hebrides were about 850, 1,000, and 600 miles distant, respectively, from Guadalcanal. It was not possible to provide land-based fighter cover from such distant bases. Enemy warships were patrolling the Solomons area in some considerable strength.

It was evident that unless at least one air base was wrested from them, it would not be possible for the Allies to gain the necessary sea control. Risks had therefore to be run to gain a foothold and establish the required air base. A force of Allied cruisers was entrusted with the task of giving the necessary cover to landings by United States marines. They helped to keep away enemy ships, while a bridgehead was successfully secured. This was done under great sacrifice, as three of the American cruisers and one Australian cruiser were sunk by Japanese gun fire. It was a heavy sacrifice, but it was worth it.

THE DOG IS DEAD!

Hitler and Goebbels were making an incognito trip by car to discover at first-hand the true feelings of the German people. In a Bavarian village they ran over and killed a dog owned by the village innkeeper.

As this was a trip to build up loyalty, Hitler sent Goebbels to the inn to give the innkeeper a large sum of money as compensation. After a long wait, Goebbels came staggering towards him laden with parcels and bottles of wine.

"Gott in himmel!" cried the astonished Fuehrer. "Where did you get all that?"

"Mein Fuehrer," replied Goebbels, "I went into the inn and said, 'Heil Hitler! The dog is dead!' whereupon everyone in the house bought me a round, and loaded me up with all these gifts."

Post-War Planning in the Reich

GERMANY'S REVISED DEFENCE SCHEME

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

THE heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force and the United States of America's Air Force that desolated Hamburg with some 10,000 tons of high explosive in the recent almost unbroken ten days of attack did so in defiance of the most elaborate defensive system of the Reich. To protect this great port and the industrial centre of 1,700,000 people, the Germans rushed as many fighters as could be spared from other urgent duties. Hamburg was ringed and dotted with anti-aircraft guns of every description planted with unbelievable density. Yet bombers got through.

Defences of the most heavily bombed districts in Germany are constantly reinforced. Even for the 1,000-bomber raid on Cologne more than a year ago, there were 500 heavy and light guns and at least 150 searchlights round the city. The Ruhr then had a much larger number of all types of ground defence weapons than other parts of Germany. The state of weather, the length of the night and the fact that certain industrial areas in the same district have been attacked repeatedly in a short period gives the enemy some idea where the next month's raids are likely to fall.

The enemy has also heavy guns mounted on special railway wagons. These are rushed to areas under attack.

BELT OF SEARCHLIGHTS

At the time of early attacks on the Ruhr, Allied bombers striking in from the coast first met a belt of searchlights and flak arranged in groups of every five miles. Beyond that belt there were only scattered night fighters to be dealt with until searchlights and flak protecting targets were encountered. When night fighters went up, the flak ceased. To-day not only is every Junkers-88, which the Germans can spare being converted into night fighters (it was originally a bomber), but the fighters have to attack through their own shell fire.

More, the entire defence system from the coast has been completely altered. At the coastline, fighters rise to meet the incoming bombers. The inland belt of searchlights has been removed but the strategically situated pockets of searchlights and flak still remain—the whole way to the target. Overhead, fighters patrol. The chief difference, however, occurs over the target. In the Ruhr searchlights and guns were concentrated from all over the Reich. They used to be in groups. Now so many are clustered together that at times the whole sky over the Ruhr seems evenly illuminated.

R.I.N. SHIP IN ACTION OFF SICILY

HELPS PROTECT CONVOY FROM AIR ATTACK

ESCORTING large convoys of vessels carrying men and supplies from North African ports to Sicily, His Majesty's Indian ships continue to render good service in the Mediterranean, writes a Royal Indian Navy observer at sea in one of these warships.

Within the past few days one vessel of the Royal Indian Navy has been engaged in hunting Axis submarines in a danger area off Cyrenaica, while another R.I.N. ship has helped to ensure that an important convoy reached its destination safely. I was on board the second warship, and can vouch for the fact that not a single ship was lost or damaged during the voyage. So keen was the watch kept by the escorting warships that the enemy did not venture to attack, although throughout the voyage reports of activity by submarines continued to reach us and hostile aircraft are believed to have spotted the convoy.

On the night of our arrival at a Sicilian port the enemy staged an air raid by the light of the waning moon. His plan was to sink ships in the harbour, but the anti-aircraft guns of the British, the Indian and the Greek warships put up such an effective barrage that the planes dropped their bombs at random and failed to hit anything.

I was on the bridge at the time, and it was a most impressive sight to watch all the Naval ships firing every available high angle weapon, at the same time laying a smoke screen for the protection of the merchant ships within the harbour. The R.I.N. ship kept up a good rate of fire—she is particularly well armed with anti-aircraft guns—and in helping to repel these attacks her Indian gun crews fired salvoes totalling several hundred rounds from four o'clock until dawn broke. Acrid cordite fumes hung over the ship. Officers and men welcomed this opportunity of going into action, but the raiders kept at a respectful distance and indulged in high level bombing that brought them no results. Despite their anxiety to keep out of range, the barrage managed to bring down at least one of the hostile planes.

In addition to experiencing this raid, the convoy while at sea had several alarms heralding possible air and submarine attacks. During these periods our ship's company remained at "defence stations", which means that half the complement was constantly on watch while the other half rested, prepared however to dash off to action stations and man the guns. All apparatus for detecting the enemy was of course permanently manned, and the convoy enjoyed constant Royal Air Force protection overhead.

The R.I.N. ships' companies appreciate this chance of engaging the Axis forces and gaining valuable experience of modern sea warfare, and they hope that further opportunities of action will follow. At this time of year the Mediterranean offers ideal operational conditions, although at intervals storms suddenly arise. This happened during the first stage of the invasion of Sicily, when the convoy that H.M.I. ships helped to escort encountered very rough weather on the passage from Africa. Despite this, all the ships arrived at their disembarkation points according to schedule. Dawn on "zero day" found H.M.I. ships within a few miles of the Sicilian coast, watching troops land on the beaches and carrying out constant patrols while screening the convoy against possible attack.

Since then our ships have ranged far and wide, refuelling and victualling in the shortest possible time and then dashing off again to escort another convoy with men and supplies for the front line. Officers and men are in excellent fettle and seize every opportunity of taking physical exercise. For instance, during the latest spell of escort work, within an hour of the convoy's arrival off Sicily scores of men jumped into the sea and enjoyed a refreshing swim. That same night the ship gave a good account of herself in action against the enemy aircraft. The only cause for complaint is that no mails have come from India since our ships arrived on the Mediterranean station. Everyone is hoping that there will be letters in plenty for us when we return to our base.

ALLIED TECHNIQUE OF VICTORY

By LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

THE recent bombing of Hamburg was the heaviest and the most concentrated air attack of the war. The second city of the Reich has to all intents and purposes ceased to exist as a great industrial town; and these effective and concentrated attacks from the air have come just at the moment when they will serve as the most useful reminder to the Italians of what will be the result of allowing their Government to continue temporising in the hope of gaining better terms. For the past many days Marshal Badoglio has struggled in the cleft stick of his dilemma and he cannot escape it. If he throws in his lot wholeheartedly with the Allies he is in effect handing over Northern Italy to the Germans together with Italy's most dense industrial region; if he keeps in step with Hitler, he exposes the towns of Southern Italy to risks already run by Hamburg, and the 1,000 miles of coastline on the Adriatic and the Mediterranean to invasion almost at any point.

Last week I suggested that the Germans could afford to send Badoglio sufficient help to be effective, but they would make their troops in Sicily act as their "rear party." There has not yet been any reliable evidence to show whether, where or in what strength the Germans are preparing positions from which to cover their departure from the Italian peninsula. But should they depart, they cannot leave it at that. If they come off one of the natural piers sticking out into the Mediterranean, they can hardly hope to stay securely on the other. Retreat from Southern Italy must, in my view, be followed by retreat from Greece and this in its turn would soon result in bombing of the Rumanian oilfields with ever-increasing frequency.

TRANSPORT PROBLEM

The oilfields of Rumania and the means of transporting that oil to the Reich constitute the Achilles heel in German strategy. Last winter this danger spot was threatened by the advance of the Russians in the upper Dniper; but the position was restored by the German capture of Kharkov and the opposing lines settled down to thaw with Ploesti out of Russia's reach. Now the security of these great oilfields and refineries has been rudely shattered by the American attack from the Middle East, and the general Mediterranean situation gives grounds for the hope that in the not-too-distant future Ploesti might share the fate of Hamburg.

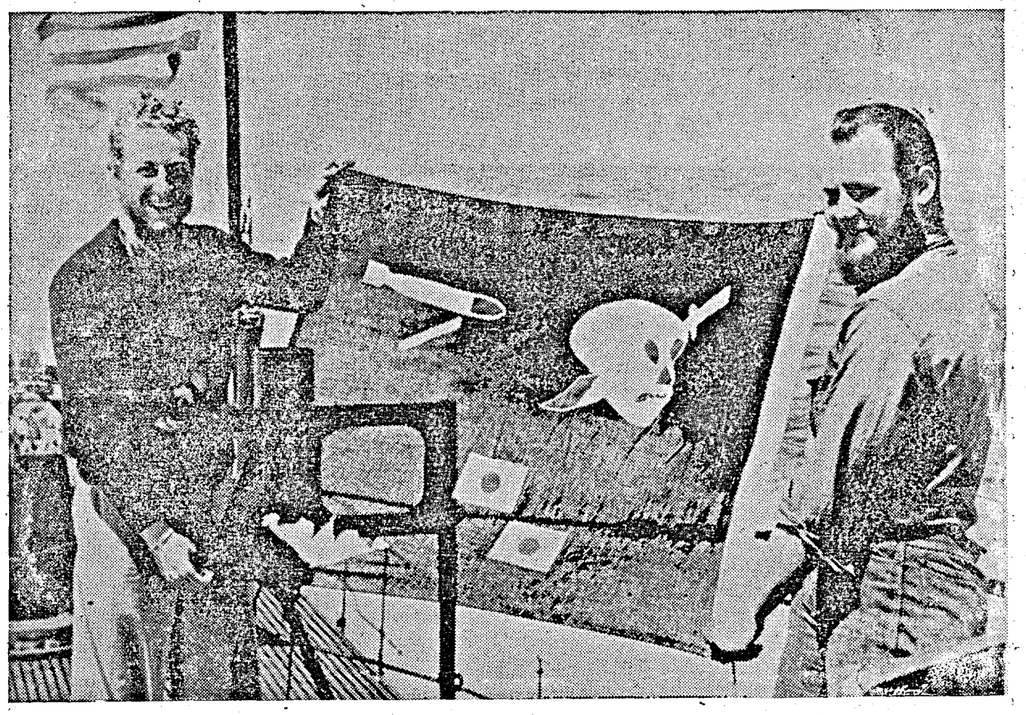
In the early days of wishful thinking, it was generally hoped that shortage of oil would impair very seriously Germany's war effort. So far this has not been apparent; but should the supplies of Ploesti fail, Germany would be driven back to live on synthetic production and accumulated capital. No doubt the fall of Malaya gave wishful thinkers in Germany the hope that shortage of rubber would be as effective in slowing down Britain's war effort as the British hoped that oil would bring the German war machine to a standstill. That does not seem to have happened either. These two examples show us that it is much wiser to rely only on destroying the enemy by defeat on the field of battle than on any fortuitous shortage of mineral necessities.

Such shortages play their part but they cannot of themselves produce decision. Wars are won by one side faltering in its will to win and this is nearly always brought about by military defeat or starvation.

ITALIANS DECISIVELY DEFEATED

Italian armies have been decisively defeated in Africa and are giving themselves up in thousands in Sicily, and the people of the country have lost the will to go on with the struggle. The same must happen to Germany before the war in Europe can cease. The impending downfall of Italy is not an occasion for any slackening of effort; in fact, it is an example of the only way by which the enemy forces can be overcome and permanent peace secured.

Hitler destroyed his enemies by the technique of one at a time. We are doing the same. First, Italy, next Germany and finally Japan; but it will be a long job.



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE BATTLE FLAG TELLS OF VICTORIES OVER JAPANESE.—Lieutenant Arnold G. Plemons and Seaman First Class G.E. Hoppe of the United States Navy display the battle flag of their submarine after returning from a successful patrol in Japanese waters. The two miniature Japanese flags indicate two Japanese ships definitely sunk while the torpedo device in the upper left hand corner signifies torpedo hits on two additional enemy ships.

AFTER DUNKIRK—WHAT BRITAIN HAS DONE

Britain was the first country to go to War with Hitler without being attacked herself. Having gone to War, what did she do? Of course she made mistakes. Of course there were muddles. To err is British. But to learn, to work, to hold on and never let go, and to win—That is British also.

THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE

AFTER Dunkirk, most of the world thought that the British Army was "finished."

"Are we?" said the British Army.

And it did not merely say it. It recovered, reformed, resurged. It acted.

Italian East Africa and Abyssinia; Madagascar; Libya and Tunisia; Pantelleria, Lampedusa and, now, Sicily.

These are the British Army's answers to doubters. And they were not easy, ready-made answers. Into their making went an endless amount of blood and sweat, toil and tears.

In the first three years of war the British Army did not fight a single major campaign in which it was not outnumbered by the enemy.

The British Army has not only fought the enemy on the battlefields of Europe, Africa and Asia, but has also performed the key task of containing the enemy in strength in Iceland, the British Isles, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Persia, Madagascar and India.

In the East African campaign British troops in a few months conquered Abyssinia. The first country to go under to Axis aggression was the first to be freed.

British troops swiftly overran Italian East Africa, despite the fact that at the start of the 1940 campaign the British forces in the Sudan sector were outnumbered by almost ten to one.

In the East African campaign in 17 days (March 1—17, 1941) the columns under the command of General Cunningham drove 744 miles from Mogadishu to Jijiga—an average of nearly 44 miles a day.

This is the fastest military pursuit in history, and is approached only by the record of the Eighth Army in 1942-43.

General Cunningham's troops in the East African campaign advanced in all 1,725 miles to Addis Ababa in 53 days.

Over 500,000 enemy troops were put out of action in the African campaigns.

Over 100 Italian Generals are now British prisoners.

The British Eighth Army under Generals Alexander and Montgomery routed the Axis forces in the victorious Battle of Egypt (October-November 1942).

In 19 days (November 4—23, 1942), the British Eighth Army advanced 830 miles from El Alamein to Jedabya. That is an average of over 43 miles a day. In 80 days (42 excluding pauses at Agheila and Buerat) the Eighth Army advanced 1,400 miles.

These successes in Africa were achieved 12,000 miles by sea from the main base in the British Isles.

More than 70 per cent of all the casualties suffered by the armies of the British Empire in all the campaigns of 1940 and 1941 were suffered by United Kingdom troops.

Fifty-eight per cent of the 13,600 total casualties of the Eighth Army up to November 10, 1942, were United Kingdom troops.

The British First Army, with its paratroops, headed the Allied drive into Tunisia in November 1942.

LUFTWAFFE BEATEN, HANDS DOWN

The Royal Air Force has fought on pretty nearly every front in this war.

In the last two years the Royal Air Force, in all theatres of war has sunk or seriously damaged more than 1,250,000 tons of enemy shipping.

The Royal Air Force decisively defeated the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain.

On August 15, 1940, *British pilots shot down at least* 181 *enemy aircraft for certain, and on September* 15, *they shot down* 185.

The number of German machines actually destroyed was almost certainly substantially larger than the official figures.

After beating the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain, Fighter Command moved into the offensive when the Germans turned against the Russians. British fighters swept over the Low Countries and France and defeated the Germans over their own airfields.

More than half Germany's available fighters have been compelled by this means to keep in the West instead of on the Russian front.

To-day Bomber Command is reversing the incidence of the air war. The Germans are beginning to learn what concentrated air attack can mean to great industrial cities.

The Royal Air Force's heaviest bomb today, which weighs four tons, is approximately 16 *times greater than the heaviest bomb used during January-March,* 1940, *and is approximately double the maximum bomb-load in* 1939.

In a three-hour raid on Lubeck on March 28–29, 1942, Royal Air Force bombers dropped one-and-a-half times the weight of bombs dropped on Coventry in November during an all-night raid by the Germans, i.e., 340 tons against 225.

Four hundred tons were dropped during the first two raids on Rostock on April 23 and 24.

Over 1,000 *bombers attacked Cologne on the night of May* 30–31, *the Ruhr and Essen on June* 1–2, *and Bremen on June* 25–26, 1942.

On March 27, 1943, 900 tons of bombs were dropped on Berlin, twice the weight of bombs dropped by the Germans in their heaviest raid on London.

Seventeen air attacks were delivered against North Italian cities by long-range British bombers between October 22–23 and December 11–12, 1942.

ATTACK ON TURIN

In the attack on Turin on November 20–21, 1942, a single bomber group dropped 54 4,000-lb bombs and 111,000 lb. of fire-bombs in under one hour; that is: one 4,000-lb. bomb every minute and one 30-lb. fire bomb every second.

Royal Air Force fighter squadrons and anti-aircraft gunners based on Malta had up to the end of 1942 destroyed 1,151 enemy aircraft over the island and surrounding waters.

Of this total 773 enemy aircraft were destroyed by fighters for a loss of 195 Royal Air Force aircraft from which 89 pilots were saved; 182 enemy aircraft were destroyed by the anti-aircraft gunners.

Well over 10,000 German and Italian aircraft were brought down by the Royal Air Force and by Dominion and Allied squadrons operating with it, or by British anti-aircraft fire, between September 1939, and the end of December 1942.

TOLL OF ENEMY PLANES

Nine hundred and eighty-one more were brought down by naval and merchant vessesl or by the Fleet Air Arm. A very large number of enemy aircraft were also destroyed on the ground—2,000 in the Middle East alone.

Over 11,000 is thus the grand total of enemy machines destroyed, excluding aircraft destroyed on the ground and those brought down in Russia and in the Far East.

BRITISH PERSONNEL

Eighty-nine per cent of the aircraft, 72 per cent of the air crews and 98 per cent of the ground personnel in Britain, taking the figures as they stood in February 1942, were products and citizens of the United Kingdom.

Seventy-five per cent of the aircraft, 85 per cent of the air crews and 99 per cent of the ground crews overseas were from the United Kingdom at the same date.

DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR INDIAN TROOPS

Ensconced in comfortable chairs at the Indian Soldiers' Club in Tehran can be seen every Thursday evening, an animated gathering of Indian troops debating on successful Allied strategy in the Sicilian campaign, or waxing eloquent on what in their opinion, should be done to drive the Japs out of Burma.

They are members of the recently formed Discussion Groups for Indian troops daily growing in popularity with the "jawans." An Indian officer first gives a summary of the week's headline news and then comments upon it, raising some subject of particular interest to Indian troops. The men are then invited to express their own points of view on the matter concerned.

Discussions held so far have been very well attended and much interesting comment has been forthcoming from the soldiers.

AMATEUR ARCHÆOLOGISTS IN KHAKI

Former out-of-work historical guides in India who were to be seen idly leaning against the tomb of a great Moghul Emperor or the mausoleum of his beloved queen, generally having a slack time of it, are experiencing a business boom with the advent of the war which has brought in its train hosts of amateur archæologists in khaki who daily swarm through great and historical monuments like the Taj Mahal at Agra, the Imambaras in Lucknow, and the Qutab Minar at Delhi.

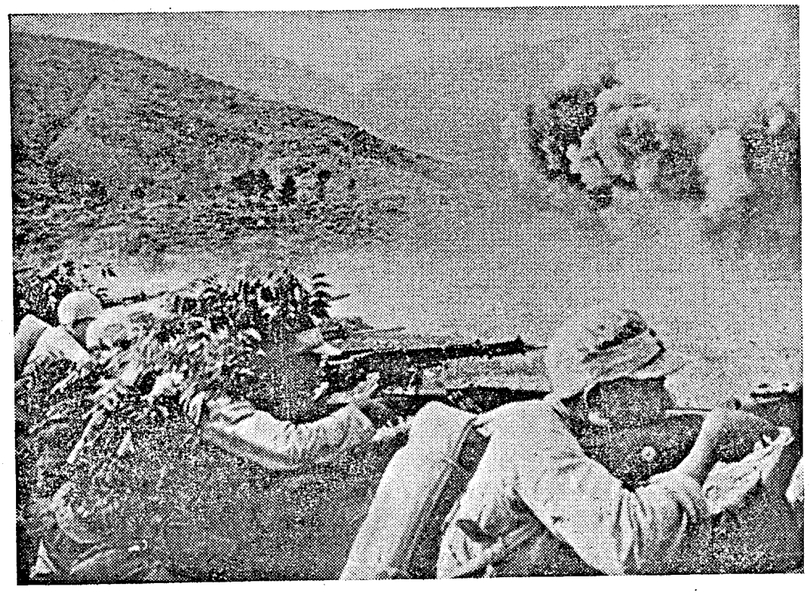
All this means big business for the guides whose number has greatly increased. Having learnt by rote a number of sentences, every erstwhile jobless man has become an expert, and the one who can speak a few words of English has no doubt a greater market value.

The British or American soldier is awed by the sight of huge domes and beautifully carved arches, but the craftiness of the guide in leading him in and out of intricate passages, with characteristic pauses and exclamations, impresses, impresses him all the more. Whether he gets the correct information or not, he leaves immediately convinced of the ability of the guide, whom he apologetically offers a couple of rupees as a paltry recompense. The Guide is a master in his art and never shows that his value has been over assessed. He accepts the proferred gift as if merely to please the foreigner.

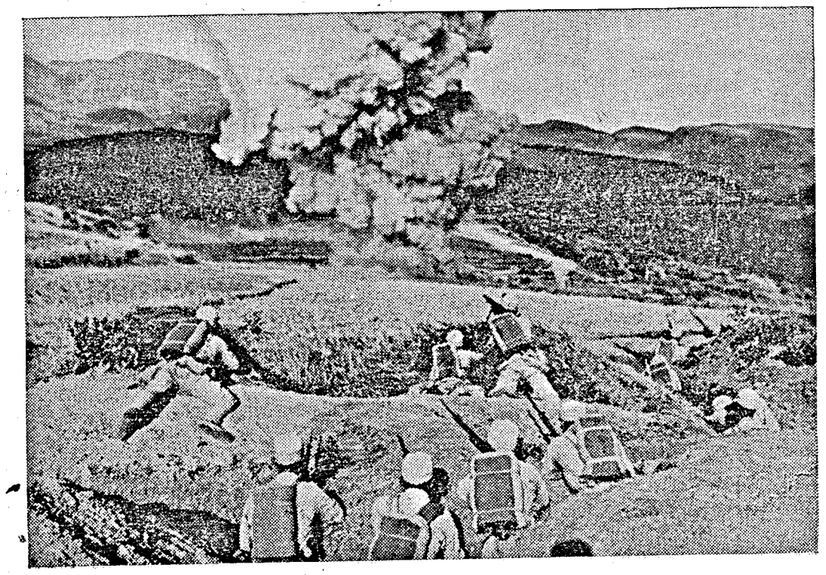
The traders with booths round the monuments join hands with guides and do a roaring trade in lemonades and models of the great monuments.

"They are good people, these men in khaki. We wish they stay here for ever," a guide was heard to remark.

CHINESE HURL BACK JAPANESE ATTACK



As artillery shells burst in front of them, Chinese infantrymen, some of them camouflaged, fight off a Japanese attack from a trench on the Salween River front. The action took place during a battle in Yunnan Province in which the Chinese drove back a Japanese offensive.



CHINESE HOLD SALWEEN LINE.—Chinese troops crouch in a zigzag trench along the Salween River front in Southern Yunnan Province as an artillery shell bursts in front of them. This picture was taken during the fighting in which the Chinese hurled back a Japanese offensive.

STERNEST PAGES OF A PEOPLE'S HISTORY

By SIR HUMPHRY PRIDEAUX BRUNE, *till recently Consul-General at Kunming*

THE death of Mr. Lin Sen, President of the National Government of the Republic of China, deprives our Ally of a servant of the State who fulfilled a role of special significance and value, during a most critical phase of the national existence, and whose memory will assuredly have a lasting place in the annals of Chinese history.

The late President was a native of Fukien, one of the fairest of China's provinces, and one which has been particularly exposed to the ravages of aggression. He was born in 1864 and was thus close on seventy years of age when he assumed office as head of the National Government in 1932, and the last ten years of his life were spent in the service of his country, in that capacity.

It was a fortunate circumstance for China that, soon after the inception of the expansive period which began with the establishment of the National Government in Nanking in 1927, the country was able to produce a man with qualities which especially fitted him for that position and who now may be regarded in retrospect as an ideal head of a democratic state. It was a prerequisite that he should be a tried and constant follower of the great movement of national revival and aspiration which is associated with the name of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, but the number of his contemporaries who could claim a similar qualification was legion. The distinction with which Mr. Lin fulfilled his role derived, first and foremost, from a certain combination of dignity and simplicity, a combination not easily found in those who are called to exalted

positions in any country and at any time, and which exactly suited the needs of China, with regard both to her domestic requirements and to her place in the area of world politics.

TEN FATEFUL YEARS

What particularly evoked the admiration of foreign observers, during the past ten fateful years in China, was, no doubt, the success with which the President sustained the prestige of his great office through all vicissitudes, in fair weather and foul. It was, indeed, an example of which any nation might be proud, one of those consoling and encouraging things which relieve the sternest pages of a people's history. But the qualities which told pre-eminently, in the domestic field, were of another order. For all the dignity of his bearing the President was equally notable for his complete disregard of parade and ostentation and the simplicity of his tastes. It was of inestimable value to China, during this period, that every citizen of the Republic, from the humblest to the highest, knew that President Lin was a man who embodied all that was best in the national tradition, a man of unimpeachable integrity and unsullied patriotism, abstemious, kindly, and just. Even the most toil-worn son of the soil or office drudge knew this, and was a happier and prouder man for the knowledge.

SIMPLICITY AND SOBRIETY

The ideal of simplicity and sobriety lies deep in the traditions of Chinese culture. This, perhaps, is the principal reason why Buddhism took root and flourished in China, a country in some respects so remote from the land of its origin. On another plane, there is a clear reflection of the same thing in some of the most notable expressions of Chinese art, which explains how a modern English student can trace affinities between the poetry of Wordsworth and the inspiration of old masters who painted the lakesides and mills of China, seven centuries ago. A cognate strain in the national genius is the cool light of reasonableness and humanity which plays through the country's political thought, almost from the earliest time. One of the old-established British newspapers in China once observed that it is always possible to quote Confucius effectively in the cause of common-sense.

At a time when the world is plunged in tragedy by the forces of arrogance, hatred, and deceit, in their most savage and barbarous forms, it was a great thing that the Chinese Republic should have at its head a statesman who was the embodiment of the democratic ideal and at the same time so truly representative of his country and of its constant loyalty to the great counter-fascination of purity and truth.

AIRCRAFT *Vs.* U-BOAT

TO be invited to give an opinion whether the surface vessel or aircraft has played the greater part in bringing about the present (and, we hope, continuing) decline in U-boat activity is like being asked whether the hammer is more important to a carpenter than the chisel. The answer in both cases is that the two are complementary, not competitive, writes the *Sunday Times* naval correspondent.

A surface vessel can show mastery over windy weather and, therefore, provides a continuity in the protection of shipping that the aircraft has not yet achieved; it alone so far holds the key to underwater detection and attack. The aircraft's high speed, on the other hand, enables it to carry out extended searches with a rapidity and economy that a ship cannot approach.

In recent months this advantage has been turned to good account in the Coastal Command's campaign against enemy submarines leaving or returning to their French bases by way of the Bay of Biscay. It takes U-boats several days to clear the Bay and get out into the greater freedom of the open Atlantic. During that period they must either present surface targets to our aircraft or have their progress gravely impeded by being forced under the water. It is giving away no secret to say that this campaign is proving extremely successful, a gratifying number of U-boats having fallen victims to the depth charges of our big Sunderland flying boats.

In such circumstances action naturally provokes reaction, and the contest has already become one of equipment and counter-equipment, manœuvre and counter-manœuvre. Besides strengthening their anti-aircraft armaments, U-boats are proceeding in groups of two or three to achieve a larger combined volume of fire, while flights of Ju-88s are coming out on protective patrols. Our flying boats' job is, therefore, becoming harder and more exacting. The record is not, of course, one of continuous fighting. To make occasional contacts with the enemy involves much weary patrolling and patient scanning of the empty expanse of sea, not reported to and, therefore, not appreciated by the general public. But constant and painful "flogging of the ocean" has always been the price for supremacy in sea warfare.

CHIN LEVY BRAVES BOMBS AND ESCAPES

WITH Royal Air Force bombers droning overhead, and at great risk from falling bombs, two Chin Levies bravely made a dash from Japanese captivity recently, writes an Indian Army Observer.

Taken prisoner by the enemy, the two Levies were being interrogated by a Japanese Officer sitting at bamboo table outside a Burmese house in a village. Suddenly a whistle blew and the Japanese flung themselves into slit trenches—our bombers were overhead.

Seizing their opportunity, the two Levies made a dash for Liberty. The Japanese fired at them from the safety of their trenches and killed one, but the other escaped.

After travelling through the jungle for days, living on berries and roots, the Chin arrived back in our lines.

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(From start of War to 13th August 1943)

Note.—Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	26	4	47
Destroyers	76	21	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types	25	3	17
Total	142	31	152
Non-combatant ships	250	27	113

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	21	3	25
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types	1	1	1
Total	51	5	53
Non-combatant ships	224	30	202
Unidentified	14	..	15

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 280 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

FASCIST HALLUCINATIONS

By J. B. PRIESTLEY

WHAT queer days we spend—in these strange times! I had a queer day recently. I had received a message to say that one of my daughters, who is a dispatch rider in the WRENS, had met with an accident and was now in a large naval hospital at one of our naval bases. I imagine that all of you know now that the WRENS are the women's auxiliary force attached to the Navy.

My daughter has quite an exciting life as a dispatch rider, for she has to go charging up and down the steep roads of a much-bombed port, along the quays, sometimes in the middle of the night, when the black-out is like a bag of soot and the roads are slippery and treacherous with rain or frost. She had had a great many opportunities of injuring herself—honourably and gloriously—while on duty, but, unlike many of her colleagues, she had managed to escape all such injuries. So far she had gone careering round on her motor cycle at all hours of the day and night without getting much more than an occasional scratch or bruise. And now she had gone and broken her arm, not on duty at all, but coming home from a dance with a lorry load of other WRENS. There was a collision in the black-out. Their lorry turned over, and my daughter was at the bottom of the pile—result—one broken arm. So I thought I had better go along and take a look at her.

It is queer the way children suddenly grow up, as all parents will agree. One year our daughters are still school children, curling up in corners reading "Black Beauty"—the story of a horse—or "The Wizard of Oz," and the next year, it seems, they are talking about cocktail parties, have mysterious long conversations on the telephone, and are called for by strange young men.

Yes, that's queer enough. It's still queerer, in my opinion, when one of them puts herself into naval uniform and spends her time delivering dispatches to the youthful commanders of motor torpedo boats. And it's much queerer still when she lands herself into a naval hospital, like the one I visited recently. It was a very big place, with immense perspectives of corridors, along which surgeon-commander, nurses and stewards went hurrying. It was built securely enough on land—it even had four underground operating theatres and could function as an emergency casualty station during a really bad *blitz*—but like all naval establishments, it had a nautical, seagoing air, as if at any moment the whole enormous building might quietly slide down the hill into the water and set sail for Gibralter and Malta.

I found my daughter—her arm strapped up and bandaged, of course, but otherwise she was looking cheerful and reasonably well—in a long ward filled with girls—some in bed, and the others sitting round the big stove, knitting and talking. My daughter, a terse young woman with strong views, announced that the place was "very hygienic and very dull," which sounded a pretty accurate description to me. And after all, hospitals should be very hygienic and very dull. There was a time when hospitals were very dirty and very lively, but unfortunately in those hospitals the patients died like flies, in fact, probably more of the patients died than the flies.

MODERN WAR INFLICTS A PSYCHOLOGICAL STRAIN

After much talk with my daughter about her health and the accident and what plans we could make, and giving her the family gossip—we are a fairly large family so that there is always plenty of news to exchange—I had to leave her for the time being, and so I accepted an invitation to lunch in the officers' mess.

Here I was fortunate because I found myself at a table with a little group of psychiatrists. They were all wearing naval uniform, and were in fact naval officers for the duration of the war, but before the war they had had important practices in London. I say I was fortunate to find myself among these experts simply because though I do not pretend to know much about psychiatry and psychological medicine, I am extremely interested in psychology and like to discuss it with expert practitioners. After all a novelist and dramatist does share some of the territory with these psychiatrists, the only difference being that he starts from one end and they start from the other, but they are both primarily concerned with human nature and all its whims and fantasies.

And nothing could better indicate the profound changes that have occurred in the medical services of our fighting forces than the presence here of thse psychological experts. An admiral of the old school would have turned bright purple and nearly exploded at the notion of employing such fellows in the Navy. But now we know better! Modern war involves a terrific psychological strain—for after a long period of tense waiting it has a habit of letting all hell loose on a man. Actually the old regular Naval men do not require much attention from the psychiatrists because not only have they been most carefully picked but also because they have been conditioned by long years in a service that has the most tremendous prestige and tradition.

IT IS SOMETHING TO BELONG TO THE BRITISH NAVY

You couldn't blame any man if a note of pride crept into his voice when he mentioned that he belonged to the British Navy. The British Navy is something to belong to. True, our friend Mussolini told the world a few years ago that the British Navy was now merely so much old scrap iron, but this was not a view shared by his admirals nor indeed by any of his military leaders. And the Germans, at their silliest, have never shared it, although Hitler himself has sometimes talked as if navies didn't matter. What a pity that one or two of the psychiatrists with whom I lunched at the naval hospital could not have been turned on to Hitler and Mussolini, and could not have published, years ago for all the world to read, some careful reports on these interesting cases! What a great deal of trouble it might have saved!

We had some good talk over the lunch table on psychological problems and on those strange borderline happenings that suggest that this life is a far more complicated and mysterious affair than the old-fashioned scientist ever cared to realize. Something was said during this talk about collective hallucinations. It seems that it is not difficult and by no means uncommon for small groups of men, existing under a long-continued and terrible strain—adrift in open boats, for example—men suffering from lack of proper food and water, from intense cold or heat, and so approaching delirium, to become the victims of collective hallucination. They all see, almost together, what in fact is not there, or hear sounds that don't exist, or believe strange things that they would instantly reject at ordinary times.

"Millions of Germans apparently believe that they are members of a master race. . . . a collective hallucination."

Something of this sort would seem to happen at times of sudden stress to people who are not half-crazed from lack of water, who are not being frozen or fried or drifting and tossing for days in open boats. For example, at the beginning of the last war, hundreds of ordinary folk believed in the Angel of Mons, or swore they had seen trains crammed with Russian soldiers. Even in this war we have heard strange tales of villagers who have announced as one man or woman, that they have seen great fiery crosses in the night sky.

But probably collective hallucination can go much further than this. It looks as if it can take hold almost of a whole nation, compelling them to believe and assert any nonsense that pleases them. Millions of Germans apparently believe that they are members of a master race destined by some mysterious deity to rule the whole world, and that one Adolf Hitler, whose qualifications for the task would seem to any outsider to be almost nil, has been instructed from on high to carry out this great work of enslaving the world for the Germans. And all the people who denounce and oppose this monstrous notion are abused as members of a sinister pluotocratic democratic-bolshevist-capitalist-Jewish conspiracy. It seems the kindest thing under the circumstances to decide that the millions who still believe in this rubbish are suffering from a collective hallucination. They have preferred altogether not to live in this real world but in an imaginary world.

JAPANESE CONCEIT

And the Japanese are as bad. Their national conceit has been raised to the crazy level of a collective hallucination. Their children are taught that the Japanese invented everything, when in truth they have invented practically nothing. Learned professors in Japanese universities re-write the story of evolution, to prove that whereas members of all other nations consist of human beings who are the result of a long evolution on Darwinian lines, the Japanese are quite different, have nothing to do with evolution, being descended from the gods. Sooner or later, this altogether superior and celestial nation must dominate all the other and far inferior peoples, just as gods must inevitably dominate mere collections of monkeys. This is what the psychologists call "over-compensating an inferiority."

The Japanese borrowed most of their old culture from that vast storehouse of ancient culture, China, and they have borrowed nearly all their modern methods of production and organization from Western Europe and America; and they are a people of small stature, not too well-favoured, of no obvious great attainments; and so they have gone on compensating themselves for these and other disadvantages until they have reached a level of crazy conceit that can be said to involve them in a colossal collective hallucination.

It is this fact that makes the Germans and Japanese such tough and ruthless opponents, for they fight madly in a kind of intoxicating dream and are not sobered down by reality. Not yet, that is, though there are a good many signs now that grim reality is breaking through, that truth can creep in through the gaps we have blasted in their national armour.

The descendents of the gods are broken like corn under a hail-storm on the beaches at Guadalcanal; and the members of the Nordic master race perish and surrender by the hundred thousands in the snows of Russia; and the leaders of these demi-gods and master folk stare uneasily at their maps and hear more and more sinister and disquieting reports of the growing offensive of the United Nations. So there'll soon come a time when these collective hallucinations will veil reality no longer, when truth comes smashing through like an iron fist through a window, and that will be a terrible moment for these deluded millions.

THE STRANGE BIRD IN LONDON

But I'll conclude by telling you a charming story that might make you think that some of us here are suffering from a collective hallucination.

During the last two years, a small rare bird, jet black with a touch of white on its wing and sometimes a flash of red on its tail, a bird whose male has a sweet if rather monotonous song, has been making its appearance here, and especially among buildings that have been badly bombed. People who know something about birds would hear one of them singing among the ruins of a badly bombed site. They were heard in the City of London, down among the bankers and merchants, not far from the Guildhall itself. One was heard singing outside the grim Old Bailey, where the murderers are tried. Others were seen and heard on Finsbury Pavement, near Farringdon Street Station, and not far from Cheapside and the Mansion House. And in order to make it perfectly plain that it really had arrived, one of these birds actually turned up just outside the Natural History Museum, and an ornithologist working there heard the bird singing. But mostly they have been seen and heard among the badly bombed buildings, just where the bombing was heaviest and most damaging.

Now isn't that like a fairy tale? Wouldn't it be easy to invent and embroider a legend about a strange bird that came to sing for us in those very corners of our cities where we had suffered the most? The truth is, that this particular bird—the blackredstart, it is called—has been gradually further east from Central Europe, and is attracted to our bombed sites because they are now quiet and probably remind it of the rocky slopes of the lower Alps where it was in the habit of nesting. So we're not suffering from collective hallucination. But it would have been a charming legend—that of the strange bird that came specially to sing in the ruins—(*A recent B.B.C. talk.*)

AWARDS FOR HEROISM

ORGANISING the handful of drivers under his command, Havildar-Major WARIS KHAN, Indian Artillery, led a counter-attack against the Japanese at Kanzauk, Burma, on March 7. For this exploit he was awarded the I.D.S.M. as recently announced.

The enemy attacked a mountain battery, and, according to the citation, the Havildar-Major with an entire disregard for his personal safety stoutly led his men in a counter-attack, inflicting casualties on the enemy. "His was an example of outstanding courage and leadership," states the citation.

Havildar-Major Waris Khan is a Punjab Mussalman of Adwan village in Khushal tehsil, Shahpur.

SAPPER'S HEROIC ACT TO SAVE FRIENDS

The story of a Sapper Naik's heroic effort to reach his wounded friends trapped in a minefield in the Western Desert is told in the citation accompanying the award of the I.D.S.M., recently announced, to Naik TAJ MOHAMMAD, *Indian Engineers.*

NAIK TAJ MOHAMMAD, whose home is at Begumpur, Mehrauli, Delhi, saw his comrades fall when anti-personnel mines blew up. He immediately set to work to clear a path among unexploded mines to enable his friends to be reached. When he had moved over 30 mines and was almost at the end of his dangerous task, he was caught by a completely concealed booby-trap and was severely wounded.

"This Naik had previously shown great coolness and courage in clearing booby-traps and anti-personnel mines by day and night", the citation states, "and his efforts in this case showed the greatest devotion to duty. This gallant action, carried out in cold blood, enabled medical attention to be given to the wounded men soon after their accident".

I.D.S.M. FOR THREE DOGRA N.C.Os.

The bravery of three N.C.Os. of the 17th Dogra Regiment in offensive action on the Donbaik front lies behind the award of the I.D.S.M. as recently announced.

When his company was being repeatedly counter-attacked north of Donbaik on February 3, Lance Havildar KANSHI RAM, in the face of heavy fire, stood on the forward trenches and threw grenades on to the enemy. He was severely wounded in the legs but continued to encourage his platoon.

Lance Havildar Kanshi Ram is a Hindu of the Dogra Rajput caste and comes from Surah village in the Kangra district.

Naik LADH SINGH, a Dogra Rajput Hindu of Rayah village, Jammu State, led his platoon with extreme gallantry and captured an enemy position in a night raid north of Donbaik on the night of February 5/6. In spite of an enemy counter-attack with hard grenades he remained in the captured position until left with only three unwounded men. He then withdrew.

Lance Naik DHARM SINGH, a Dogra Rajput Hindu, from the village of Bharar Pat in Mandi State, took over command of a forward section when the section commander was wounded in the fighting north of Donbaik during the night of February 5/6. He showed great initiative and bravery in resisting enemy attempts to enter his position. By dawn three of his section had been killed and the other two wounded.

"His was a great example of devotion to duty" states the citation.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

12TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in the Ruhr and Rhineland. Mines were also laid in enemy waters. Flying Fortresses attacked the synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen and Wesselring and industrial targets at Bonn. More than 20 enemy fighters were destroyed.

German aircraft made a sharp attack on a town on the south-west coast of England. A south coast town was also raided.

13TH AUGUST.—The British Government received a report that 2,000 British war prisoners in Italy had been transferred to the German prisoners-of-war camp, Stalaag Four.

M. Feodor Gusen was appointed Soviet Ambassador to Britain. (He succeeded M. Ivan Maisky.)

The Royal Air Force attacked targets in Berlin and enemy airfields and railways in France and the Low countries and the shipping off the French coast.

15TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Berlin. Airfields and railways in France and Belgium were attacked. One E-boat was sunk near the Channel islands.

Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, advocated the establishment of a supreme body which should govern the entire British Empire after the war.

16TH AUGUST.—Allied bombers raided Paris region. United States Flying Fortresses attacked Le Bourget airfield near Paris. American bombers attacked German airfields in France. Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked industrial objectives at Milan. Mosquitoes bombed targets in Berlin.

Six Axis aircraft were destroyed over a south coast town.

17TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force attacked railway targets and airfields in France and the Low countries.

Flying Fortresses bombed Friedrichshafen.

18TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force bombed Peenemunde, 60 miles north-west of Settin, an important Baltic port and objectives in Berlin.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

12TH AUGUST.—Marshal Stalin cabled Canada informing Allied leaders of his regret at being unable to attend the Quebec Conference.

Mr. Churchill arrived in United States.

The Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee urged the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Acts.

13TH AUGUST.—The *Washington Post* mentioned an unconfirmed Quebec report that after the Quebec meeting, Mr. Churchill may visit Moscow.

Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, told his Press Conference that the Axis countries had made no peace feelers to the United Nations in any tangible sense.

14TH AUGUST.—President Roosevelt, in a message, said: "To-day on the second anniversary of the signing of the Atlantic Charter, I would cite particularly two of its purposes and principles. . . The first is, respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live . . . The second is, worldwide collaboration with the object of security for all."

United States military chiefs of staffs arrived in Quebec to confer with the British and Canadian chiefs of staff. It was announced that Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, would join the Conference.

President Roosevelt stated that 90 U-boats had been sunk during the months of May, June and July and the United Nations' shipping increased by over 3 million tons. [President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill issued a joint statement on the subject.]

15TH AUGUST.—A Gallup Poll of Democrat voters throughout the United States showed that 83 per cent were in favour of a fourth term as President for Mr. Roosevelt.

The Tass News Agency denied that Soviet representatives would attend the Conference since the Soviet Government had received no invitation to the Quebec Conference.

The (London) *Observer's* diplomatic correspondent stated that M. Stalin had sent a letter to President Roosevelt on the eve of the Conference couched in extremely cordial terms.

Mr. Churchill returned to Quebec after his Conference with President Roosevelt.

According to a Washington report, only an offensive from Britain against Hitler's "West Wall" would satisfy strategic requirements.

16TH AUGUST.—The *Daily Herald's* Quebec correspondent reported that Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Minister, and Mr. Sumner Welles, United States Assistant Secretary of State, would proceed to Moscow after the Quebec Conference. The staff talks continued.

Mr. James Byrnes, Director of the United States Office of War Mobilization, said: "We have every reason for confidence in the ultimate and overwhelming victory over both Germany and Japan. But I am authorized by the President to say that in his judgment, major battles in ahead of us and not behind us."

17TH AUGUST.—Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, said that German combat losses and Allied bombings of production centres were undoubtedly compelling the Germans to dig into U-boat reserves.

Plans for the invasion of the Italian mainland were taken up at the Quebec Conference.

18TH AUGUST.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, arrived in Quebec.

President Roosevelt arrived in Quebec for the Conference.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

13TH AUGUST.—Bombers of the United States Air Force attacked enemy targets in Central Burma.

14TH AUGUST.—It was reported that Turkey was now buying from India textile goods, which she formerly bought from Britain. Five hundred tons of cotton yarn had already been shipped from India, there were 1,750 tons of piece-goods still to be bought and 6,000 tons of jute purchases were awaiting shipment.

It was reported that Mr. William Phillips would return to India soon.

15TH AUGUST.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives on Akyab Island. Buildings at Buthidaung were bombed and enemy sampans on the Irrawaddy between Magwe and Prome were attacked.

Mr. Chang Tao Fan explained at a press conference at Chunking that Japanese recognition of the independence of Burma was an act of hypocrisy designed to gain the favour of subjugated people.

16TH AUGUST.—Heavy bombers of the 10th United States Air Force attacked enemy installations on Chatham Island in the Andaman group. Direct hits were obtained on warehouses and other buildings causing great destruction and starting large fires.

A party of Japanese was ambushed in Sumprabum area. The Royal Air Force attacked the Japanese supply base at Kudaung.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

12TH AUGUST.—The *Tribune de Geneve* reported the arrival of German troops at Nice and Cannes.

The German evacuation of Sicily was in full swing. In the face of stiff enemy resistance a second amphibious landing was effected by the United States forces east of Cape Orlando. Bombers of the North-West African Air Force attacked railway communications at Terni.

The Moscow paper *War and the Working Class* said: It would be a mistake to think that Mussolini's downfall spells the end of Italian Fascism.

13TH AUGUST.—Bombers of the North-West African Air Force attacked marshalling yards in Rome, Littoria and San Lorenzo. The raid was under the command of Major-General J. H. Doolittle, hero of the Tokyo raid. The British Air Force bombed Milan and Turin.

Reuter's special correspondent at Madrid said: "The prevailing impression in Italy at the present moment is that she will continue to fight on as long as her enemies insist on unconditional surrender."

The Zurich correspondent of the *Dagens Nyheter* said: "It is confirmed that German troops are still arriving in Italy and not only remain in the north, but are also transported southwards."

The capture of Randazzo was officially announced. The Eighth Army reached Archirafi on the coast. The Allied forces were 35 miles from Messina. The total number of prisoners so far taken by the Allies was 130,000. The Royal Air Force attacked railway sidings at Sans Gervano.

14TH AUGUST.—The Italian Government declared Rome an open City. [The United States State Department intimated that no official communique had been received that Rome had been declared an open city. . . The British Government's attitude was unaffected by the Italian declaration.]

There was indescribable confusion in Milan. The evacuations had developed into a mass fight.

The whole of Mount Etna fell into Allied hands. The Eighth Army up to August 10, took 30,000 prisoners, including 2,600 Germans. Allied air forces harassed shipping trying to cross the Messina Straits. British and American forces captured five more towns in Sicily.

New anti-war demonstrations broke out in Milan following the latest heavy British air attack.

Signor Alfieri, the Italian Ambassador to Berlin, who was in Italy at the time the Fascist Regime fell, was arrested.

The *New York Post* quoted a report that Sgr. Mussolini was drowned in an Italian submarine which sailed from Leghorn. (The report was not confirmed.)

The seaplane base at Corfu was attacked by Allied fighters.

15TH AUGUST.—Air craft of the Bomber Command attacked the Breda Armaments Works and other war factories and communications in the industrial area of Milan.

It was revealed that the declaration of Rome as an open city was due to the efforts of the Pope.

The Germans withdrew rapidly towards Messina. The Eighth Army captured Fiume Freddo and Piedmonte and the Americans Patti and Oliveri. The Sicilian campaign entered its final phase.

16TH AUGUST.—Heavy British and American guns bombarded Messina. Milazzo was occupied by the Allies. The Eighth Army captured Taormina, Kaggi and Castiglione. Bombers and fighter bombers by day and night carried on ceaseless attacks against the success of an Axis Dunkirk in the Straits of Messina.

Italian troops evacuated Verona and the Germans fortified the line of the river Po.

All telegraphic and telephonic communications between Italy and Switzerland were cut off.

17TH AUGUST.—*The German News Agency announced the evacuation of Sicily. "The last of the German and Italian troops were removed to the main land from Sicily."*

American troops entered Messina. A large Allied invasion fleet was sighted off Catania.

Sir Arthur Coningham, Air Officer Commanding the Tactical Air Force, said: "We in the air have won our war. In fact, we won it a year ago."

The large numbers of troops stationed in Rome began leaving the City.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Turin.

18TH AUGUST.—Allied and Axis batteries opened up a heavy gun duel across the Straits of Messina.

General Eisenhower assured Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt that the Allied armies were ready to undertake immediate invasion of Italy.

The Axis lost 306 ships in the evacuation attempt at Messina. It was reported that the Axis lost in the Sicilian campaign 167,000 killed, wounded and prisoners.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

12TH AUGUST.—The Red Army captured Chuguyev, 25 miles south-east of Kharkov.

13TH AUGUST.—The Red Army launched a new offensive in the area of Spas, Demensk, south of Vyasma.

Izvestia disclosed that in the first week after the capture of Orel and Byelgorod, over 1,000 places were taken over by the Red Army and hundreds of thousands of Russians liberated.

14TH AUGUST.—The Red Army broke into the outskirts of Kharkov and there was fighting in the streets. The Soviet infantry drove a wedge midway between Bryansk and Smolensk.

15TH AUGUST.—The Russians captured Karachev, key town on the road to Bryansk. Stubborn battles were being fought west of Spas Demensk. The Germans made a fierce last stand near Kharkov.

16TH AUGUST.—The Russians captured Zhizdra. The Battle for Bryansk was in full swing. The Red Army was one mile from Kharkov.

17TH AUGUST.—The *Washington Post* said the possibility that Soviet Russia may enter the war against Japan "may have been raised" in the Churchill-Roosevelt talks. "Russia may go to war against Japanese in the Pacific and grant the United States air bases at Kamchatka."

The Red Army was 15 miles from Bryansk. The Russians launched a new offensive in the Izyum area of the middle Donetz.

18TH AUGUST.—The Germans rushed up 100,000 shock troops and motorised divisions to Kharkov in a bid to recapture the vital Kharkov-Poltava railway.

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

12TH AUGUST.—The Turkish Government decided to release the seven American airmen interned after their plane crashed into the sea off the Turkish Coast following a raid on Ploesti oilfields.

15TH AUGUST.—General Franco opened the new 1,100,000 sterling Spanish Naval College at Marin near Vigo on the Atlantic Coast of Spain.

* * * * *

SHIPPING

15TH AUGUST.—The United States Navy Department announced the loss of six United States warships, including the submarine *Pickerel* and the destroyer *Maddox* in the Mediterranean and Atlantic areas between June 4 and August 5.

17TH AUGUST.—Six battle cruisers of secret design, it was reported, were being built in the United States to counter Japan's four pocket battleships.

* * * * *

VICHY, FREE FRENCH AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

13TH AUGUST.—Oil production in the Ploesti oilfields in Rumania had been halved as a result of the American bombing raid.

14TH AUGUST.—Liberators successfully attacked in daylight the main production factories and assembly plant at Wiener Nenstadt, south of Vienna. Four hundred brand new German aircraft were battered. (Wiener Nenstadt is one of Austria's main arsenals and the centre of the important Steinfeld industrial area.)

16TH AUGUST.—By Hitler's orders, all Norwegian Officers were sent to prison camps in Germany.

A state of siege was proclaimed in Norway.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

12TH AUGUST.—According to a Chunking report, Japan put out peace feelers on three occasions in the last two months, but China rejected them all.

13TH AUGUST.—President Roosevelt gave the people of the Philippines his word that their republic would be established "the moment the power of our Japanese enemies is destroyed."

The Japanese News Agency spoke of the possibility of a surprise landing by United States troops in the Kurile Islands which form part of the Japanese homeland.

American ground forces continued to advance on the Japanese Garrison at Bairoko harbour in New Georgia.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek, commenting on Admiral King's statement that China's geographical position and man-power are determining factors in the Pacific War, said: "It is a fearless, realistic conviction of China's contribution to our common fight against aggression. . . It will hearten our people and army because we know his statement is authoritative and has value."

14TH AUGUST.—It was reported that Japan in an unsuccessful peace offensive, offered to sacrifice Wang Ching-Wei if the Chunking Government agreed to return to Nanking.

15TH AUGUST.—The United States Navy Department announced that American submarines operating against Japanese supply lines in the Pacific sank seven more Japanese merchant vessels and damaged 5.

The Chinese launched attacks in the Chekiang and Kwangtung provinces.

Flying over 2,500 miles, Allied heavy bombers attacked the oilport at Balik Papan in Borneo. The whole area was left ablaze. Gazmata (New Britain), Salamua (New Guinea) and Tambu Bay were also raided by Allied planes.

16TH AUGUST.—Representatives of the British Foreign Office and the War Office said that the Japanese Government had supplied the names of only 65 per cent of Allied prisoners of war in Japanese hands. It was estimated that 100,000 British prisoners were in Japanese hands, in addition to 75,000 Indian troops, 20,000 Australians, 35,000 Americans, 100,000 Dutch and 2,000 Canadians. There was no news of the fate of Indian prisoners. Facilities were not given to the International Red Cross to visit camps of Indian prisoners of war.

The Allies captured the island of Vella Lavella in the Solomons. Three hundred and fifty Japanese were captured.

18TH AUGUST.—A record attack was made on Japanese air bases Wewak area in New Guinea. 120 enemy planes were destroyed and 50 damaged. General MacArthur said: "It was a crippling blow at an opportune moment."

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

REGISTERED No. M 4345

MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1943 No. 50

KHARKOV LIBERATED

MARSHAL STALIN

TO-DAY, troops from the steppes, in co-operation on the flanks with troops from the Voronej and South-Western Fronts, as the result of fierce fighting, broke the enemy's resistance, and occupied the town of Kharkov

THUS, the Second Capital of The Ukraine, our own Kharkov, has been liberated from the Yoke of the Hitlerite Scoundrels

IN the offensive, our troops displayed outstanding valour, training and skill in manœuvring

ETERNAL GLORY to the Heroes who fell in the Struggle for Liberty and the Independence of Our Motherland. Death to the German Invaders

MARSHAL STALIN in an Order of the Day, broadcast from Moscow on Monday, August 23

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Running Commentary	3
Kharkov and Kiska	5
This Week—In Retrospect	6
Allied Central Objective	10
All Roads lead to Berlin	12
What Britain has done: Aid to Russia	13
Quebec Conference—Allied Invasion Possibilities—Widely-scattered Lunges against Hitler's coastal Fortifications	15
Quebec Conference—Allied Invasion Possibilities—*cont.*	
Norway—The Outer Perimeter	16
Italy—Item on Victory Agenda	16
Balkans—Aid of Guerilla Forces	17
Cross-Channel—The Shortest Way	17
Attempt to "Japanise" Occupied Countries: Control over all Cultural Activities	18
The Setting Sun: Jap Naval Losses	18
War Diary	19

THE QUEBEC CONFERENCE

"During the past few days, in Quebec, the Combined Staffs have been sitting around tables which is a good custom, talking things over, discussing ways and means in the manner of friends, in the manner of partners and, may I even say, in the manner of members of the same family (much applause). We have talked constructively of our common purposes in this war, of our determination to achieve victory in the shortest possible time and of our essential co-operation with our great and brave fighting Allies and we have arrived harmoniously at certain definite conclusions.

"Of course, I am not at liberty to disclose just what these conclusions are but in due time we shall communicate the secret information of the Quebec Conference to Germany, Italy and Japan (much applause). We shall communicate this information to our enemies in the only language that their twisted minds seem capable of understanding."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *addressing the Canadian Parliament, at Ottawa on Wednesday (August 25).*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

THE POST-WAR WORLD

"Everyone of the United Nations believes in a real and lasting peace and justifies the sacrifices we are making and our unanimity is as confident in seeking that goal. It is no secret that at Quebec there was much talk of the post-war world. That discussion was doubtless, duplicated simultaneously in dozens of nations and hundreds of cities and among millions of people.

"There is a longing in the air. It is not a longing to go back to what they call 'the good old days.' I have distinct reservations as to how good the good old days were. I would rather believe that we can achieve new and better days. Absolute victory in this war will give greater opportunities to the world because the winning of the war in itself is certainly proving to all of us here that concerted action can accomplish things. Surely we can make strides toward greater freedom from want than in the world that we have enjoyed. Surely by unanimous action in driving out the outlaws and keeping them under the heel for ever we can attain freedom from fear and violence."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *at Ottawa, on August 25.*

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

H.E. Sir Arthur Hope Club

For Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras

Accommodation provided for Indian troops passing through Madras or staying for a few days in the City on leave

Recreation: Ping-Pong, Chess, Draughts, Radio, etc.

Registered No. M-4345

Madras War Review

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. IV FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1943 No. 50

RUNNING COMMENTARY

THE LATE Diwan Bahadur M. C. RAJAH

We deeply regret to record the death of Diwan Bahadur M. C. Rajah, M.L.A., Member of the National Defence Council and Regional Leader of the National War Front, Madras, on Monday night at his residence in St. Thomas' Mount. He rendered distinguished service to his country both in peace and in war, and two of his sons are in the country's defence services. We offer our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Four Years of War—A Retrospect. Next week will see the completion of four years of World War II. The most significant feature at the end of this period is the fact that the Allies have definitely wrested the initiative from the Axis powers by a series of great victories. Looking back across these four years, we are reminded of what Mr. CHURCHILL said just before the fall of France. Speaking on June 18, 1940, when HITLER had overrun Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg and France had almost collapsed, the British Premier declared, "During the first four years of the last war, the Allies experienced nothing but disaster and disappointment, and yet, at the end, their morale was higher than that of the Germans, who had moved from one aggressive triumph to another." It was the worst period in Britain's history, and yet, just as in World War I, Britain stood up to it. HITLER had won the first round. Britain had to wage the war alone. It was an uphill task. It looked as if she would lose the war altogether, for HITLER had, before the war started, isolated Britain and France from the rest of Europe by a policy of diplomacy and fraud. Austria and Czechoslovakia were destroyed, and under the guise of "cultural" and economic "missions," the Balkan Peninsula was infiltrated into by the Germans. The Low Countries and Scandinavia which followed the ostrich-like policy of believing, till the very last, that Germany would respect their neutrality, were eliminated, one by one, by HITLER. As regards Spain, she dare not defy the Germans and Italians who had entered the country during the civil war. And Italy, of course, was the firm ally of Germany.

This was the situation in Europe in 1939. Britain and France were in a state of political isolation and, what was worse, in a state of military unpreparedness to wage a war on the scale of the Germans. It was totally a new technique of warfare that confronted the Western democracies in 1939. The full significance of the strategy and tactics of the total war was not evident to these two countries at the time; they had no idea of the potency of the dive-bomber and the tank; they were not conversant with the enemy's method of quick infiltration followed by rapid fanwise movements; and the work of parachute troops and fifth columnists everywhere was not so well apparent then.

It was a desperate hour for Britain. For, the whole of Western Europe lay prostrate at HITLER'S feet, and his *Luftwaffe* swarmed over British skies. MUSSOLINI then started the invasion of Egypt. But Britain stood her ground and saved herself and the world by her great courage and daring.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Four Silhouettes—Hitler's Boast and Churchill's Reply. In retrospect, the war that has passed seems to stand out, silhouetted as it were, against the brightness of recent Allied victories, in four distinct phases. The first is Germany's failure to annihilate British resistance. The second is the failure to annihilate the Red Army. The entry of Japan into the war and HITLER'S attempt to use his Far Eastern partner to close in on India, while he himself directed the other arm of the pincer through the Caucasus and the Middle East—mark the third phase of the war. In the fourth phase, which is drawing to a close, the Allies have turned the tables on HITLER and forced him to fight a defensive war.

On September 5, 1940 HITLER said, "Whatever happens, England will be broken." Mr CHURCHILL, replying said on September 11, "Next week may be a very important week in our history." It was in that week that the Royal Air Force shattered HITLER'S dreams and won the Battle of Britain. The *Luftwaffe* lost 2,375 planes in this great and momentous battle. Britain which seemed helpless in the summer of 1940, after she lost the major portion of her war material at

Dunkirk, rallied to an extent never visualized by the Germans. HITLER had fixed August 15, 1940, as the date of invasion of Britain. The invaders came, saw and were destroyed. The Battle of London alone cost HITLER 883 planes and more than 2,500 airmen.

* * * * *

Britain Stands Alone—Hitler's Moves in 1940 and 1941.

Coming to the second phase of the war, we see Britain groggy and dazed. She stood alone without any Allies. She was in a tottering position. The enemy was strong and he was in terrific form. Britain showed she could take it, but she was hardly in a position to hit back. The initiative was still with HITLER. He had no doubt failed in his invasion move against Britain, but he had his U-boats which wrought much damage to Allied shipping. MUSSOLINI had no doubt failed in his invasion of Egypt, but HITLER could still paralyse the heart of the British Empire by seizing the Middle Eastern countries and pushing on to India. In 1940 HITLER had failed to conquer Britain by a direct frontal assault, but in 1941 he followed the method of indirect approach. He wanted to force Britain to surrender by conquering the South-Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Russia in the summer of 1941.

It seemed as though HITLER was having his way well carved out. In May 1941, Greece and Yugoslavia had fallen victims to HITLER's greed. The island of Crete was stormed by the Germans, and in Iraq RASHID ALI, the pro-German, had captured power. In September 1941 HITLER was at the gates of Leningrad, Moscow and Rostov. As regards Africa, General WAVELL was pushed back to the Egyptian border. This was mainly due to the fact that four of his divisions were sent to fight in Greece. It was HITLER's proudest hour. He had almost fulfilled his plan. Everything was in his favour and the initiative was firmly in his hands.

* * * * *

The Unexpected Happens—Red Army Smashes Hitler's Grand Design of 1941.

But the unexpected happened. Just as in 1940 Britain was saved by the Royal Air Force and by General WAVELL's brilliant march in Cyrenaica, so in 1941 the complete expulsion of the Italians from Abyssinia removed the Axis menace to the Suez, and the defensive occupation of Iraq, Syria and Iran by Allied troops saved India. But it is as well to bear in mind that these successes would not have saved Britain, had they not been supplemented by the magnificent achievements of the Red Army in Russia. It was the strength and might of Russia that finally smashed HITLER's grand design of 1941. HITLER made his greatest miscalculation when he thought that Britain would not rush to the rescue of Russia, but within 18 hours of the German attack Mr. CHURCHILL gave his pledge that Britain would support Russia.

HITLER wanted to finish off Russia before he invaded Britain. Even after he realized that the finishing off of Russia would ever remain an unfinished business, he could not proceed with his conquest of Britain, for the Red Army remained strong and unbroken in the rear. His one-by-one method failed. He could not eliminate either Russia or Britain.

(*Continued on page* 10)

MADRAS AND AMENITIES FOR TROOPS

G.O.C., Southern Army's appreciation and tribute.

The following message has been received by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope from Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O.C., Southern Army :—

On a recent visit to Madras I had opportunity to realize the many, great and generous activities in being to better the conditions of life of the troops—both fit and in hospital. These activities are, in whole or in part, based upon the Governor's War Fund—which you yourself, by your personal efforts, have done so much to raise.

I wish to tell you on their behalf, how universal and heartfelt is the appreciation and gratitude of all ranks, Indian and British, of the forces stationed about Madras. We all hope that you will find means to convey this appreciation to those who, by gift or by personal service, have done and are doing so much for the benefit of the troops whom the fortunes of war have planted in your locality.

THE ROOTS OF JUSTICE

(*By* R.G.)

Wherewith shall we water
This tree that is planted
In sorrow and slaughter
And by horror is haunted ?
Wherewith shall we prune it
And foster it fertile,
The heavenly vine new-knit
With laurel and myrtle ?

By blood it is watered
And tears worthy singing ;
From bones of the slaughtered
Its high stem is springing.
With slaying and sorrow
The Uncomprehended
Lord of the Morrow
Fashions it splendid.

The strong vine of justice
To lady and peasant
Whose way in the dust is
Shows lovely and pleasant.
Sun-dappled clusters
Of fruit ripe to bursting
Tempt with their lustres
The hungry and thirsting.

Where worms tunnel slowly
The roots draw the juices
That mount up from lowly
To heavenly uses.
Corruption transmuted
Yields heart-lifting nectar ;
And glory full-fruited
Is dust of dead Hector.

Victims of Neros
And Bloody Assizes,
Martyrs and heroes,
Not yours are the prizes ;
Yet rising from mangled
Corpses of mortals
The vine twines dew spangled
Around heaven's portals.

Though tyrants their raving
And rapine repent not,
And bullies enslaving
The peoples relent not,
Alchemic Nature,
Mistress of Wonder,
Tricks for her creature
Light from the thunder.

KHARKOV AND KISKA

BEFORE the war enters its fourth year, two great victories have been added to the credit side of the United Nations—Kharkov and Kiska. Both of them are victories of far-reaching importance.

THE liberation of Kharkov from the German yoke is a clear demonstration of the fact that the Red Army is strong enough and experienced enough to launch a great offensive and achieve success in it. The Russian Commanders have shown that they are not only masters of the strategy of defence, but also experts in the art of attack. In the early stages of their struggle with the Germans, whose war-machine was then the most powerful in the world, they followed the strategy of keeping their military strength intact. They yielded territory on an enormous scale and withdrew far into the interior. By this method, they avoided envelopment and destruction of their armies by the Germans, and gained valuable time which they used to their greatest advantage. It was more advantageous to the Russians to fight in winter conditions rather than in summer which was favourable to the Germans, and so the time gained was helpful to them. More important than this was the fact that it enabled gigantic war industries in Russia to be removed from the threatened western regions far back into Urals, where they were reorganized and expanded. The development of the Russian winter counter-offensives was more in the nature of protection of the vital industries of the Soviet Union rather than that of powerful offensive campaigns intended to force things to an issue.

IT may be said that the final stage in the process of acquiring mastery of defensive strategy began at Stalingrad where, for the first time, the victorious German offensive was transformed into a great German disaster. Full maturity in the art of defence was reached by Russians this summer, when they withheld, broke and flung back the all-out German offensive against their Kursk salient. Again, for the first time in the history of the war in Russia, a major blow at its point of maximum impact was resisted by the Russians at Kursk.

Defensive and Offensive Strategy

AS one looks back across the two years of war in Russia, one cannot resist a feeling of awe and admiration at the magnificent achievements of the Russians. In spite of gigantic losses, which would have unnerved most nations and brought them to their knees, Russia, with the aid of Britain and America, improved the quantity and increased the power of her military strength to such an extent that she now stands strong enough to take the initiative and launch a successful offensive against the enemy where she chooses.

THE capture of Kharkov is an indication that the Russian army commanders have learned the lessons of the art of the offensive no less than the modern technique of defence. This is the fourth time that Kharkov has changed hands in this war. It was first captured by the Germans in October 1941. After 16 months, it was recaptured by the Russians in February this year. But luck was against the Russians : the thaw came several weeks earlier than usual, and helped the Germans to capture Kharkov in March. Now, after six months, the vital strategic centre of the communication system in South Russia is again in Russian hands. It is the second greatest railway junction in the Soviet Union, and its capture opens the way to the vast plains of the Ukraine.

Drive Towards Stalino

EVEN before the Kharkov victory celebrations in Moscow were over, news was given to the world of yet another Soviet summer offensive, this time on the Donetz basin. The objective of the Russians is Stalino, the big German base. They have already reached a point 84 miles west of Kharkov. Russian troops have beaten off a big German counter-attack between Voroshilovgrad and Stalino, and the Germans are hastily rushing up reserves to fill up the gaps created by the Red Army's defence. But the real grand design of the Russian general offensive may not unfold itself until winter sets in. In the meantime, the Russians are building and consolidating.

Kiska—"Bomb Tokyo" Base

IN the Far East, the important Aleutian island of Kiska was taken from the Japanese without opposition. The landing began on August 15. In a joint statement President Roosevelt and Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister, state, "No Japanese were found (in Kiska), and it is our belief that the enemy evacuation was made under cover of heavy fog. It is evident that the position of the Japanese troops became untenable because of the occupation of Attu, our harassment of enemy supply lines, and recent bombings and bombardments of Kiska by air and surface craft." "The present occupation of Kiska" they added, "frees the last vestige of North American territory of Japanese forces."

THE occupation of Kiska is very important because it gives the American Air Force another great base for any future operations against the Japanese mainland. The Japanese have always considered the Aleutians as a dagger pointing at their important sea communication bases, and now the dagger is fully in Allied hands ! The Japanese voluntarily withdrew from Kiska because they had realized the difficulty of holding it on account of the increasing strain on their shipping resources. Now the northern road of the Allies to bomb Tokyo is complete.

KHARKOV and Kiska, it may be said, are pointers to the way the wind is blowing. They are also links in the great chain which is being forged by the United Nations to render the enemy ineffective and powerless.

THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

By "CHRONICLER"

Summer in England! "Holiday time," as Mr. Churchill said, "when the summer calls the toilers of all countries for an all-too-brief spell from the offices and mills and stiff routine of daily life and bread-winning, and sends them to seek if not rest at least change in new surroundings, to return refreshed and to keep the myriad wheels of civilized society on the move."

But the summer of 1939 was quite different from the normal. There was a hush over all Europe, nay, over all the world, a hush of suspense and in many lands a hush of fear, broken only by the dull thud of Japanese bombs falling on Chinese cities or the tramp of armies crunching the gravel of parade-grounds, splashing through rain-soaked fields, the tramp of two million German soldiers and more than a million Italians "going on manœuvres." Why not? The Dictators must train their soldiers! They must safeguard their interests against the Dutch, the Danes, the Albanians and the Jews! And above all, they must liberate the countries of the world from the thraldom of freedom! This was the situation in Europe at this time of the year 1939, and Mr. Churchill, our Winston, declared in unequivocal terms in a broadcast to the people of the United States just about this time: "If Herr Hitler does not make war, there will be no war . . . If Germany desires to be reassured against attack by her neighbours, she has only to say the word, and we will give her the fullest guarantee in accordance with the principles of the Covenant of the League."

And he concluded: "But whether it be peace or war; peace with its broadening and brightening prosperity, now within our reach; or war with its measureless carnage and destruction, we must strive to frame some system of human relations in the future, which will bring to an end this prolonged hideous uncertainty, which will let the working and creative forces of the world get on with their job, and which will no longer leave the whole life of mankind dependent upon the virtues, the caprice, or the wickedness of a single man." I have extracted this magnificent utterance for the consumption of those who are in doubt regarding Britain's aim in entering the war.

ON THE EVE OF THE WAR

It was during *this week in* 1939, to be more precise on the *24th of August* 1939, that the Russo-German Pact, of non-aggression was signed in Moscow by Herr Von Ribbentrop and M. Molotoff. It was again during this week that the Anglo-Polish Treaty of Mutual Assistance was signed on the 25th August in London. The threat of war assumed such gigantic proportions as to evoke fervent appeals for peace from various quarters. On the 23rd of August King Leopold of Belgium broadcast an appeal for peace; on the 24th the Pope broadcast a paternal message to the world for maintaining peace; on the 25th President Roosevelt sent two appeals to Herr Hitler; and on the 27th M. Daladier, the Premier of France, put in a plea to Herr Hitler that there should be one more attempt at direct negotiation with Poland, which the Nazi leader refused, affirming that Danzig and the Corridor must be returned to the Reich. The stage was set.

What did Hitler want Poland to do? He had demanded Danzig from Poland in a radio speech before the Reichstag in April 1939. Danzig was German before the first World war and the Nazi demands included a German route across the Corridor through former German territory to the Baltic which had been allotted to Poland in the peace treaty. Poland immediately showed that it had no intention of giving up the Corridor which provided its only trade outlet to the sea. Germany found it intolerable to be cut off by the Corridor from its province of East Prussia. The Poles thought it would be intolerable to be cut off from the new port of Gdynia which they had quickly built on the Baltic after the last war. Before pressing his demands on Poland, Hitler wanted an alliance with Italy. Hitler thought he could blackmail Europe into giving him Poland, as he had been able to seize Czechoslovakia. But if war resulted he wanted Italy to distract the French and the British in the Mediterranean and North Africa, and therefore sought an alliance with Rome. On May 22, 1939, a ten-year pact of alliance was formed between Germany and Italy in Berlin to create an invincible bloc of 300,000,000 persons to obtain a just peace. This Axis definition of the pact meant that the Germans and the Italians intended to knock down the frontier posts in Europe and re-make the Continent in the Fascist-Nazi mould. After the Italo-German alliance the British and the French conducted negotiations for a pact with Russia for a mutual defence pact. But the Russian conditions were not quite agreeable. Molotoff, the Soviet Foreign Minister, insisted that the conditions of Soviet co-operation included not only a mutual assistance pact protecting Poland, Greece and Turkey, to whom Britain and France had guaranteed protection, but all the countries bordering on the U.S.S.R. such as Lithunia, Latvia, Estonia and Finland. In other words, Russia wanted to be able to use those countries as bases and buffers for its defence against Germany. While the British and the French were evading the issue of the Baltic States, Hitler saw the chance to keep the Russians out of any alliance with the democracies and use them for his own ends.

PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL ASSOCIATION

This week in 1940, Mr. Churchill delivered a speech to the House of Commons on 20th August reviewing the war situation. To begin with, he compared this war with its forerunner a quarter of a century ago, pointing out the differences in character. In the last war millions of men fought by hurling enormous masses of steel at one another. This war, on the other hand, is more a conflict of strategy, of organization, of technical apparatus, of science, mechanics and morale; and in this war, again, the whole of the warring nations are engaged, not only soldiers, but the entire population, men, women and children. The fronts are everywhere. Above all, though the slaughter is only a small fraction, the consequences to the belligerents have been very deadly. In the course of a few months Hitler sprawled over Europe, and nations like Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and France were beaten into complete and total submission. Britain, on the other hand, not only fortified her heart but her island, re-armed and re-built her armies and ferried from America across the Atlantic in the month of July an immense mass of munitions of all kinds. Her Empire, she found, standing undismayed against disaster and knit in closer bonds of friendship than ever before. Nor was Britain or her Empire alone in the war. All the governments in exile were in London, Governments of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Norway, Denmark and Holland, while Free France was ranging itself on the side of Britain under the leadership of General de Gaulle. About four million tons of shipping from the captive countries had taken refuge in Britain or in the harbours of the Empire. America was in entire sympathy with British policy, and was already acting on the principle of association of interests for common purposes between Great Britain and the United States, a principle which had been developed even before the war. Britain, therefore, decided to place at the disposal of the United States facilities available in British trans-Atlantic possessions for the naval and air defence of the Western Hemisphere against the attack of a Nazi power which might have acquired temporary but lengthy control of a large part of Western Europe and its formidable resources, and accorded on a 99-years' leasehold basis naval and air facilities in Newfoundland and in the West Indies without any transference of sovereignty. This was the situation, as reviewed on August 20, 1940, by the British Premier in the House of Commons.

Gradually, and at heavy cost, the German Luftwaffe succeeded in reaching London in the course of the air raids which it started at the beginning of this month. On the night of August 22, 1940, bombs were dropped on the outskirts of London, a cinema and other buildings being damaged. On the night of August 24, bombs fell for the first time in Central London. On the previous day, there was severe fighting over Kent, the enemy's attack being directed mainly against aerodromes and the outskirts of the City of London. A good deal of damage was caused to the Manston aerodrome, near Ramesgate. Portsmouth and Dover also were attacked on the same day, with a total enemy loss of fifty aircraft for the day. On August 25, the enemy loss was fifty-five aircraft.

August 25, 1940, is another landmark, because it was on that night that the Royal Air Force first carried the war to Berlin. The raid on Berlin immediately followed that on London; but officially it was not a reprisal.

This time in 1941 we were in the ninth week of the war between Germany and Russia. The Germans had already mounted their second offensive on July 11. With the fall of Vitebsk and the arrival of the German armoured units at Smolensk, it was claimed by the Nazis that the road to Moscow was open, while Leningrad in the north continued to be threatened, and Kiev in the south was equally in danger. Timoshenko's stand at Smolensk pinned down German forces and held up German plans for a month; but by the end of August the situation was actually deteriorating. There was serious demand in the British press for the opening of a second front in Western Europe to relieve the pressure on Russia, while there was also serious opposition from some high quarters not only against a second front, but even against regarding Russia as an ally. It is another feather in Mr. Churchill's cap, another master stroke of statesmanship to brush aside all silly, half-baked understandings about Russia and to honour her wholeheartedly as an ally, not only in war, but also in the peace to come. The war must be over, and we must be in a position to look back upon the events of the war period with the dispassionate detachment of the historian to realize the depth of understanding and the breadth of vision which our Winston has brought to bear upon the course of World History, and a relieving sense of recognition will dawn on us that during the present critical period of the world, we were under the leadership of such a gigantic personality.

TERRORIST REGIME IN VICHY

During this week in 1941 the Government of Vichy France was enforcing measures to strengthen itself against the underhand forces of Communism on the one hand, and the influences of the Allies on the other. The French Cabinet met twice on the 23rd August to consider internal policy. The official journal published a new drastic law, threatening Communists with imprisonment and hard labour, and in certain cases with death. A thousand arrests were made in Paris. On the 26th August, many anti-German riots were reported in France. On the 27th August, shots were fired by a young Frenchman at M. Laval during a ceremony at Versailles, marking the departure of French "Volunteers" to fight Russia; and the first executions of Communists under the new "terrorist laws" took place in Paris on the 27th August.

This brings us again to the story of Laval with which we stopped short in the last issue. He was the origin of all the terrorist regime in Vichy as he was the initial means of Nazi infiltration into French politics. He is the arch place-hunter, the seeker after office, the political brigand on the lookout for spoils. Marshal Petain made him Vice-Premier and successor-elect and he has emerged as the most powerful political figure in the Vichy gang, and the real power in Vichy administration. Laval began his political life on the Left, as all poor politicians do, and swung to the Right with the increase of wealth and position in society. The son of a provincial butcher, he is the old hand, the experienced professional politician amongst the men of Vichy who are mostly admirals and generals, except perhaps Baudoin, the ambitious dreamer and the new politician. Marshal Petain, the head of the Vichy regime, is a senile defeatist who like General Weygand regarded the German invasion and France's collapse as something inevitable and had, therefore, been morally defeated long before the Battle of France was fought and lost. The result is, Petain is only the figurehead, in Melville's words, the respectable facade behind which the less reputable personalities of Vichy take cover. He, however, belongs to the unconsciously guilty men who helped the downfall of France.

Like Marshal Petain, another outstanding figure of the unconsciously guilty group, is Paul Reynaud who succeeded Daladier as the Premier of France one year after the war began. Reynaud did well for some days, struggling with what seemed to be success against the terrible heritage of defeatism, intrigue and corruption. But he had not the stamina to stand the strain of a war of attrition, while he was also susceptible to the influences of a dangerous woman as an ally, Helene, Comtessede-Portes, a fifth columnist. Paul Reynaud is now in prison at Riom under the Vichy administration.

This week in 1942 was marked by the entry of Brazil on the 23rd August into the camp of the Allied nations. "In the face of the acts of war against our sovereignty" said an official communiqué issued by the Brazilian Government, we recognize that a state of war exists between Brazil and the aggressor nations of Germany and Italy." Besides previous unwarranted attacks on, and destruction of Brazilian ships by German raiders, two more ships, *Itagiba* and *Arara*, were sunk off the State of Bahia on the 19th August. Close upon the heels of this declaration of war, Military representatives of twenty-one American republics, making up the Inter-American Defence Board, unanimously adopted a resolution of "adherence and friendship" towards Brazil on this momentous occasion. President Roosevelt sent a message of appreciation to President Vargas of the Brazilian Republic immediately after the declaration of war.

President Roosevelt made an official statement on the 22nd August regarding the intended visit of Mr. Wendell Willkie to the Near East, Far East and Russia. He also disclosed on the 23rd August at a press conference that Mr. Willkie's visit to the East would include Egypt, Arabia, Palestine, Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Iran, and that his main task would be to tell the truth about what the United States was doing to win the war. Mr. Willkie himself in a broadcast said: "We cannot, and we will not win unless the production of guns, planes and tanks is backed up by deep and unswerving devotion to our belief."

That a broadbased, well-planned attack on the Japanese in Burma and China was taking shape in the military counsels of the United States became evident with the appointment on 24th August 1942 of Brigadier-General Clayton Bissell as General Commanding the United States Air Forces in China, Burma and India. In the South-west Pacific a big naval, and air battle was fought off the Solomon islands on the 26th August, and several Japanese carriers and cruisers were hit. Twenty-one Japanese planes were shot down. By this time the Americans had begun to organize their bases in the Solomon islands where the Japanese had lost control of the south-eastern area. Allied aircraft were constantly raiding objectives in Rabaul and Lae, although Port Darwin was also getting some heavy raids from the Japanese as happened on the 25th August. As regards the Middle Eastern situation the Royal Air Force bombers were raiding Tobruk and Mersa Metrah and the Reuter's Military Correspondent reported on the 25th August that things were moving towards the opening of a new battle for Egypt. In Persia and Iraq a new united command was created under General Sir H. Maitland Wilson. On the Western theatre, the Royal Air Force had turned the tables, and Britain was paying back, by this time, what the Luftwaffe gave to the British towns and harbours during this time in 1940. On 23rd August 1942, we heard Sir Archibald-Sinclair, Air Minister, speaking at Swansea: "We intend to press home our attacks on Germany ruthlessly." He described the destruction wrought by the bombers of the Royal Air Force in Germany and German-occupied territories in recent months as terrible. The daily increasing strength of the Allies was driving the steel into Dr. Goebbel's heart and made him declare on the 22nd August: "We all know that if we do not succeed this time we never shall. The German people face the dilemma either to fight or abdicate."

INCREASING ANGLO-RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP

Last week we saw that this time in 1942, Mr. Churchill was paying a visit to Moscow to meet Stalin. The two great European leaders had never before met, and the result of their meeting now was an unshakable joint decision, among other things, to the following effect: "This just war of liberation we are determined to carry on with all our power and energy until complete destruction of Hitlerism and any other similar tyranny has been achieved."

On the Russian front during this week in 1942, the situation in the southern sector continued to be grave and the German drive towards the Caucasus, Stalingrad and Astrakhan was vehement. Even granting that the Germans achieved this immediate objective, which was not the case, the ultimate objective of cutting the Russian armies into two at Voronesh, enveloping Moscow from the south, and concluding the Russian campaign by smashing the Russian army as a fighting force was far remote. It was the genius of Marshal Timoshenko that saved Russia at this juncture in the southern sector. He kept his armies intact, and kept at bay, by retreat and manoeuvre, the formidable striking force of the Germans, without allowing them to smash the Russian fighting machine. The German forces crossed the Don on the 22nd August, while against Stalingrad the Nazis hurled fifty-eight divisions and the Russians began preparations for a seige. By the 28th August the battle for Stalingrad reached the climax.

GREETINGS TO EIGHTH INDIAN FIELD REGIMENT

The following message has been sent by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, to the Officer Commanding the Eighth Indian Field Regiment:—

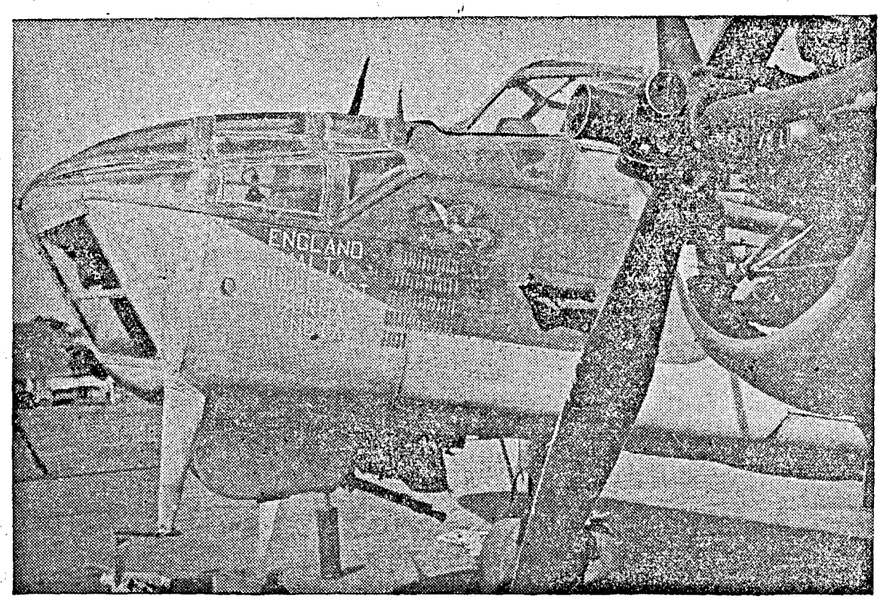
I have much pleasure on behalf of the people of the Madras Presidency and of myself in sending our warmest greetings to the officers and men of the Eighth Indian Field Regiment.

I have no doubt that the Regiment, together with the other Madras units, will play a worthy part in the task of reviving the military prowess of the Presidency, and of winning for it once again an honoured place in the Indian Army.

I assure all ranks that though they may be far from their homes, they are present in our thoughts and that we shall follow their exploits with pride and affection.

Madras War Services Exhibition

THE MOST SPECTACULAR MANŒUVRES YET PUBLICLY PERFORMED IN INDIA



"T for Tommy", a Blenheim bomber which has participated in the Battles of Britain, Malta and Burma, which is one of the new exhibits at the Madras War Services Exhibition.

Re-enacting phases of the recent victorious Battles of Tunisia and Sicily, the Combined Services operations which will be a regular daily feature of the Madras War Services Exhibition will be the most spectacular manœuvres yet publicly performed in India.

The attacking party will be formed by the Madras Guards, supported by units of artillery. Several armoured cars and a party of R.I.N. ratings in power boats will assist in the assault crossing, and a detachment of Sappers will provide a river ferry. The defending party will consist of units of artillery, Bren carriers, armoured cars and tanks.

The battle will open with a barrage put down by artillery units of the attacking force, under cover of which the Madras Guards will cross the river in assault boats, their flanks being guarded by the Royal Indian Navy in armed motor-boats. On landing, the assaulting party will establish a defended bridgehead, thus allowing the Sappers to get their ferry into operation and bring across the armoured cars. Aeroplanes will dive-bomb the bridgehead and will set fire to a model village. All fires will be dealt with by the A.R.P. authorities. The defending force will go into action against the bridgehead, ferrying service and attacking armoured cars, the whole operation ending in a general mêlée.

Other features of the Madras Exhibition, which will be opened by His Excellency the Governor next Friday, will be aerobatics and trick riding and tent-pegging displays by the Governor's Bodyguard.

Among the new exhibits is "T for Tommy," a Blenheim Bomber with what is most probably a unique history. With 61 operational flights over Burma to its credit, it has been bombed on the ground and strafed on no less than six occasions—and still lives to tell the tale.

A large model town covering an area of 8,000 square feet will deal with post-war reconstruction; it will have a water reservoir and dam, a harbour and dockyard, railway stations and electric trains, an inland water transport system, bridges, roads, aerodromes, factories, cinemas and residential quarters. Close by will be a model farm, complete with livestock, growing crops and dairy produce; this is aimed principally to help alleviate the present food crisis, but it has been designed also with an eye on future needs.

MADRAS WAR SERVICES EXHIBITION

THE EXHIBITION PROGRAMME

26—8—43. Press Preview. (Tea at 5-30 p.m.)

27—8—43. Opening Day. His Excellency The Governor. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

28—8—43. Supply Day. Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. (This is tentative and subject to confirmation.)

29—8—43. Nil.

30—8—43. National War Front Day. Dr. Behanan (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

31—8—43. Ladies Day. Her Excellency Lady Hope. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

1—9—43. Youth Day. Dr. A. L. Mudaliyar. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

2—9—43. Technical Training Day. Khan Bahadur M. A. Gurmani. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

3—9—43. United Nations Day. H. H. Howard. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.)

4—9—43. Food Day. Dr. Aykroyd. (Speech at 5-30 p.m.) (This is tentative and subject to confirmation.)

5—9—43. Savings Day. His Excellency The Governor.

6—9—43. Services Day. Brig. Connoly. (Speech at [illegible]-30 p.m.)

7—9—43. Future Planning Day. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. (Tentative.)

8—9—43. Nil.

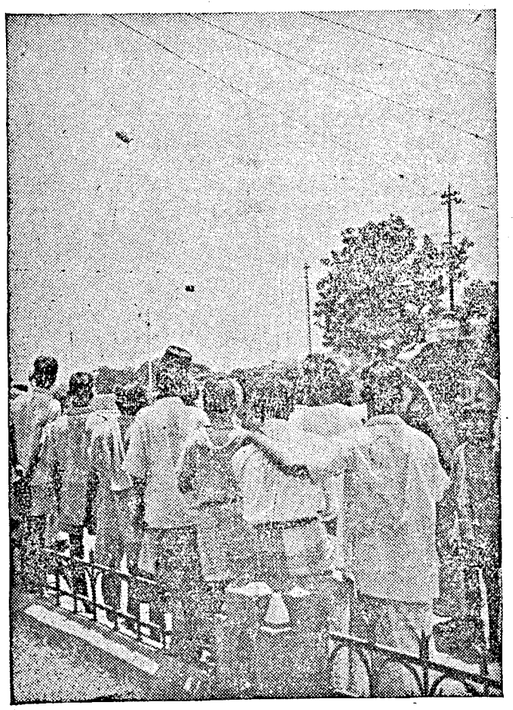
9—9—43. Civic Day. Rao Bahadur C. Tadulinga Mudaliyar.

DAILY PROGRAMME

09-30 hours ..	Show opens for school children.
10-00 to 10-30 hours.	Band of Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners in front of camp.
10-30 hours ..	Firing of Naval Guns.
11-00 hours ..	Show closes.
16-00 hours ..	Show open to Public.
16-30 to 17-00 hours.	Band of Madras Guards in front of camp.
17-00 to 17-15 hours.	Demonstrations by His Excellencys Body-guard. Main Arena.
17-15 to 17-30 hours.	Band of Madras Guards near National War Front Theatre.
17-30 hours ..	Speeches, National War Front Theatre (*See* attached programme.)
18-00 hours ..	Battle. Main Arena.
18-30 hours ..	A.R.P. Demonstration. Main Arena.
19-00 hours ..	St. John's Ambulance and Red Cross demonstration in front of Red Cross stand.
19-15 hours ..	Firing of Naval Guns.
19-45 hours ..	Retreat by Band of Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners in front of camp.
20-00 hours ..	Show closes.

Note.—The morning shows commence on August 30.

"SILVER FISH"



Crowds on Mount Road watching the barrage balloon over the Exhibition Ground on the Island.

A YEAR AGO AND NOW

"A year ago Japan occupied several of the Aleutian islands on our side of the ocean and made a great to-do about the invasion of the continent of America. I regret to say that some Americans and some Canadians wished our Governments to withdraw from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean campaigns and divert all our large combined strength for the removal of the Japanese from a few rocky specks in the North Pacific. To-day our wiser counsels have maintained their efforts in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, in the China Sea, in the South-West Pacific with ever-growing contributions, and in the North-West Pacific, a relatively small campaign has been assisted by the Japanese themselves in the elimination of the last Jap from Attu and Kiska. We have been told that the Japanese never surrender. Their headlong retreat satisfies us just as well.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, *at Ottawa on August 25.*

ALLIED CENTRAL OBJECTIVE

By WICKHAM STEED

ALLIED military operations are now converging upon the central objective. They are striking blow after blow at German confidence. From north-eastern Sicily to the Russian front around Orel and from Hamburg to Ploesti, these blows tend to transform German hopes of victory into certainty of hopeless defeat. Thus military method serves psychological purpose. Of this purpose the fall of Italian Fascism is preliminary fulfilment.

The collapse of Fascism has done more than open a breach in Hitler's fortress of Europe. While its military consequences cannot yet be estimated, it has disheartened the satellite garrisons of Hitler's outer bastions and has disciplined them to replace the crumbling Italian divisions.

Originally intended to stiffen these Italian divisions, German forces in the Balkans now find their own burden heavily increased and their position in Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Rumania rendered precarious. Equally precarious may become the plight of the German divisions on the Italian mainland no matter whether the German defenders of north-eastern Sicily contrive to escape encirclement, or are killed, or captured.

BEYOND THE BORDER

Widespread Italian demonstrations for peace make any prolonged defence of the Italian peninsula highly questionable. Should Marshal Badoglio's Cabinet, or any other Italian Government withdraw from the war, the south-eastern border of France would soon lie open to Allied and French attack . . . people eagerly await liberation and would certainly not lighten the task of its German defenders.

Hitler and his General Staff may now be weighing arguments for and against withdrawal of German forces to defensive lines less extended than those which run from Northern Norway across Denmark and North-Western Germany along the Dutch, Belgian and French coasts to the Pyrenees and across Italy to the coasts of the Adriatic, the Ægean and the Black Sea up to the Crimea and to the north across Russia to Finland.

Retreat from this wide circumference must strain communications already overburdened and exposed to hostile attack. It would not encourage the German people whom the systematic devastation of Hamburg and the evacuation of civilians from Berlin have deeply depressed. The Germans reflect that strategic withdrawal to shorter lines would also shorten distances between Allied air bases and German industrial centres.

However strongly fortified Hitler's Fortress of Europe may have been, the Germans know it has no roof. Closer concentration of defence would, therefore, imply closer concentration of Allied bombardment from the air.

ALLIED AIM

Nor would concentrated defence increase German military resources. The industrial Ruhr area is in ruins. German war industries in Austria might become vulnerable, as were those of the Ruhr. The destructive raid on Ploesti in Rumania will restrict essential oil supplies and evacuation of subjugated territories would not augment German reserves of food. Altogether Hitler and his Generals appear to be confronted with a serious problem. Grave in its military and strategic aspects, this problem is psychologically graver still. Hitler's principal organ begs the German people to meet the terror with courageous hearts and warns them that, if they totter, Allied victory will make an end of them. Sooner or later, I believe, the Germans will totter and the Allies will make an end of Hitler and Nazism. The only question is: How soon? The Allied aim is not to destroy German civilians. It is to break German military and civilian confidence in Nazism, aggression and in profitable war. All Allied military operations should, therefore, be judged by their bearing on this central objective.

NOW THEY KNOW

If the behaviour of the German people and the German armies in 1918 when defeat on the field was swiftly followed by moral collapse is a valid indication of the turn events may take, the central objective may be attained more rapidly than Allied military leaders have hitherto permitted themselves to hope.

Meanwhile, nothing will change the determination of Allied Governments, their armies and their peoples to pursue relentlessly their military objectives, inflicting total defeat upon Axis forces in the air, on land and on sea.

For 130 years the Germans have hardly known war in their own country. They inflicted war on Denmark, Austria, France, Russia and other victims of their aggression. Now their home cities are learning what war means. That they must learn that lesson thoroughly is the price of future peace. To win lasting peace for Europe and the world is the supreme Allied objective.

RUNNING COMMENTARY—(*Continued from page* 4)

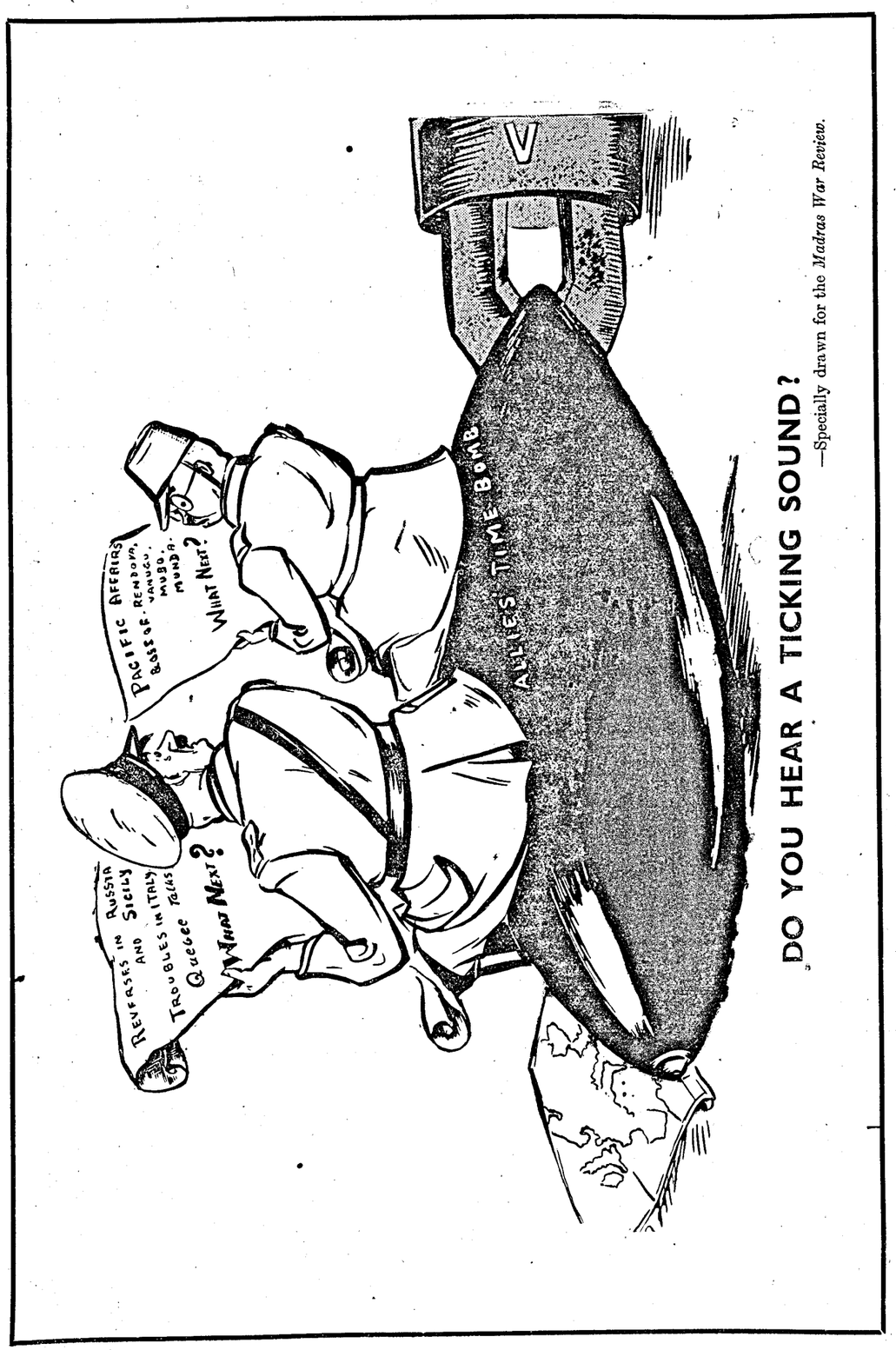
Japans Entry — The Third Phase The third phase of the war was the entry of Japan. Hitler's plan was that Japan should keep Britain occupied in Asia, while the Germans launched a pincer movement from the west. His idea was that Rommel should take Egypt and then march through Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Iran and meet, somewhere on the shores of the Caspian, Von Bock, who, it was expected by the Germans, would take Stalingrad and drive south through the Caucasus and meet Rommel's army. It was thus that Hitler wanted to paralyse the Red Army and march east where he wanted to effect a junction with Japan. But Hitler's plans were foiled: the Allies staged a magnificent come-back. American aid, Russian heroism and British steadfastness completely upset the grandiose pincer plan of the Axis powers. General Alexander's offensive at El Alamein and the Red Army's winter offensive in 1942 made it clear that Hitler was not going to have everything his way.

* * * *

Forward March of United Nations The fourth phase of the war marks the beginning of the forward march of the United Nations. The year 1943 has seen the enemy thrown out of Egypt, and Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, and Tunisia were occupied by the Allies. The fall of Mussolini and the capture of Sicily are two other great events in this march towards victory.

In Russia the Red Army had driven the Germans back to the positions from which they started their 1942 offensive, and what is more important, it has wrested the initiative from the Germans even in summer.

The end of the fourth year sees the Allies on the way to final victory. In the first year, Britain saved Europe. In the second, the Red Army frustrated Hitler's design of world conquest. The third year saw the combination of British, American and Russian strength preventing the junction of the Nazis of the West and the East. And now in the fourth year, we see the initiative firmly in the hands of the Allies. How that initiative is going to be used has already been well planned out in the Quebec Conference. Mr. Churchill told the correspondents that the conference had completed its task with absolute unity of purpose and he looked forward to great steps being taken in the future. The military situation, he added, was now much better than when he was at Casablanca and Washington. There is little doubt that the favourable military position both in the West and in the East will be exploited to the fullest advantage by the leaders of the United Nations.



DO YOU HEAR A TICKING SOUND?

—Specially drawn for the *Madras War Review*.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERLIN

By PIERRE HUSS

There are of course also roads leading to two other places. One of them in all probability will be reached before Berlin. The other should not be long after that.

UNCONDITIONAL surrender of the Axis in Europe and the Far East stands today as the inflexible goal of the United Nations.

The problem in the minds of Allied observers is the route of approach to the Continent, the short cut to smashing Hitler.

Looking at the map, and in the light of President Roosevelt's forecast of the probable launching of several invasion onslaughts simultaneously, it becomes clear that at least five main routes of attack are open to the Allies.

Each or several can be selected for the massive knock-out blow to finish Hitler, while bodypunching him from various other directions.

Furthermore, it should be kept in mind that while the invasion onslaught is underway, Axis cities and strong points will smoke and rock under thousands of tons of incendiary and explosive bombs. At the same time, in occupied lands, the outraged peoples will rise in savage fury to settle scores with their oppressors, thus stabbing the defensive power of the Axis armies in the back.

FORMIDABLE FORTRESS

But in the five major roads of approach to the Reich lies the main Allied hope for speedy and decisive victory over Hitler. He sits astride all of them, entrenched behind the most modern fortification systems yet built by man. It can be assumed, too, that every ounce of resistance left in the Nazi wehrmacht will be expended to meet the coming invasion assaults.

He can be tackled from across the English Channel through France and the Lowlands; he can be struck through Norway and the Scandinavian lands; he can be attacked through a smashing drive through Italy or by striking at the "soft under-belly of the Axis" in Greece and the Balkans. Finally, he can be hit with staggering force from Russia, in conjunction with or as a joint attack on the part of the United Nations.

These routes of attack on Hitler are well guarded, but he is vulnerable in each.

He has convinced himself and his Nazis that he is safe behind his super-wall of fortifications along the Lowland and French Channel coasts.

The war has proved that nothing is impossible and that no modern fortifications are invincible.

Why should Hitler's line on the Channel prove an exception under a massive air, land and sea onslaught?

SHORTEST CUT

Should the Allied supreme command select the Lowlands and France for the main invasion route, then the advantages of short distance from supply and bases of operation are on its side, for the English Channel is only 20 miles wide in parts.

All the striking might of sea, land and air forces within easy distance of the goal can be counted on. Such concentrated power can be enormous at point-blank range from the target, and might well prove overwhelming.

I have seen a large portion of Hitler's defence line on the Channel, which runs from the Lowlands along the coast clear through France.

The main strength lies in a closely interwoven network of pillboxes, spaced liberally with every kind of tank and assault obstacle known.

This fortified zone has a varying depth inland of from 10 to 30 miles, the purpose being to "bleed" any attacking forces and thus rob them, in the end, of all offensive power.

TIME WILL SHOW

The Nazis consider this elastic type of defence system practically impregnable, especially when manned by 25 crack defence divisions which can be reinforced at any moment with huge bodies of mobile troops.

However, it remains to be seen whether these Nazi defence lines can withstand the overwhelming air and land assaults planned for them by the Allies in the near future. Like the Maginot Line, they may crumble before Hitler's very eyes. That would number his days and settle his fate.

To make doubly sure against a break in the western approach, the Nazis also have partially rebuilt the old Hindenburg Line of 1918 and turned the Maginot Line around by blasting loopholes and reversing the direction of its fire-power. In Germany proper stands the Siegfried Line, built at great cost before the war by Hitler's labour battalions as a barrier against an Anglo-French invasion. I have seen all those defence systems, and they are formidable lines. Although I believe them vulnerable to a large scale air and land attack, it would be less costly in men and material to the Allies perhaps if the major invasion march against the Axis came from one or more of the four other directions.

SMASH ACROSS ITALY

A staggering smash across Italy into the Dalmatian coast might crack the Nazi armour at one of its weakest points.

The Italian boot itself is vulnerable. An Allied landing thereon is apt to precipitate a revolution.

Frantic fortification work is being undertaken by the Nazis in Southern France, but the time is short and the Nazis may lose that race. Such a route would bring the armies of the United Nations behind the Hitler lines on the Atlantic and the Channel, while a joint push from the Dalmatian coast northward can then help rip a wide path toward Naziland over territory hostile to the Axis.

STRIKING AT THE UNDERBELLY

Striking from key bases in the Mediterranean at the "soft underbelly of the Axis," the United Nations are sure to find collaboration and welcome in many of the Balkan areas. Greece is waiting to rise as one man against Hitler, inflaming therewith the smouldering hatred of the Axis, in Yugoslavia and as far north as Czechoslovakia. Guerilla armies are sure to crop up like dragon's teeth behind Hitler's back once an Allied onslaught comes in force from the south of Europe.

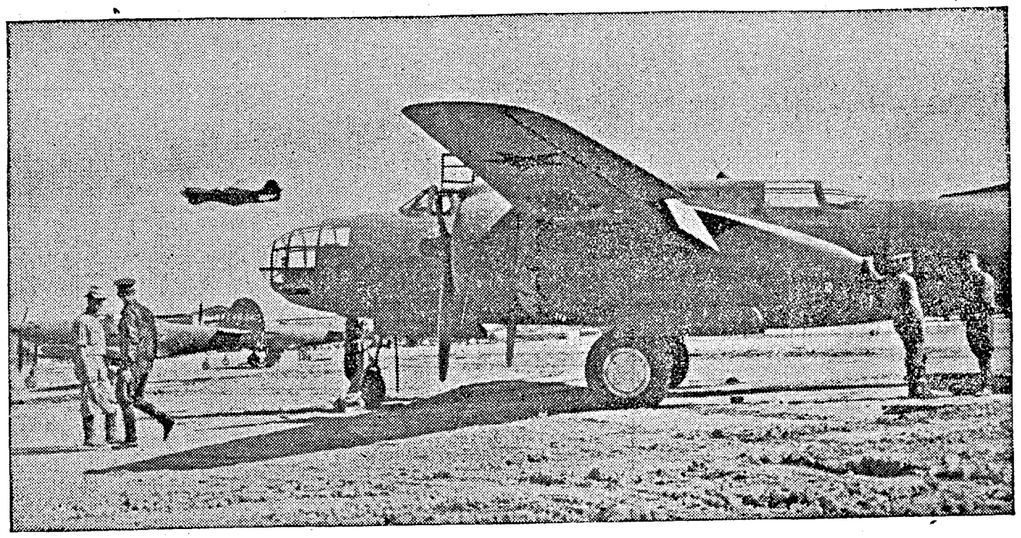
Hitler has "dug in" as strongly as possible astride the roads leading from Mediterranean points northward to Germany. I followed the German army as American correspondent in 1941 through the Balkans to Athens. Fourteen mountain passes must be crossed by any invading army moving into Europe from the Greek shores, and each of these passes has been fortified by the Nazis. One of the heavy lines in the Allied path from that direction would be the old Metaxas Line, on the Bulgar-Greek boundary. Its circumvention can be accomplished through Salonika, a Greek seaport.

The valley of the Danube always has been the great trade and military route into and out of Central Europe. In the 1941 campaign, the Yugoslavs made it their business to dynamite every bridge over the broad Danube. The Germans threw improvised pontoon passages into place.

FORMIDABLE TASK

An attack through the Balkans, therefore, means that the Allied engineering corps will have to grapple with one of the most important jobs ever faced. Heavy fortifications have been slung around the framed "Iron Gates" by the Germans to protect the Danubian route against come what may.

(*Continued on page* 14)



UNITED STATES DELIVERS PLANES TO RUSSIA AT AIRPORT IN IRAN.—A constantly increasing flow of American planes is reaching Russia through a huge new air base in Iran, one of the major delivery centres on the Trans-Iranian supply route. Small planes reach this field in crates by ship and truck, heavy bombers are flown in by pilots of the American Ferry Command. Here they are assembled, tested, tuned up and turned over to Russian pilots, who fly them to bomber bases, fighter fields and training centres. The exact rate at which this airport is turning over planes to Russia is a military secret but the number of planes being delivered by the United States to the U.S.S.R. is substantially greater today than during the period between the end of October 1941 and the end of December 1942, when 2,600 planes were shipped. Photo shows :—American fighters and bombers ready for delivery to Russian pilots stand in the foreground while behind them an American pilot is giving a recently assembled American fighter a test flight. United States Army pilots take each plane up for a final flight before turning it over to the Russians.

WHAT BRITAIN HAS DONE: AID TO RUSSIA

BROADCASTING from London on June 22, 1941, following Germany's attack upon her former ally, Russia, Mr. Churchill said:

". . . Any man or state who fights against Nazism will have our aid. . .

"We shall give whatever help we can to Russia and her people."

And what did Britain do? Pretty much by any yardstick, considering the difficulties of geography which stood between Russia and British aid, and her own commitments at home and in other war theatres.

Well, here are the figures:

By the middle of November 1942, Britain had sent to Russia enough equipment for 20 armoured divisions on the German scale.

For every 100 *aircraft which Britain promised Russia she had sent* 111 *by the end of May* 1942.

By the end of 1942 over 3,000 aircraft had been sent.

In the year up to the end of October 1942, Great Britain had, together with the United States, despatched to Russia by the northern route alone 3,052 aircraft.

OVER 5,000 PLANES

Also 4,084 tanks, 50,031 vehicles, 42,000 tons of aviation spirit, 66,000 tons of fuel oil, 831,000 deadweight tons of machine tools, metals, ammunition, small arms, medical supplies, etc.

By the end of 1942 the totals despatched by all routes had grown to over 5,600 aircraft, 6,200 tanks and 85,000 vehicles.

This represented enough tanks for 32 *armoured divisions (on the German scale) and enough aircraft for* 400 *squadrons.*

Among other things shipped to Russia were substantial quantities of tin, wool, lead, jute and shellac and thousands of tons of sugar.

By the end of 1942 Britain had sent to Russia seventy million rounds of small arms ammunition for Army purposes alone, and 50,000 tons from her precious stocks of rubber. Quantities of industrial equipment have also been sent.

Nineteen great convoys have arrived safely at Murmansk since the beginning of the Russian war up to the end of 1942. Seventy-five British warships of varying sizes escorted one of the largest convoys in the early autumn of 1942.

Up to June 1942, *Britain provided nearly* 90 *per cent of the ships sailing by the northern route.*

Britain has despatched a substantial number of her best locomotives to help the Russian Army and has done fine engineering work in opening up transport through Persia on the southern route to Russia.

INDIA'S PART

Across the scorching Iraq desert the Indian Army have built a railway over 120 miles at the incredible rate of one mile a day.

Its purpose: to speed up supplies to the Russian Armies.

The formal opening of the line took place in December 1942. The completion signified yet another achievement of the Indian Army.

The construction of the railway was an All-Indian affair.

Indian surveyors did the preliminary work. Indian Railway Operating, Maintenance and Construction companies together with the Madras Sappers and Miners laid the lines.

Indian drivers are also helping to carry vital supplies to Russia.

Starting from a railhead somewhere in Iraq, these men of R.I.A.S.C. drive heavy army trucks laden with food and military stores through Persia to a point far north where the Russians take over the goods.

THOUSANDTH GOODS WAGON

As early as November 10, 1941, the thousandth goods wagon, built by the Southern Railway Company to carry supplies to Russia through Persia, was sent on its way.

Working day and night, men and women finished the work in 10 *weeks.*

In peace time the same output would be scheduled for 12-months' work.

The volume of war supplies carried by the Trans-Persian railway in November 1941, was doubled by January 1942. And in January the British railwaymen in Persia were a mere handful as compared with the thousands who had arrived by June 1942.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

In mid-April 1942, it was reported that great work had been done in speeding the despatch of aircraft through the Persian Gulf so that during the previous four months the total tonnage handled had increased by 600 per cent.

A sum of £2,600,000 in voluntary contributions has been collected in Britain for "aid to Russia."

The British Government has given the Soviet Government credits amounting to £35,000,000.

By an agreement of June 27, 1942, the British Government agreed to ensure the Soviet Government military supplies and other military assistance.

Supplies to the Soviet Union of armaments manufactured in Great Britain or the British Commonwealth were to be made available free of payment.

The British air-offensive against Germany and occupied territories keeps between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 Germans permanently pegged down there.

In addition, half the whole fighter strength of the Luftwaffe is kept away from the Russian front to meet the Royal Air Force's attacks in the West.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO BERLIN

(*Continued from page* 12)

Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Turkey has brightened the prospects for broadened fields of action against the Axis. If Turkey swings into the camp of the United Nations, then the road of attack through the Balkans gains tremendously in perspective. Simultaneously with an onslaught through Greece, a twin blow through Rumania may be launched. This direction immediately endangers the Ploesti oilfields, at the moment Hitler's major source of fuel oil.

NATURAL ROAD

Furthermore, the road to Berlin via Rumania, Hungary and Austria—geographically and militarily speaking—is the natural one. A joint Allied offensive through Greece and Rumania could well prove fatal to the Axis in record time.

The main prerequisite to conquest of the Nazis over the Balkan route, as far as I could see while following the German army, is absolute control of the air. That is how the Nazis swept through the Balkans. That is how the United Nations can once again sweep back into Europe.

It would be shrewd military strategy if the Allied plan called for simultaneous assaults from the south and the north. This would make it a nutcracker move in huge pincer form against Hitler, his own favourite tactics.

THE NORTHERN BLOW

The northern blow in such case would smash at him through Norway, and perhaps other Scandinavian lands. The Nazis have sought to make the Norwegian coast impregnable through extensive fortification, but a determined Allied onslaught—aided by an interior uprising—could hamstring the Nazis to such an extent that their defeat would be inevitable.

Enormous difficulties in terrain and transportation must be overcome by any forces advancing via Norway. The Nazis along that route are sure to fight with bitter determination, for once an enemy advance approaches from Norway toward Denmark and the Baltic, the great naval gates of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven are threatened. Furthermore, such an Allied advance would compel the Nazis to retreat from the Baltic lands, therewith leaving themselves wide open to an annihilating attack from the Red Army.

Whichever of the routes outlined so far is chosen, there remains also the pivotal line of invasion from the burning front. From that direction Hitler is apt to be suddenly overwhelmed if Allied invasions crack hard enough.

For that reason, it is not at all unlikely that Allied armies transported via the Middle East will suddenly appear side by side with Red Armies to hurl the Nazis back.

EAST WALL

Against such a contingency, Hitler, two years ago, completed the so-called Eastwall a heavy line of fortifications running through Eastern Poland and into East Prussia. The Nazis will grimly defend themselves to the last ditch if cornered in those regions.

All in all, therefore, the five routes of attack on Hitler are clearly perceptible. It is probable, judging from the implications and forecasts made by Roosevelt and Churchill, that all of these routes in one way or another will be used, eventually, by invading Allied armies.

Those persecuted nationals who have been unfortunate enough to live under the yoke of Nazi tyranny will be ready and waiting for the day when the inner fort of Hitler's empire will be cracked.

And they will be the nucleus of the surging tide which will eventually overwhelm the ever-reoccurring dream of word conquest. And the eventual "Road to Berlin" will be found, irrespective of which channel it shall take, irrespective of how many lives or how much money it shall cost.

Hitler, try as he will, cannot hold all of his strongholds against the rushing tide. Along one of these five roads, be it east or west or north or south, he will stagger and fall.

And he will leave the way to Berlin wide open for the greatest of all Allied victories in Europe.

Admiral Pavesi (left), Italian Commander-in-chief of the island fortress of Pantelleria, is shown with another Italian officer as they were taken prisoner. The Mediterranean base fell after a terrific bombardment by Allied planes.

INVASION OF SICILY.—Men of a Canadian Regiment going up the line.

QUEBEC CONFERENCE—ALLIED INVASION POSSIBILITIES

WIDELY-SCATTERED LUNGES AGAINST HITLER'S COASTAL FORTIFICATIONS

THE Quebec conferences indicate that an Allied invasion of Europe may come swiftly on the heels of the Sicilian clean-up. In spite of fierce fighting, our war materials have been piling up in an impressive back-log in Africa. The sooner we strike, the less time Hitler has to strengthen his European "Fortress." And this is the logical season for landing operations.

Most military analysts are convinced that invasion will be a matter of several widely scattered lunges against Hitler's coastal fortifications. Thus, there could be a full-dress drive on the tottering Italian peninsula and Southern France; a simultaneous blast at the Balkans by the British garrison armies in the Middle East; and a determined thrust across the English Channel at France or the Lowlands, closest to the heart of the Reich. Simultaneously, there might be a diversionary action against Norway.

Thus, invasion possibilities stack up as follows:—

(1) Italy, (2) The Balkans, (3) Northern France or the Lowlands, and (4) Norway.

SOVIETS SYNCHRONIZE ATTACKS

The Soviet Armies synchronized their successful summer offensive at vital points on their long battle line with Allied invasion operations in Sicily. What we have done in Sicily may give the Russians added assault strength. Our African and Sicilian operations have shortened our supply route to Russia by about 5,000 miles. The more supplies we deliver to Russia, the better able will the Russians be to participate in the final attack on Europe.

The immensity of the invasion job without Russian help would be almost inconceivable. The Soviet forces are fighting fully 4,000,000 Nazi soldiers who would otherwise be doing sentry duty for Hitler from Norway's North Cape to Spain and along every inch of the Mediterranean coast line.

The rest of Hitler's troops—probably another 3,000,000—plus the remainder of his planes and proportionate amounts of other equipment are now deployed along this potential battle line.

Nazi invasion defences extend as far north as Narvik, with about 175,000 troops garrisoning Norway. Air bases, not too heavily manned, dot the Norwegian coast line to its southern tip. The bulk of the German battle fleet is holed up at Trondheim and in other Fjords, which accounts in part for the comparatively light garrison which Hitler maintains in a highly hostile nation. The Nazis believe this powerful war fleet would play havoc with any invasion convoy venturing into Norwegian waters.

In Denmark and the Lowlands, fully 250,000 German troops, some new recruits and some over-age regiments, are on guard. The coastal defences have been strengthened to what the Germans consider the point of impregnability. They also count heavily on the fact that vast areas of the Lowlands can be quickly flooded, although this defence failed to stop their own offensive in the Spring of 1940.

POWERFUL FRENCH DEFENCE

France is by far the most heavily defended of the entire "invasion coast." Within recent weeks the Nazis have sent many divisions of reserve troops into France under the threat of imminent invasion. Some observers in Washington are convinced that the Nazis have from 1,000,000 to 1,250,000 men under arms, many of them crack troops, in all France to-day.

Southern France, fronting on the Mediterranean, largely neglected during the years that the West was being fortified, is now in a frantic state of preparation for an expected Allied assault. Several Nazi divisions, in addition, are quartered on the French side of the Pyrenees on the Spanish border.

The number of Nazi troops now in Italy and Sicily is problematical, but may exceed 500,000. In the Balkans, every man that can be spared from home reserves of the Wehrmacht is stationed at the point which many consider one of the most likely invasion objectives.

The most powerful units—aside from the Russian theatre, an active battle ground—are concentrated in France and Italy. Hitler has not wasted a plane assisting his hopeless Tunisian and Sicilian rear guard campaigns. He is saving them for the Battle of Europe.

The wall Hitler has built around Europe is as strong as guns and planes and flesh and blood can make it. But no defensive wall in history ever withstood the onslaught of a determined enemy, though all were thought as impregnable as Hitler thinks his is to-day.

This is the kind of over-all picture now before Roosevelt and Churchill as they plan the next moves for the re-conquest of a continent. It is a picture which reverses, in a sense, the last three years of history—three years during which Hitler maintained the offensive, and during which the term "iron ring" brought to mind, almost automatically, the thought of Nazi panzers.

To-day the ring is on the other finger. It is a ring forged in the fiercest and bloodiest battles in history. Its Russian segment was hardened at Leningrad, Stalingrad, Sevastopol, Moscow, Kharkov, Voronezh, Orel and Belgorod. In Britain, a beleaguered people struggled through murder raining from the skies to build, patiently, a war machine that one day soon must be tested to the full. To the South the Allies have swept Sicily nearly clear of the enemy, and battle-hardened veterans of the United Nations soon may be ready for their next and bigger adventure.

People often re-call that victory in 1918 began with a breakthrough in the Balkans. That breakthrough was made possible by the existence of a western front. Can to-day's eastern front—the Russian battle line—be considered the equivalent? That is one of the questions now being decided in Quebec.

And another question now being weighed is that of the help we can expect from the underground of France and the Lowlands. Such help, if powerful enough, will go far to balance the danger of striking at the channel or North Sea coast, where Hitler is strongest. Andre Maroselli, former French Senator, recently said: "An invasion of France will bring about an uprising of the French people that will amaze the world."

In Holland and Belgium the spirit of the people is much the same. In Holland unrest has become so general that the Nazis were recently forced to declare a state of siege.

NORWAY—THE OUTER PERIMETER

Patriotic Norwegians, in their own occupied country and in exile, are praying for an Allied invasion which will drive the Nazis from their shores. They hope it will come this year; if it does not, they will be disappointed but not surprised.

For Norway lies on the outer perimeter of Hitler's "Fortress," and the strategists question very seriously whether its re-capture would be worth the blood and guns which it would cost. Undoubtedly, a force of the power which the Allies could muster to-day could drive the Germans out of Norway—but then where would they be? No nearer the heart of Hitler's realm, on the far side of the Skagerrat, than they are now on the far side of the English Channel.

That is not to say that a landing in Norway this fall is unlikely. A landing is even probable—but if it occurs it will probably be either a diversion, designed to keep some Axis planes and soldiers busy while greater events are occurring elsewhere, or a secondary operation with certain objectives of its own.

Now, in the far north, the midnight sun is still blazing almost 24 hours a day, making surprise attacks practically impossible. Norwegian patriots are looking forward anxiously to the fall, when oncoming winter will bring with it darkness and fog in which the liberating invader might hide. For surprise will be a very important part of any Allied attack. The Norwegian coast, if you were to follow every fjord and bay and inlet, is much more than 8,000 miles long, and obviously even the most efficient of the "master race" can hardly hope to patrol every mile of it.

Norwegian sources in New York expect that the first reports of Allied landings in Norway will indicate clearly whether the action is a serious attempt to retake the country, a diversionary operation, or one of strictly limited objectives.

TO CLEAR SHIP LANES

If the Allies land anywhere from Trondheim north, the chances are that their purpose will be to drive the Germans out of northern Norway, to seize the airfields from which German bombers attack Russia-bound convoys around the North Cape, and to eliminate submarine bases in that area.

Such an attack would require the re-capture of Narvik in order to cut German supply lines into the far north. The winter port of shipment for ore from Sweden's iron mines, Narvik controls both coastal shipping and overland communication. The country here is barely 20 miles across.

Once the Allies took Narvik, their steps into the Arctic would be outlined clearly. The port of Tromso; Hammerfest, the most northern town in the world; Kirkenes, the much-bombed port opposite Petsamo, base for Nazi air raiders—once these were wrested from the Germans, the threat to Murmansk convoys would be at an end.

The Nazis appear more worried about an Allied attempt to retake southern Norway, a brief 300 miles across the North Sea from Scotland. It is in the Stavanger area that they have held their anti-invasion exercises and enforced the strictest blackout along the coast. The region from Trondheim southward is very heavily fortified, supported by some of the best airfields in Europe, easily within reach of reinforcement from Germany.

Once the Allies succeeded in making a landing along this southern coast, they would have mountainous country to contend with as far south as Bergen. In the Jaeran area, south of Stavanger, the mountains give way to plains through which a mechanized army might move.

But unfortunately the Germans have foreseen this possibility and have so studded the territory with airfields and fortifications that any advance would be extremely costly.

When U.S. Flying Fortresses tried their first daylight raid on Oslo, three of four bombers were lost, so concentrated was the enemy opposition which they encountered.

ITALY—ITEM ON VICTORY AGENDA

An Allied invasion of Italy, or of Italy and southern France simultaneously, may be the next item on our victory agenda. Many observers feel that the pattern of Allied strategy in an attack on Italy will not aim solely through Sicily, for although a large Allied force is already massed only a few miles from the Italian mainland, this short route does not necessarily offer the best military advantages. Once established in southern Italy, the Allies might have to beat their way north along a mountainous trail. That would depend, of course, primarily on the Nazis' plans—and what the leaders now meeting in Quebec know of them.

Possibly the best way of knocking Italy out of the war would be to cut the country in half, isolating the southernmost regions from Germany by occupation of essential ports and land communications in the centre.

This plan might involve a determined sea-air attack against the Italian naval bases of Taranto and Brindisi where the major part of the Italian fleet is now semi-immobilized, while Allied troopships crossed the Mediterranean for other landings. A major step would be the occupation of a large, well-developed port in central Italy—possibly Naples. This would be accomplished by a sea-borne force after Allied naval and air strength had laid Naples' defences low. The occupation of Naples would provide the Allies with an important base to which supplies could be speedily dispatched from North Africa. Moreover, Naples would give the Allies virtually complete control of railroads and highways running along the Italian west coast to the south. Communications on the Adriatic coast, fewer and less efficient, could possibly be cut in a dozen places by paratroops..

This campaign would not immediately threaten the main enemy—Germany—because Italy probably would not be used as a highway into the heart of Europe. The towering Alps in northern Italy—across which, there is only one pass, the Brenner—are an effective barrier.

A second invasion plan embraces landings in northern Italy and on the southern coast of France. This could be carried out simultaneously with or shortly after the first campaign.

A pre-requisite to this plan is the destruction of the remaining strength of Axis air and naval bases on Sardinia and Corsica. Once they are knocked out, Allied shipping would pass through a wide stretch of friendly water—far from Axis air bases.

The strategy used in landing in southern France might well follow that used in our invasion of North Africa and Sicily; landings at numerous points, some troops putting ashore on both sides of such ports as Marseille and Toulon, others serving as feinting operations; naval bombardment and aerial bombing of Nazi installations.

One of the first acts of Allied troops after landing would be to cut rail links between southern France and Italy, thus virtually isolating Germany from Italy except by air through the Brenner Pass.

The occupation of France's Mediterranean shore would bring the Allies close to the heart of Hitler's Europe.

BRITAIN THANKS MADRAS

The following is a copy of a telegram dated, August 18, 1943, received from Sir Stafford Cripps, London, by His Excellency the Governor of Madras:—

Once more it is my pleasure to send thanks for another fine contribution from the people of Madras which will help to keep in the air those numerous fighters and bombers which have been provided by the generosity of Madras.

BALKANS—AID OF GUERILLA FORCES

Topographical barriers make the Balkans more difficult to invade than either France or Italy. Moreover, since the Balkans are at the periphery of Hitler's stronghold, there is less to be gained by an invasion. Yet the very difficulties and remoteness from Germany proper mean that South-eastern Europe is not so strongly defended, and the area abounds with guerilla forces that would rush to our aid.

There are three principal invasion routes into the Balkans:—

(1) Via the Aegean Sea to Salonika and through Yugoslavia.
(2) Via the Albanian coastal plain.
(3) Via Turkey across Bulgaria to the Danube.

By far the easiest, topographically, is the route via Turkey. But that presupposes Turkey's entry into the war on the Allied side.

South-eastern Europe is chiefly up-and-down; the word Balkan means mountain. Every avenue for invasion crosses at least one water-shed divide, all of them tough for any army.

If we choose the Salonika route, we must first occupy the whole sea-and-land area to the south: Crete, the Aegean islands, the hilly Peloponnesos and the main Greek peninsula. Crete, a giant unsinkable aircraft carrier, in itself represents a formidable problem.

The Axis has built airfields and other defence works on the principal Aegean islands, including Melos, Naxos, Samos, Chios, Lemnos, Mytilene and the Dodecanese. These, plus the Greek peninsula, offer the Axis opportunity for delaying actions.

Once we are at Salonika, the Vardar Morava corridor through Skoplje and Nish, though tough, can be forced.

It was over this route that the Nazis drove in the Spring of 1941. In 1918, the Allies—after years of delay—finally launched a well-prepared offensive up this corridor and smashed war-weary Bulgaria in a few days.

Once past Skoplje, the Allied invaders will enter territory largely under the control of Gen. Mihailovitch's Chetniks or the progressive peasant partisans who, whatever their differences, can be expected to co-operate with the Allies.

On the other hand, every mile the Allies advance adds another mile to supply lines which stretch not merely from Libya and Egypt, but from Great Britain and the United States of America.

A landing on the Albanian coast likewise involves difficult prerequisites. From the Albanian coastal plain the Allies may drive north and north-east to the Chetnik-Partisan districts of Yugoslavia, or eastward through the famous Monastir gap to Salonika, thus cutting off Axis forces in Greece and Crete.

Obviously, this route would necessitate prior occupation of southern Italy for protection against flank attack. Moreover, communication lines from the Albanian plain into the interior of Yugoslavia are limited to two heavy-duty roads.

The route via Turkey is the easiest topographically, the most direct and the best equipped with communications. It involves no lengthy series of preliminary operations, and Bulgaria has the most stubbornly anti-Nazi, pro-Russian population in all the Balkans.

Another advantage would be the possibility of landings on the Black Sea coasts of Bulgaria and Rumania. The ports of Burgas and Varna are both terminals of east-west railroads which parallel the Maritsa valley line.

CROSS-CHANNEL—THE SHORTEST WAY

A bridge of boats and a leakproof canopy of fighter aircraft are the prime essentials for invasion of Europe across the narrow waters of the English Channel—most favoured spot on the continent for the main push.

Facing invaders from English shores are the strongest fortifications ever built by man—it is the most difficult landing operation in military history.

There are many arguments to support an invasion of Europe across the English Channel at any one of a dozen points between the Netherlands and Cherbourg.

Communication lines are short, just the width of the channel, well within fighter plane range and within the range of invasion barges.

It offers the shortest route to Berlin.

The terrain offers a better chance for landings than Norway, for instance.

By dropping weapons from planes in France we can arm a great potential army which will work from within to assist our main invasion operation.

Much invaluable data as to coastal defences was obtained during the great "reconnaissance in force" at Dieppe. It will assist in the planning of the actual landing operations.

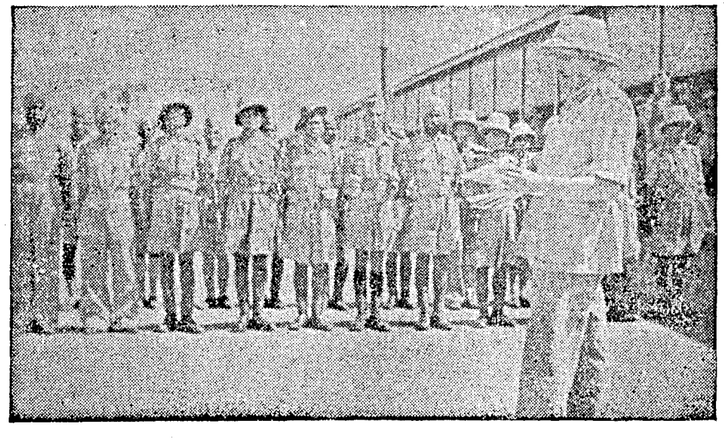
One of the manœuvres which has gained some favour as possible invasion strategy is the massing of clouds of fighter planes and invasion barges for a quick lunge across a narrow point in the channel while bigger troop transports and light naval craft strike at the westernmost part of France, near Brest. Successful landings and continuous reinforcement and supply at both points would allow of a pincer movement that would have every chance of success. Isolation of any substantial wedge of coastline would be the ideal bridgehead.

We learned at Dieppe that the French coastline is not as it appears—to the public—on the maps. It is rocky and difficult for most of its length. We are planning to storm it with painstaking precision but the Nazis are prepared to repel our onslaught with an equal degree of meticulous thoroughness.

The task ahead of the initial attacking forces at any or all of these objectives cannot be exaggerated. To solidify a bridgehead sufficiently stable to allow unmolested disembarkation of large numbers of troops and unloading of tremendous volumes of supplies and motorised vehicles and armour we must gain full control of all dock area in the neighbourhood and a surrounding area wide enough to prevent artillery assault by the defending enemy. It is estimated that an area of 10 miles from the waterfront is essential for success.

Many of the best British and American military analysts were encouraged by the Dieppe raid in spite of the great loss of life and the comparative strategical obscurity of the mission. They were surprised to learn that a comparatively small attacking force, not reinforced by a steady flow of troops or supplies, could attain a foothold and hold it for nine hours.

—Adopted from the New York newspaper P.M.



BACK IN INDIA.—Indian troops returning to India are given a big welcome in honour of their splendid service overseas, where further glory has been added to their name.

When units returned special messages from Field-Marshal Wavell were read to them by the Sind District Commander. The arrivals in this case were Mule Companies, R.I.A.S.C.

ATTEMPT TO "JAPANISE" OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

CONTROL OVER ALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Inculcation of a "new spirit of Asia" is the professed objective of the Japanese in the countries they have occupied. Just how "new" is this spirit, and what really does it seek to do? It seeks, as this article tries to show, to impose Jap ideas—whether in the sphere of Culture or Education, Religion or Politics—on other peoples, with a view eventually to robbing them of their individualistic life and making them the merest utensils of the Japanese will.

THE Japanese often assert in their propaganda that they intend to respect existing languages, culture and religious beliefs in the countries which their armed forces have occupied. But it is evident from their broadcasts that they are making strenuous efforts to impose their own influence and culture upon the subject peoples.

One of the first actions of the Japanese military authorities in the occupied countries was to close all schools. Later, after their curricula had been overhauled to inculcate the "New Spirit of Asia," the schools were re-opened one by one. That the "New Spirit of Asia" is usually the old spirit of Japan is suggested by Batavia radio's boast that the new schools in Asia foster the spirit of "Asia for the Asiatics" and that "the children drill and march proudly in the Nippon style and wave Nippon flags." Numerous Japanese language schools have been started and many Japanese teachers have arrived from Japan to take charge.

JAPANESE TEACHERS

Although the Papanese have often amused their listeners with stories of Indonesians learning to speak Japanese fluently in three months, it is clear that they attach great importance to the spreading of their language. In French Indo-China, for example, Japanese is now being taught in the middle schools so that the students "can read Nippon newspapers and books." In the Philippine islands Japanese and Tagalog have been made the official languages. In Hong Kong Chinese students are being given a Japanese education "to promote Sino-Japanese goodwill." Nearly 7,000 pupils are said to be learning Japanese from 112 instructors. In Java Indonesian officials are given promotion "in accordance with their proficiency in the Japanese language." In Shanghai Japanese is now the official language of the Shangai Municipal Council. In the East Indies Dutch place names have been replaced by Japanese names. Street names in Macassar have been replaced "by appropriate Japanese names."

"GREATER EAST ASIA"

The chief organ in the furthering of Japanese influence in the occupied regions is the "Greater East Asia Ministry." On the very day of its establishment, November 1 last year, Tokyo radio announced a great increase in the number of Japanese officials in occupied China. Under its auspices and those of various military administrations there has been a great exodus of officials and advisers to the occupied regions. In the Indies, for example, not only are there Japanese Governors in Sumatra and Japanese Mayors in Java, but several months ago Tokyo announced the dispatch of judicial officials to Sumatra and Malaya and a revision of the judicial system in Java. More recent is the establishment of a judicial officers' training institute in Java where Indonesian students will acquire the "Japanese judicial spirit" and learn Japanese language, law and history.

NEW POLITICAL PARTIES

A cultural agreement was signed with Siam last October, and ratified on December 21, to further the cultural exchange between the two countries. At the time Tokyo spoke of Siamese enthusiasm for the study of Japanese but one has still to hear of any corresponding Japanese enthusiasm for the Siamese language and culture. A "Musical Culture Research Institute" has been established in Tokyo to promote musical exchanges in "Greater East Asia." Japanese "cultural halls" have been erected at Bangkok, Hanoi and Saigon. New political parties have been set up in occupied regions, like the "New People's Movement" in Java; the "Rise of Asia League" in occupied China; the "Central Service Association" in the Philippines, and the "New Association" in Burma where the old political parties have been abolished and a new one created "to unify Burma and strengthen co-operation with Japan."

PRESS AND RADIO

In regard to the press, the occupied regions have been divided among the larger Japanese newspaper groups. Thus the Tokyo *Nichi Nichi* and Osaka *Mainichi* group now controls the Philippines Press through the newly established *Manila Shimbun*, which has taken over all Japanese, English and Spanish publications. It also issues a special weekly to teach the Japanese language and culture. In Burma the *Yomiuri Hoshi* group issues the *Burma Shimbun*, as well as a weekly graphic edition in Chinese, English and Burmese. The Japanese, of course, control broadcasting throughout the occupied regions and have greatly increased their control over the Saigon radio.

Shintoism is being propagated and other religions are being Japanised and organised to subserve Japan's political aims. Last October Tokyo radio told Japanese home listeners that "Filipino officials are receiving Shinto training" and that the Sultans of Malaya and Sumatra had "paid homage at the Singapore Shinto Shrine." "Co-prosperity" visitors to Japan are always escorted to Shinto shrines and the Japanese were told recently how Ba Maw and his party, upon worshipping at the Grand Shrine of Ise, "themselves experienced the calming influence of the shrines."

BOWING TO TOKYO

The Muslims in Malaya and the Indies have been regimented by Japanese, who have recently devoted much attention to the Muslim question. In recent Japanese-controlled broadcasts from Radio Saigon the announcer unblushingly declared that, "As protector of Islam in the East, Japan has earned the undying gratitude of Muslims throughout the world." This does not prevent the Japanese from insisting that a big gathering of Indonesians in Batavia should open their conference by bowing not in the direction of Mecca, but in the direction of Tokyo, the residence of the Sun God.

The above gives only a very brief indication of the vigour and extent of the Japanese Kulturkampf in Asia. With every week that passes the Japanese attempt to strengthen their hold on the local populations within the sphere they now dominate.

THE SETTING SUN: JAP NAVAL LOSSES

(From start of War to 20th August 1943)

Note.—Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	2	..	9
Aircraft carriers	6	1	7
Cruisers	26	4	47
Destroyers	76	21	62
Submarines	6	1	6
Tenders	1	1	4
Unspecified types	25	3	17
Total	142	31	152
Non-combatant ships	250	27	113

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR'S COMMUNIQUES.

Combatant ships.	*Sunk.*	*Probably sunk.*	*Damaged.*
Battleships	..	..	1
Aircraft carriers	1	..	2
Cruisers	11	..	21
Destroyers	21	3	25
Submarines	10	..	2
Tenders	2	..	..
Gunboats	4	..	..
Torpedo boats	1	1	1
Unspecified types	1	1	1
Total	51	5	53
Non-combatant ships	240	31	210
Unidentified	14	..	15

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 320 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

18TH AUG.—According to the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, the whole German Government had left Berlin.

Allied planes attacked Axis airfields at Poix and Amiens in France.

20TH AUG.—Mosquitoes bombed targets in Berlin—the 72nd attack. Fighters attacked enemy shipping in the Channel. A minesweeper and a R-boat were sunk and another R-boat was set on fire. Airfield and railway targets were attacked in France and Belgium.

Mr. Brenden Bracken, British Minister of Information, declared: "Our plans are to bomb, burn and ruthlessly destroy in every way available to us the people responsible for creating this war."

The Royal Air Force attacked the enemy aircraft factory at Flushing and the railway marshalling yards at Abbeville.

General von Chamier Glisezenski, inventor of most of Germany's secret weapons, was assassinated at Peenemunde.

Emil Ludwig who predicted Mussolini's downfall a few days before it occurred, said: "Within a few months, certainly this year, the Germans will surrender."

23RD AUG.—There was an air-raid alert in London area. One German aircraft was destroyed.

Thousands more of American troops reached England after an uneventful crossing.

Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives in the Rhineland, including the Chemical Works at Leverkusen.

24TH AUG.—Five German planes were destroyed in raids on England.

The Royal Air Force attacked Berlin in very great strength. More than 1,700 tons of bombs were dropped in 15 minutes. American bombers swept over France.

25TH AUG.—Berlin was again bombed by the Royal Air Force. American aircraft were over Paris.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

19TH AUG.—It was reported that political developments arising from the Quebec Conference would include a new declaration of adherence to the Atlantic Charter, a statement on British-American-Soviet war and post-war relations and a definition of Allied policy towards Axis countries anxious for an armistice.

One military expert stated: "Britain is the oldest and greatest Allied base in this war . . . A major blow at Germany must be struck from the west—and soon."

20TH AUG.—President Roosevelt was understood to be definitely planning to send a special diplomatic convoy to Moscow after the Quebec Conference.

The Soviet paper *War and the Working Class* in an editorial demanded a three-power conference of Britain, United States and Russia.

The arrival of a British Naval and Air Mission to plan maximum British co-operation with the United States in the war against Japanese was announced by the British Information Service.

21ST AUG.—Broad military planning at the Quebec Conference concluded. It was reported that arrangements had been made for a considerable increase in the Lease-Lend aid to Russia. It was also reported that an all-out attack for crushing Japan would be launched from Canada's shores.

Mr. Sumner Wells, acting United States Secretary of State, said that the State Department had received a notification from the Italian Government of its desire to make Rome an open city.

22ND AUG.—M. Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador to United States, was released from his post and M. Andrey Gromyko was appointed in his place.

Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, and Dr. T. V. Soong, Chinese Foreign Minister, arrived in Quebec.

23RD AUG.—Commanders were believed to have been appointed by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt for "several offensives" in the European theatre. Reuter's special correspondent wrote: Allied offensives "will certainly satisfy Marshal Stalin's repeated demands for a second front." Plans for war on Japan also were discussed.

24TH AUG.—The Conference at Quebec ended. President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill issued a joint statement.

Mr. Churchill and Mr. Anthony Eden, it was reported, would proceed to Washington to attend the continuation of the conference.

According to the Washington *Evening Star*, Mr. Sumner Wells had resigned his post of Under Secretary of State.

25TH AUG.—President Roosevelt addressed the Canadian Parliament.

* * * * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

19TH AUG.—Brigadier-General H. C. Davidson assumed command of the United States Army 10th Air Force in place of General Clayton Bissell.

22ND AUG.—According to a report by the War Department by Captain Clarke Johnston: "Air bombing has so crippled the Japanese war effort in Burma that they have not been able to exploit the country or use it as an invasion base."

23RD AUG.—United States bombers raided Mandalay.

24TH AUG.—United States Air Force bombed an enemy freighter anchored at Car Nicobar island in the Nicobar group. Targets in Central Burma were also attacked.

25TH AUG.—A Japanese supply depot at Baguna was attacked. Enemy attempt to cross the Salween river was foiled.

* * * * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

19TH AUG.—United States naval forces shelled military objectives on the Italian mainland. Bridges and power installations at Gioia Tauro and Palmi Gioia in the Gulf of Gioia were bombarded from the sea. The province of Naples was raided.

His Majesty the King sent a message of congratulation to General Eisenhower on the final accomplishment of occupation of Sicily. President Roosevelt also sent a message.

According to an official statement, the German losses in Sicily were two division killed, wounded or prisoners. The Italian Sixth Army was wiped out—the fifth they had lost in this war.

According to the *Lausanne Gazette*, 15 German divisions were stationed in Italian territory. It was reported that the Mayors of Milan, Como and Verona resigned simultaneously.

20TH AUG.—The islands of Lipari and Stromboli, the two main islands of Aeolion group, surrendered to a United States naval expedition.

United States Air Force dropped a heavy weight of bombs over Foggia railway targets.

Reggio Di Calabria, the principal port in the toe of Italy, was evacuated by Axis troops.

The Algiers Radio broadcast a warning to Italy that it would suffer the same fate as Sicily if the Germans were allowed to use it as a battle field.

21ST AUG.—Seven Axis landing craft were sunk off Scalea. Medium bombers attacked the railway yards at Aversia and Benevento near Naples.

22ND AUG.—Railway communications in Southern Italy were attacked by the North African Air Force. Night bombers attacked railway yards at Battipagalia. United States aircraft attacked the marshalling yards at Cancello.

General Eisenhower, in a statement summing up the campaign in Sicily, said: "This campaign is a magnificent evidence of the superiority of Allied air and naval forces."

23RD AUG.—Reuter's special correspondent said that along the whole of the North African coast, massive Allied assault forces were concentrated for further invasion of the European fortress.

It was revealed that 400,000 German troops were in Italy.

Allied aircraft raided Salemo. Twenty-eight Axis planes were shot down. The Royal Air Force destroyed or damaged a big convoy of enemy road transport located in the toe of Italy.

Marshal Badoglio asked Hitler to consent to the proclamation of Rome as an open city.

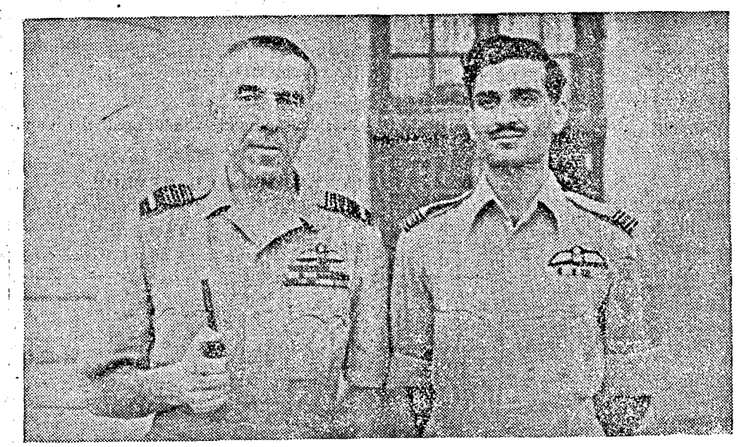
General de Gaulle, addressing the French Expeditionary Forces, said: "The war is approaching its end, but hard fighting is still ahead. We must prepare for this."

24TH AUG.—North African bombers attacked Italian rail roads. The French cruisers *La Fantasque* and *Le Terrible*, it was disclosed, were operating in close co-operation with the Allied forces in the Mediterranean.

* * * * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

19TH AUG.—The Soviet High Command launched a long-prepared pincer attack against Staraya Russa. Two hundred Soviet tanks rolled into action north and south



Squadron Leader A. B. Awan of Dera Ismail Khan, North West Frontier, India, with Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Air Officer Commanding in-Chief, India, prior to his departure for England and America.

Squadron Leader Awan will tell his colleagues of the Allied Air Forces about the rapid expansion of the Indian Air Forces and of the part its pilots and ground crews are playing in the battles against the Axis. Squadron Leader Awan is one of the oldest pilots of the Indian Air Force. He was one of the original six cadets who were trained at Cranwell (England).

of the town. The German army retreated in the Kharkov area. The Red Army, driving deeper into the Ukraine, threatened the towns of Sumy and Poltava. Soviet troops cut the railway from Kharkov to Izyum.

20TH AUG.—The Russians captured Lebedin. There was heavy fighting in the district of Byelgorod and Kharkov.

The Russians launched an offensive in the Loukhi sector of Finland.

21ST AUG.—The Russians recaptured several more places in the Kharkov region. In the period between July 5 and August 20, the Russians destroyed 4,600 German planes, 6,400 tanks and 3,800 guns. The Russians also captured 850 tanks, 1,274 guns and took 25,000 prisoners. There was bitter fighting on the Bryansk front.

A petition signed by 50 prominent Finnish politicians was presented to President Risto Ryti demanding immediate positive measures for a separate peace with the Soviet Union.

22ND AUG.—Mr. Churchill, in a broadast, said: "The Russians are no longer on the defensive. They have wrested the initiative from the enemy and to-day it is the Germans who are kept wondering which way the cat will jump."

Russian units wiped out about 400 Germans on the Leningrad front.

23RD AUG.—*The Russians captured Kharkov by storm.* [This was the fourth time that Kharkov had changed hands. It first fell to the Germans four months after their invasion of Russia in 1941. Their occupation lasted for 16 months until February 16, 1943, when the Russians regained it. A month later, on March 15, the Germans were again in occupation and this time they held it for about 23 weeks.]

In an Order of the Day, Marshal Stalin said: "I thank all troops who have taken part in the liberation of Kharkov. Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for liberty. Death to the German invaders!"

As a result of the fall of Kharkov, enemy position east of the Dnieper was in danger.

Soviet bombers raided Helsinki.

The Russians made a fresh break-through south-west of Voroshilorgrad.

24TH AUG.—The Battle for the Donetz was in full swing. Fast moving Soviet mobile troops were in hot pursuit of the retreating German forces from Kharkov.

25TH AUG.—*The Russians captured Zenkor, 85 miles north-west of Kharkov.*

* * * * *

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

19TH AUG.—Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Minister of Production, in a message broadcast on the opening of the Turkish International Trade Fair at Izmir, Smyrna, said that it was an open secret that Mr. Churchill's historic visit to Turkey had "not been without its effect on our deliveries of arms to Turkey."

20TH AUG.—Sir Samuel Hoare, British Ambassador to Spain, had talks with General Franco.

21ST AUG.—It was believed that General Franco was striving desperately to reach a quick agreement with the Allies as a last chance to save his personal regime.

* * * * *

VICHY, FREE FRENCH AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

20TH AUG.—The Germans issued an ultimatum to French patriots to hand over their arms before August 24.

In spite of the Hungarian Premier's opposition, the Hungarians gave in to the German demand for 10 divisions. Eight of these divisions were to be sent to the Eastern front.

22ND AUG.—Despite the effort of the Gestapo and Vichy police, 290,000 young Frenchmen evaded deportation to Germany. Some 80,000 fled to the mountains and 200,000 hid themselves in French towns and villages.

* * * * *

THE FAR EAST

19TH AUG.—Balik Papan in Borneo was raided again. Direct hits were obtained on four large enemy vessels.

Liberators attacked Japanese troops supply concentrations at Canto near Hanoi.

Chinese forces in Kwangtung province launched an attack on Japanese forces holding out in Chungshan, south of Canton.

20TH AUG.—Mr. Edgar Snow, cabling from New Delhi to the New York *Saturday Evening Post* said that Japan missed the boat by not attacking India last year. "It is my guess that Japan will never again be able to afford air protection adequate for a big offensive against India."

A treaty between Japan and Siam was signed whereby Japan recognized the incorporation in Siam of the Malayan States of Kelantan, Thengganu, Kedah and Perlio and the Shan States of Kentung and Mongpan.

21ST AUG.—*Kiska was taken by the American forces from the Japanese without opposition.* Fifty-nine Japanese combatant and non-combatant vessels were sunk in the Aleutian area since Pearl Harbour.

The Japanese retreated from the air base of Salamaua.

22ND AUG.—The last Australian election returns showed that Labour (Government Party) had gained a majority of almost two to one in the House of Representatives and had captured all the 19 of the vacant Senate seats.

Vice-Admiral Thomas G. Kinkaid, Commander of the North Pacific operations, said: "Our recapture of Kiska without opposition means that we have completed our northern road towards Japan."

In a further attack against Wewak, 33 Japanese planes were shot down by Allied aircraft. Allied heavy bombers attacked the Japanese nickel centre of Pomelaa, Dutch Celebes. Japanese planes raided Darwin.

American planes raided Tienho airfield in Canton, scoring direct hits on hangers.

23RD AUG.—The fall of Salamaua was imminent. American and Canadian troops landed in Segula island, adjacent to Kiska.

Chunking was bombed for the first time in two years by the Japanese.

Mr. Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, commenting on the election results said that the Government would justify the confidence placed in it by the electors by prosecuting the war with the utmost vigour.

24TH AUG.—A joint statement was issued by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at the end of the conference at Quebec. The statement disclosed that military discussions were centred largely upon the war against Japan.

In New Guinea, Allied forces crossed the Francisco river.

Several thousand Japanese troops launched an attack in North Anhwei province but were repulsed by the Chinese after severe fighting.

25TH AUG.—Lord Louis Mountbatten was appointed supreme Allied Commander in south-east Asia.

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

Registered No. M-4345

SUPPLEMENT TO THE MADRAS WAR REVIEW

DIARY OF THE SECOND GREAT WAR

From September 1942 to September 1943

Friday September 3, 1943

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
England and Germany	1	Neutral Countries	16
United States of America and the Atlantic	5	Vichy, Free French and Occupied Countries	17
India, Burma and Ceylon	8	Shipping	18
Italy, Africa and the Mediterranean	10	The Far East	19
Russia and Finland	13		

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

1942

29TH AUG.—The Royal Air Force attacked the industrial town of Cassel.

Mr. J. C. Winant, American Ambassador, speaking at the City Guildhall, London, said: "I have been here sometime and I never hope to find anywhere here or in hereafter a friendlier world than I found in Great Britain."

30TH AUG.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives at Nurnberg and Saarbrucken. The docks at Ostend were also attacked.

31ST AUG.—Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said: "Our financial front stands strong and firm."

2ND SEP.—Hitler issued an appeal to the German people again to make voluntary sacrifices in the Winter Help Campaign.

3RD SEP.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy raid on Saarbrucken. The Red Air Force raided Poland, Warsaw and East Prussia.

It was disclosed that there was a big shake-up in the *Luftwaffe* after the Dieppe raid.

Speaking at Guildhall, London, Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, said: "There could be no compromise with Hitler."

4TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force attacked Karlsruhe.

7TH SEP.—German prisoners in Britain broadcasting on the B.B.C., denounced the Hitler regime and the Nazi atrocities.

8TH SEP.—The International Youth Day Rally in London was attended by more than 60,000 delegates from all countries.

11TH SEP.—The Soviet aircraft raided Berlin. A number of eastern German towns were attacked and fires started.

There was a general strike throughout Luxemburg as a result of Nazi announcement that the Grand Duchy had been incorporated in the Reich.

12TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force raided Dusseldorf, centre of German steel industry.

16TH SEP.—Bremen was heavily bombed by the Royal Air Force.

According to reports received in Washington, German merchant sailors on the North Sea and Baltic Sea coasts had mutinied and attacked their officers.

17TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force bombed the docks at Cherbourg. Districts in Bulgaria were also bombed.

18TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force bombed objectives in Ruhr.

19TH SEP.—A large contingent of American troops arrived in England.

21ST SEP.—The Royal Air Force raided Munich and started large fires.

Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, announced: "The battleships, aircraft carriers and cruisers of the Royal Navy lost in the last two and a quarter years have been replaced."

23RD SEP.—The Royal Air Force attacked industrial objectives in the Lille-Lens area. Power stations at Mazingarbe and Port Vendin were among the targets hit. The iron and steel works at Ijmuiden were also attacked.

25TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force attacked the submarine yards at Flensburg.

27TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force raided Nazi headquarters in Oslo.

29TH SEP.—Hitler, making an unexpected appearance in Berlin, addressed a gathering of 12,000 officers and cadets in the Sports Palast.

30TH SEP.—A high officer of the British Army broadcast from the B.B.C. another invasion warning to the French people.

1ST OCT.—German aircraft dropped bombs at several places in south-western and southern England. A school was hit and 20 children were killed.

Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons that very heavy losses were sustained in the raid on Dieppe.

3RD OCT.—The Royal Air Force attacked the submarine yards at Flensburg.

4TH OCT.—Four-hundred British fighter aircraft operated over a wide area of northern France. Iron and steel works near Liege were bombed. Objectives in the Rhineland were attacked.

5TH OCT.—Goering, at a special mass meeting of the Nazi Party in Berlin, said: "The German people come before all other peoples for food. The whole German army is fed from the conquered countries."

8TH OCT.—The Royal Air Force attacked Osnabruck.

9TH OCT.—There was a British Commando raid on Sark, a Channel Island.

The German Radio stated that British Dieppe prisoners had been put in chains. A statement issued by the British Government declared: "His Majesty's Government will be compelled, in order to protect their own prisoners of war, to take similar measures upon an equal number of enemy prisoners of war in their hands."

It was disclosed that the total number of German and Italian prisoners in British hands was 285,000—23,000 Germans and 262,000 Italians. The total number of British prisoners in German and Italian hands was 115,000—90,000 in German hands and 25,000 in Italian hands.

10TH OCT.—A German communiqué stated that 107 British officers and 1,269 N.C.Os. were fettered.

12TH OCT.—More United States forces arrived in Britain.

13TH OCT.—The Royal Air Force attacked Hanover, a manufacturing centre of tanks and locomotives.

17TH OCT.—Hess, it was stated in London, was a military prisoner of war and not a prisoner of State.

18TH OCT.—A large Atlantic convoy arrived safely in Britain.

21ST OCT.—The Admiralty announced that two new British battleships, sister ships of the ill-rated *Prince of Wales*, were now at sea.

24TH OCT.—Mrs. Roosevelt arrived in England.

31ST OCT.—The Royal Air Force battered the German Baltic port of Lubeck.

1ST NOV.—In the biggest day raid since the Battle of Britain, about 50 German bombers were over the English Coast, 9 of which were shot down. Canterbury was the main target of attack.

9TH NOV.—Hitler spoke in the Munich Beer Cellar on the anniversary of the Beer Cellar Putsch. He said: "I wanted Stalingrad because of its importance of a junction. If anybody asks why we did not take immediately the strong points held by the enemy, I reply because they are not worth a second Verdun."

10TH NOV.—In his Munich Beer Cellar speech, Hitler admitted "In North Africa the enemy has moved forward and we have moved back."

11TH NOV.—Speaking on United States invasion of French Africa. Mr. Churchill said at the Lord Mayor's annual banquet: "Mr. Roosevelt was the author of this mighty undertaking and I, his active and ardent lieutenant."

Mrs. Roosevelt arrived in Northern Ireland on a flying visit to troops and naval units.

12TH NOV.—Speaking on the Battle of Egypt in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill said that the British had won a victory of the first order.

Opening the new session of Parliament, His Majesty the King said: "The declaration of the United Nations endorsing the principles of the Atlantic Charter provides the foundation on which international society can be rebuilt after the war."

15TH NOV.—Church bells, stilled since Dunkirk, rang throughout Britain to commemorate the triumphant Battle of Egypt.

17TH NOV.—An international air force to maintain world peace was forecast by Sir Stafford Cripps in a broadcast to America. He said: "After the war, we must devise a better method by which the freedom of nations can be preserved against brutal attack. The power of the air provides an opportunity which has never before existed for the control of world order."

18TH NOV.—General de Gaulle and the French National Committee announced their opposition to Vichy regime in North Africa.

23RD NOV.—Sir Stafford Cripps was appointed Minister of Aircraft Production. Mr. Herbert Morrison was appointed in his place in the War Cabinet (in addition to the post of Home Secretary and Minister of Home Security). Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, was appointed Leader of the House.

24TH NOV.—The Royal Air Force attacked Stuttgart, the heart of the industrial district in Germany.

30TH NOV.—Mr. Churchill was the recipient of good wishes and congratulations from all parts of the world on the occasion of his 68th birthday.

1ST DEC.—According to "Frontline, 1940-41" a book issued by Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security revealing official secrets of Nazi blitz on Britain, "In three months from September 1940, 36,000 bombs fell on London and nearly 13,000 people were killed. London was bombed for 57 consecutive nights. In 11 months, between 45,000 and 50,000 bombs hit London. In nine months, 1,150,000 London homes were destroyed and 375,000 people made homeless. During the whole air attack on Britain, 43,667 civilians were killed and 50,387 seriously injured."

4TH DEC.—The invention of Noctovisor, weapon to locate enemy planes and ships at night, by J. L. Baird, inventor of television, was announced.

12TH DEC.—All prisoners of war who had been shackled in Britain and Canada were freed from the shackles.

Long-range guns on both sides of the Channel were engaged in a duel. British guns opened first.

19TH DEC.—Although two prominent Cabinet Ministers were unsympathetic, if not hostile, Mr. Churchill himself put the Beveridge Report on the official map.

21ST DEC.—Mr. Amery launched the H.M.I.S. *Narbada*, a new flagship of the R.I.N.

1943

1ST JAN.—A naval engagement took place between German and British units in the North Sea. An enemy destroyer was sunk.

2ND JAN.—United States' bombers attacked St. Nazaire docks.

6TH JAN.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Ruhr.

10TH JAN.—Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister of Aircraft Production, said: "Once again we should start on more extended delivery of bombs over Germany and Italy."

11TH JAN.—A treaty was signed between Britain and China for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China.

15TH JAN.—General Sikorski, Polish Premier, arrived in Britain from United States.

16TH JAN.—The Royal Air Force bombed Berlin.

18TH JAN.—Berlin was bombed again by the Royal Air Force. Large fires were started.

20TH JAN.—It was revealed in the Commons by Sir James Grigg, War Secretary, that British prisoners in Germany were still shackled.

Mr. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, said in the Commons: "Everywhere the initiative has passed into the hands of the United Nations."

24TH JAN.—Commandos raided Laervik on the Norwegian coast.

27TH JAN.—Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in the Commons that the war cost Great Britain about 14 million sterling daily.

28TH JAN.—American aircraft raided Wilhelmshaven.

30TH JAN.—The Royal Air Force made the first daylight raid on Berlin.

Goering admitted that Germany was deceived by the Finnish war. "Russia's war against Finland was perhaps the cleverest and greatest camouflage in world history."

6TH FEB.—It was announced that between 100,000 and 120,000 shops were to close in Germany to save fuel and labour.

9TH FEB.—Mr. Churchill returned to England after his tour of the Middle East.

17TH FEB.—The Government decided "to accept in principle the main features of the Beveridge Plan" of social security for all.

19TH FEB.—Dr. Goebbels, speaking in the Berlin Sports Palast, said: "We have got to act and that without delay, quickly and thoroughly. In the east, we are at the moment living through a military trial."

20TH FEB.—The Gestapo, faced with the danger of invasion from the east, ordered all peasants of full German blood to be armed.

22ND FEB.—The Chinese Military Mission from the United States arrived in Britain.

23RD FEB.—A telegrapm was received from the Soviet President M. Kalinin, accepting the King's offer of the Sword of Honour for Stalingrad.

28TH FEB.—Britain's Army Week was launched by Sir James Grigg, War Secretary.

1ST MAR.—The Royal Air Force attacked the U-boat base at Saint Nazaire.

5TH MAR.—Admiral Boehm, Commander of the German fleet in Norwegian waters, was dismissed from service.

6TH MAR.—The Royal Air Force attacked objectives in Western Germany. Goering's Air Ministry Building in Berlin was damaged during a raid.

7TH MAR.—The German Radio admitted: "The last British raid on Berlin has caused important damage in the German capital."

8TH MAR.—London's "Wings for Victory" effort reached the total of £44,677,135, including a million sterling from the Imperial Chemical Industries.

11TH MAR.—Sir Archibald Sinclair, Air Minister, announced the formation of a Royal Air Force Transport Command.

13TH MAR.—The Royal Air Force raided Essen. Krupps works were damaged. Fires were started in Munich. Engineering works near Liége were also attacked.

18TH MAR.—Five girls were killed and about 12 seriously injured when a women's hostel in an East Anglian coast town was bombed.

21ST MAR.—According to Reuter's London City Correspondent: "It is believed that Lord Keynes, besides his post-war currency plan, may also have a scheme for establishing international commodity prices. The international monetary unit, the Bancor, would be fixed in terms of gold and stable relations would be maintained between gold and goods."

According to *Financial News*, the Keynes Commodity Scheme provided for the establishment of international commodity pools which would buy up surplus supplies during the gluts and liquidate during the shortages.

25TH MAR.—Mr. Churchill announced in the Commons that the United Nations had now a substantially larger merchant fleet than at the worst moment of the U-boat war.

26TH MAR.—The Paris Radio announced that the Germans evacuated La Rochelle, as a precautionary measure. It was reported that Lorient and St. Nazaire had been evacuated.

27TH MAR.—General de Gaulle, the Fighting French leader, said in a broadcast (in connection with his forthcoming visit to North Africa to see General Giraud): "Together loyally and in a friendly spirit we shall see and we shall send men to ensure that the French Empire shall be but one Empire."

29TH MAR.—Three children and six adults were killed in a school clinc in a southern coast town of England in an enemy raid.

30TH MAR.—Berlin was again heavily bombed. Objectives at Bochum and elsewhere in the Ruhr were also attacked.

This was the Royal Air Force's 60th visit to Berlin. It was revealed that Hitler's Munich office was hit during a raid.

1ST APR.—Lord Bruntisfield, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admirality, said in the House of Lords that the estimated tonnage of German merchant shipping sunk, captured or damaged since the beginning of the present war to the end of February 1943, was 3,365,000 gross tons and of the Italians 4,027,000 gross tons.

3RD APR.—It was revealed that Hitler's Chancellery was badly damaged in the last Royal Air Force raid on Berlin.

4TH APR.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on Essen. The great Krupps armament works were hit. American heavy bombers attacked Renault factories at Billancourt on the outskirts of Paris.

Mr. Anthony Eden arrived in England from United States.

5TH APR.—The Royal Air Force in great strength attacked the naval base and shipbuilding yards of Kiel. Large fires were started in the target area.

This was the 71st raid on Kiel.

11TH APR.—It was revealed that Krupps works were Erla aircraft engine works near Antwerp.

11TH APR.—It was revealed that Krupps works were almost devastated as a result of the Royal Air Force raids on March 5 and 13 and April 3.

General de Gaulle presided over a special meeting of the French National Committee called to hear General Catroux's report which said that almost all Frenchmen in north and west Africa were eager to see the establishment of central and provincial French authority as soon as possible. The formation of a Triumvirate to rule the French Empire (formed by General Giraud, General de Gaulle and General Catroux), it was announced, would be placed before the fighting French National Committee.

12TH APR.—Sir Charles Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in presenting the Budget to the Parliament, said that the United Kingdom had spent £1,500 million in the United States on supplies, munitions and capital equipment since the war started. The value of British munitions sent to Russia was £170 million sterling. The cost of the war had reached £13,000 million. The total British expenditure including debt charges throughout the war period was £15,600 million. Britain was spending 15 millions sterling daily on the war.

17TH APR.—More than 600 aircraft of the Bomber Command in the biggest night operations this year heavily attacked the Skoda armament works at Pilsen in Czechoslovakia and the armament centres of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen. American heavy bombers attacked targets at Bremen.

18TH APR.—United States Air Force attacked an industrial plant at Zeebrugge.

19TH APR.—One of the most ferocious battles of the war between aircraft and U-boats was fought for four days in the Atlantic as a result of which several U-boats were sunk.

21ST APR.—The Royal Air Force attacked the Baltic port of Stettin and the port and Heinkel works at Rostock.

Berlin was attacked heavily and large fires were left burning.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, revealed that the shackling of British prisoners of war in Germany still continued.

27TH APR.—The Royal Air Force raided Duisburg, one of the heaviest yet made on Germany.

1ST MAY.—The Royal Air Force heavily bombed Essen and other objectives in the Ruhr.

7TH MAY.—According to the *Daily Mail* Naval correspondent, Britain to-day had enough convoy escorts, both surface ships and aircraft, to turn from purely defensive to directly offensive tactics against U-boat packs in the Atlantic.

10TH MAY.—Speaking on the fourth anniversary of the Winter Help Campaign, Hitler called for further sacrifices from the German people.

11TH MAY.—Mr. Anthony Eden reiterated in the Commons that the Allies' peace terms were unconditional surrender.

12TH MAY.—Dr. Schacht, the German financial expert, was expelled from the Nazi party.

13TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force made the heaviest bombing attack of the war on Duisburg.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, announced in the Commons the end of the North African Campaign.

14TH MAY.—Riots broke out in Berlin outside the Wehrmacht's Information Office, when thousands of women and elderly men gathered to obtain information about their relatives in the Afrika Korps. The S.S. troops were called out. Similar riots broke out in other parts of Germany.

The Royal Air Force bombed Berlin.

15TH MAY.—The greatest Allied air *blitz* of the war hit Germany and occupied countries from the French Coast deep down in Bohemia.

16TH MAY.—General von Arnim, Commander-in-Chief of the Axis forces in Tunisia, who surrendered to the Fourth Indian Division, was brought to England.

Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, in a message to mark the opening of Belgian radio station at Leopoldville, said: "We, in common with our Allies, will make every effort to deliver you as soon as possible from your oppressors. The day of your deliverance shall not be long delayed."

The memorandum of the Post-war Policy Group of the members of the Houses of Commons and Lords urged effective occupation of Germany and setting up of an inter-Allied council of control.

The Royal Air Force again raided Berlin.

Britain observed "in a spirit of quiet cheerfulness" its day of thanksgiving for the Allied victory in Tunisia.

17TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force attacked and breached the two greatest dams in Germany—the Mohne and Eder dams, one containing 134 million tons and the other 202 million tons of water—flooding the Ruhr and Eder. The floods destroyed power stations, railway and road bridges.

Marshal Messe, Italian Commander-in-Chief in Africa, was brought to England.

18TH MAY.—There was rioting in Duisburg after the bursting of the Ruhr dam. A state of siege was proclaimed in the whole of Westphalia.

19TH MAY.—As a result of the bombing of the Mohne and Eder dams on the 16th May 54 towns in Germany were inundated and 50,000 families were rendered homeless. The Berlin press demanded reprisals against the Jews "proportionate with the very great damage caused by the attack." It was reported that information concerning the dams was given to British auhorities by an eminent Jewish refugee in Britain.

21ST MAY.—United States heavy bombers attacked the submarine pens at Wilhelmshaven and Emden.

23RD MAY.—General Catroux arrived in London from Algiers and conferred with General de Gaulle.

24TH MAY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked Dortmund. The strong defences of the Ruhr were beaten down and over 2,000 tons of bombs were dropped. The number of planes engaged in the raid exceeded 500.

[Dortmund which has a population of 550,000 is one of the chief centres of heavy industry in Germany.]

25TH MAY.—The House of Commons granted the Government a new vote of credit for 1,000 million sterling for war purposes. Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated that the war expenditure had risen to about 14 million daily.

26TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force raided Dusseldorf. Over five 4,000 pound bombs were dropped.

28TH MAY.—The Royal Air Force made a very heavy attack on Essen, the home of the Krupps. [Essen had been raided 55 times before.]

1ST JUNE.—The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. C. Attlee, gave to the House of Commons the following figures: The total British Empire casualties during the first three years of the war, 514,993; killed, 92,089; missing, 226,719; wounded, 88,294; prisoners-of-war, 107,891.

5TH JUNE.—Mr. Churchill arrived back in London. Mr. Churchill flew from the United States to Gibraltar to visit General Eisenhower at Algiers. He addressed 3,000 soldiers of the Anglo-American armies in Tunisia.

12TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command delivered a highly concentrated attack on Duesseldorf.

14TH JUNE.—United Nations' Day was celebrated throughout the world.

17TH JUNE.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command attacked objectives at Cologne. [This was Cologne's 115th raid.]

19TH JUNE.—The Royal Air Force made a heavy and concentrated attack on the Schneider armament works in France.

20TH JUNE.—According to a naval reporter in the *Daily Express*, 50 U-boats were destroyed in the last two months. This number brought the total destroyed since the beginning of the war to 250.

23RD JUNE.—The Royal Air Force bombed Mulheim (an important city of German steel industry).

24TH JUNE.—Describing the Ruhr raids, the German radio said: "The battle simply goes beyond human description. Nobody who has not seen it with his own eyes can have even a faint notion of it."

Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, informed the House of Commons, that the possibility of bringing representatives of the Fourth Indian Division to Britain was being considered.

A German frontier report to the *London Times* stated that the ex-President of the Reichsbank, Dr. Schacht, was under house arrest at his estate at Lindow near Berlin.

25TH JUNE.—His Majesty the King returned to England after his North African tour.

28TH JUNE.—The official balance-sheet of German railways for 1942 disclosed that damage estimated at £50 millions was sustained by the railways owing to the Royal Air Force and Red Air Force onslaughts.

30TH JUNE.—Mr. Churchill, speaking at Guildhall, said: "We demand from the Nazis, Fascists and the Japanese unconditional surrender. Their will-power to resist must be completely broken and they must yield themselves absolutely to our justice and mercy."

7TH JULY.—British Finance Bill was read for the third time in the House of Commons without division. Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellore of the Exchequer, said that the average citizen paid one-third of his entire income in taxation.

10TH JULY.—Lord Wavell addressed Indian trainees of the Bevin Boys' Group in London, and said that in the new post which he was shortly going to occupy, he would do something to repay the debt he owed to India.

Mr. Bevin, Minister of Labour, announced that there was under consideration expansion of the training scheme so that more men might come from India and their stay be prolonged from six to nine months.

14TH JULY.—Mr. Churchill refused to agree to a suggestion in the House of Commons for amending the Atlantic Charter.

15TH JULY.—In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. L. S. Amery stated that Indian casualties, including casulties to British officers of the Indian Forces up to August, 31, 1942, were 3,286 killed, 9,168 wounded, 86,289 missing. It was also disclosed that 40 per cent of the officers recruited since the outbreak of the war had been Indians.

21ST JULY.—The Viceroy-Designate, Field-Marshal Wavell who had been raised to the peerage, would be known as Viscount Wavell of Cyrenaica and Winchester.

26TH JULY.—Aircraft of the Bomber Command made a very heavy attack on Essen.

29TH JULY.—Strong formations of United States heavy bombers attacked aircraft factories in central Germany including the aircraft factories at Kassel and Magdeburg. Over 60 German aircraft were destroyed.

3RD AUG.—Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that the United States Government were transferring 150 to 200 ships to the British Flag.

5TH AUG.—A meeting of the Pacific War Council was held in London, the Premier presiding.

The German U-boat headquarters spokesman, Helnrich Schlick, said: "The enemy defence in the Atlantic has got the better of us."

6TH AUG.—Goebbels announced that Berlin had been partly evacuated. He said: "We expect the German capital will be the target of enemy attacks."

11TH AUG.—Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, arrived in England.

13TH AUG.—M. Feodor Gusen was appointed Soviet Ambassador to Britain. (He succeeded M. Ivan Maisky.)

15TH AUG.—Mr. John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, advocated the establishment of a supreme body which should govern the entire British Empire after the war.

20TH AUG.—Mosquitoes bombed targets in Berlin—the 72nd attack.

Mr. Brenden Bracken, British Minister of Information, declared: "Our plans are to bomb, burn and ruthlessly destroy in every way available to us the people responsible for creating this war."

General von Chamier Glisezenski, inventor of most of Germany's secret weapons, was assassinated at Peenemunde.

Emil Ludwig who predicted Mussolini's downfall a few days before it occurred, said: "Within a few months, certainly this year, the Germans will surrender."

23RD AUG.—Thousands more of American troops reached England after an uneventful crossing.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

1942

31ST AUG.—According to well-informed circles in Montevideo, North American forces were to co-operate in the defence of the Brazilian and Uruguay Coasts.

1ST SEP.—President Roosevelt, in the course of a statement, said that America was wholly dedicated to the defeat of the Axis and the removal from this earth of injustices and inequalities which create tyrants and made for new wars.

2ND SEP.—According to a pamphlet issued by the office of the War Information in Washington, the United Nations had now more than 15 million men under arms.

8TH SEP.—There was an air-raid alarm in New York.

There was a German air raid on Iceland.

10TH SEP.—Henry Douglas Temple, son of a German Reichwehr officer, enlisted in the American army. He said: "I want to fight everybody left in Germany—including my father."

13TH SEP.—Speaking at Beirut, Mr. Wendell Willkie told a press conference that Allied monthly losses, at half a million tons, were being replaced by a monthly production of 600,000 tons.

14TH SEP.—Mr. Stimson, Secretary of War, announced the formation of an experimental unit of women pilots to be known as the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron.

20TH SEP.—The War Production Board announced that orders had been placed for three giant experimental cargo-carrying planes costing 18 million dollars.

23RD SEP.—Major-General Hershey, Selective Service Director for the United States Army, stated that more than 10 million Americans would be under arms by the end of 1943.

25TH SEP.—Ten days after laying the keel, a 10,500-ton Liberty freighter was launched at an American west coast port.

26TH SEP.—Diplomatic interest was focussed on Mr. Willkie's blunt statement about Soviet disappointment and dissatisfaction over the Allied failure to open a second front.

27TH SEP.—The American mighty aircraft-carrier *Lexington* was launched at Quincy.

29TH SEP.—H.M.S. *Lulworth* rammed and sank an Italian submarine in the Atlantic.

2ND OCT.—Commenting on Hitler's speech on the winter-help campaign in Berlin, Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, said: "Evidently he is desperately preparing his people for greater hardships. It is a quiet come down from loud boasts and bombasts."

5TH OCT.—American shipyards reached the promised goal of three ships daily by delivering during September 93 new freighters.

The United States War Department disclosed that a new specialized American troop unit nicknamed "Swimmandos" was training for attack in river areas.

9TH OCT.—Senator Mead stated that the United States Navy was "gaining very rapidly on the submarine menace."

12TH OCT.—The Canadian Department of National Defence in full agreement with the United Kingdom, put in chains German prisoners equal in number to the Canadian prisoners in the Dieppe raid.

13TH OCT.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Alaska.

An alert was sounded in Reykjavik.

17TH OCT.—It was revealed that a new weapon against the U-boat called "Fairmiles" was in operation with the Canadian navy. They are submarine chasers.

26TH OCT.—Another United States destroyer named Daly was launched.

31ST OCT.—Mr. Wendell Willkie in a broadcast said: "General Montgomery is confident that his command will beat Rommel this time." He also prophesied that the Germans will never take Russia.

1ST NOV.—An official announcement stated that Ford would build gliders for invasion purposes. The gliders will each carry 15 invasion-equipped soldiers.

3RD NOV.—President Roosevelt asked the Congress to enact legislation empowering him to suspend for the duration of the war trade barriers, import duties, customs and other regulations of any character likely to impede the free flow of munitions, supplies, persons, property and information between the United States and others of the United Nations.

7TH NOV.—Senator W. F. George, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, introduced a Bill to give President Roosevelt authority to set aside tariff and customs barriers to permit free flow of aid to the United Nations.

9TH NOV.—The White House, Washington, announced that American forces landed in North Africa in order to "forestall an invasion" by Germany and Italy.

17TH NOV.—Broadcasting on the seventh anniversary of the Commonwealth of Philippines, President Roosevelt disclosed that he and President Quezon of the Philippines had agreed to set up a joint Commission to work for the preservation of the stability and security of the Philippines.

18TH NOV.—President Roosevelt called the Solomons naval action a major American victory.

Col. Knox, Naval Secretary, said: "At the moment we have naval supremacy around Guadalcanar . . . We can lick them—I will not qualify that."

The Kaiser shipyards on the American West Coast claimed a new record when a naval craft was launched 2 days, 23 hours and 40 minutes after the laying of the keel.

19TH NOV.—Mrs. Roosevelt returned to America.

22ND NOV.—Mrs. Roosevelt, in a broadcast to the American nation, said: "There is very little grumbling among the British people. If we can voluntarily give work and make sacrifices in the same spirit that the British people are giving, we may be able to shorten the war."

War-time powers were granted to President Roosevelt.

24TH NOV.—The independence of French West Indies and French Guiana from Vichy Government was considered assured by a new agreement concluded between the United States Department's representative in Martinique and the French High Commissioner.

27TH NOV.—President Roosevelt and more than 200 leaders of armed and civilian services led the nation in a special thanksgiving ceremony at the White House, Washington, joining in prayer for peace to ultimately unite the world in "firmer fellowship" for the good of all mankind.

11TH DEC.—Mrs. Roosevelt suggested in a broadcast the creation of a volunteer women's land army to augment America's agricultural man-power.

1943

1ST JAN.—Stalin was named "The Man of the Year" for 1942 by the *Time* Magazine, New York.

5TH JAN.—Mr. Joseph Grew, United States Ambassador to Japan, in a broadcast, characterised the Japanese as a "relentless and brutal foe."

8TH JAN.—President Roosevelt uttered a warning: "After the war, Germany, Italy and Japan must be disarmed and kept disarmed."

11TH JAN.—A treaty was signed between the United States and China for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China.

12TH JAN.—Writing in the *Christian Science Monitor*, Mrs. Roosevelt said: "First of all we want a world which is disarmed. There will have to be an international police force."

17TH JAN.—The United States War Production Board announced that the Government's war expenditure in 1942 totalled 52,406 million dollars or 169,100,100 dollars daily compared to 13,895 millions in 1941.

21ST JAN.—Chilean Senate voted for break with the Axis.

26TH JAN.—Mr. J. G. Winant, the United States Ambassador to Great Britian, in a speech at Baltimore

before the Council of the State Governments, said: "I believe that Great Britain is more efficiently and effectively organized, armed and equipped both on the military front and on the civil front than at any time since the war began."

30TH JAN.—Commenting on the anniversary of Hitler's rise to power, the *Herald Tribune* said: "Through ten years of toil, loot and destruction, Hitler has led his people to a point at which the destruction of his regime and all it stood for has become a certainty."

6TH FEB.—Lieut.-General Frank Maxwell Andrews took over command of the United States Forces in the European theatre of operations.

10TH FEB.—Admiral Emory Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission, said that the United States naval building programme would reach five ships daily by May.

15TH FEB.—The great 35,000-ton French battleship *Richelieu*—one of the world's greatest surface warships—arrived in New York harbour from Dakar.

18TH FEB.—Marshal Timoshenko arrived in Washington.

19TH FEB.—Madame Chiang-Kai-shek arrived in Washington on February 17. She warned a joint session of the United States Congress of the power of Japan. "The peril of the Japanese juggernaut remains."

24TH FEB.—The 45,000-ton battleship *Iowa*, the mightiest warship of the United States Navy, was commissioned seven months ahead of schedule.

26TH FEB.—Mr. A. J. Sabath, United States Congress representative, said: "President Roosevelt is going to be nominated by acclamation of the Democratic National Convention and he is going to be elected (President for a fourth term) by an overwhelming majority. That is the will of the people and it will prevail."

27TH FEB.—Mr. Donald Nelson, War Production Chief, said that it would be possible to equip armed forces totalling 11 millions which was the goal set for the end of 1943.

3RD MAR.—Members of the Higher Council of the American Democrat National Committee recommended to President Roosevelt that he should be the Party's candidate for the 1944 Presidential election (for the fourth term) if the war was still on.

4TH MAR.—The U.S. Government sent a note to Great Britain, indicating its wholehearted concurrence and co-operation in any steps towards immediate aid for Jews in Europe. [The British Government undertook to receive in Palestine up to 29,000 Jewish children with a proportion of adults.]

11TH MAR.—President Roosevelt presented to the Congress recommendations for a "Beveridge Plan" for unemployment pay, old-age pensions, health insurance and social services.

12TH MAR.—The Senate approved the extension of the Lend-Lease Act to June 13, 1944. Russia received help from the United States under Lend-Lease totalling £456,500,000 during the quarter ending March 1. This was £120 million more than what was sent to Australia, New Zealand, China and India combined.

13TH MAR.—Mr. Anthony Eden, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Washington—a diplomatic sequel to Casablanca.

16TH MAR.—A proposal for a post-war international police force was introduced into the Senate by Senator Bell as the only practical means of "controlling the plague of war."

18TH MAR.—According to Col. Knox, Navy Secretary, the Japanese merchant fleet had lost 1,857,000 gross tons or approximately one-third of its entire tonnage.

20TH MAR.—Rear-Admiral Howard L. Vickery, Vice-Chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, said that United States shipyards would have constructed 50 million tons of shipping by the end of 1944.

26TH MAR.—President Roosevelt announced the creation of an Administration of Food Production and Distribution in the Department of Agriculture.

27TH MAR.—Mr. Joseph E. Davis, former United States Ambassador to Moscow, in an article in the American magazine *Life*, declared himself convinced that the Soviet and the Western Democracies can live together in post-war friendship and harmony.

Colonel Knox, Navy Secretary, disclosed that United States had dozens of new auxiliary aircraft-carriers in action.

Mr. Anthony Eden, in a speech at Annapolis, declared that the United Nations and in particular the United States, the British Commonwealth, China and the Soviet Union, must organize a "close knit frame-work of free nations" to preserve peace after victory.

28TH MAR.—Mr. Keller, President of the Chrysler Corporation, stated that a new aircraft plant was now under construction which, when completed, would turn out a new secret weapon for the United States Army.

5TH APR.—Mr. Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of Treasury, in a plan submitted to a group of Senators, outlined the tentative proposal of the United States to participate with a contribution of 5,000 million dollars to a Post-war International Currency Stabilization Fund. It was disclosed that the Keynes plans for a new world currency had been received with enthusiasm in United States.

7TH APR.—The Bolivian Government published a decree declaring Bolivia at war with the Axis powers and ordering general mobilisation.

8TH APR.—In the report of the Institute of Pacific Relations, a proposal was made for the creation of a policy-making United Nations Council, with a subsidiary regional council for the Pacific area.

17TH APR.—Colonel Knox, Secretary of the United States Navy, disclosed that the United States now had seven fleets in existence.

20TH APR.—Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information, disclosed that the American raid on Tokyo on April 18, 1942, was made from an aircraft carrier.

The American magazine *Mercury* revealed that British Secret Service Agents fooled Hitler in sending Hess to Britain in May 1941.

22ND APR.—President Roosevelt announced the execution of some members of the American armed forces who fell into Japanese hands.

29TH APR.—Mr. William Batt, Vice-Chairman of the War Production Board, said that the United States would produce 100,000 planes in 1943.

30TH APR.—Mr. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, repudiated all past agreements with the High Commissioner of Martinique, Admiral Robert.

1ST MAY.—Colonel Knox, United States Secretary of Navy, said that ship sinkings by submarines were much lower in April than they were in March.

Mr. Stettinius, Lease-Lend Administrator, said that the Soviet Union had received more Lease-Lend planes than any other military theatre. The total Lend-Lease aid up to April 1, was 10,319 million dollars.

3RD MAY.—An unidentified plane fired four machine gun bullets over Brooklyn. Three shells pierced an apartment house roof.

4TH MAY.—The Maritime Commission announced that 157 ships totalling 1,662,000 dead-weight tons were delivered during April—another record for ship building by American Merchant Marine Shipyards.

6TH MAY.—Mr. Stettinius, Lend-Lease Administrator, reported that in March Lend-Lease exports were the highest on record and totalled 705 million dollars.

8TH MAY.—Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's special envoy in India, returned to America.

It was reported that Allied Governments, including Russia, had been "orally but officially" informed of an Anglo-American post-war plan envisaging a World Council of Four Powers and a Committee of Eight Nations on which smaller powers would serve in rotation.

12TH MAY.—Mr. Churchill arrived in Washington and was in conference with President Roosevelt. Field-Marshal Wavell was a member of Mr. Churchill's party. This was Mr. Churchill's fourth meeting with the President. President Benes also arrived in Washington.

13TH MAY.—The War Production Board announced that United States war expenditure reached a new height record of 7,290 million dollars in April.

14TH MAY.—President Roosevelt announced that Mr. William Phillips was to return to India.

15TH MAY.—A measure authorizing the construction of one million tons of small naval craft for amphibious warfare was passed rapidly by the House of Representatives.

19TH MAY.—Addressing a joint session of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives at Washington, Mr. Churchill reviewed the progress of the global war. He said: "Immediate and effective help to China is one of the most urgent and important aims

of our common task." . . . "While the defeat of Japan will not mean the defeat of Germany, the defeat of Germany will mean infallibly the ruin of Japan." . . . "We must do what lies in our power to take more of the weight of Russia in 1943. How and when cannot be foreseen, still less foretold."

20TH MAY.—Mr. Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, and Mr. Wei Tao Ming, Chinese Ambassador, signed documents ratifying the treaty relinquishing United States extra territorial rights in China.

1ST JUNE.—The structure of the United Nations permanent organization to free the world from want was disclosed in the final declaration of the Food Conference. The declaration contained seven points.

2ND JUNE.—United States merchant shipyards set up a new record when they delivered 175 vessels aggregating 1,782,000 tons during the month of May.

4TH JUNE.—America's "Beveridge Plan" Social Security Bill was introduced jointly to the House and the Senate. It was hailed by organized Labour as going a long way towards solving the United States post-war unemployment problems.

Mr. Stimson, War Secretary, announced that at least 17,083 American soldiers had been taken prisoners in the war. Of these, the Japanese held 11,307, Germany 3,312 and Italy 2,464. He added that the figures were incomplete.

8TH JUNE.—The United States Senate approved 23,637 million dollars, naval appropriations bill of which 4,583 million dollars was for construction of 29,142 aeroplanes. The bill also provided for 9,118 million dollars for construction of surface vessels.

10TH JUNE.—Colonel Knox, Navy Secretary, said: "To-day there are eight fronts—the Western Mediterranean, Eastern Mediterranean, the Atlantic, the South Atlantic, the South Pacific, the North Pacifim, Russia and China."

12TH JUNE.—The United States War Department announced the development of a 2½ tons six-wheeled amphibian lorry nicknamed "the duck" capable of moving troops, weapons and supplies over land and by water.

17TH JUNE.—President Kalinin of the U.S.S.R. sent a message to President Roosevelt on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the Mutual Aid Agreement between the United States and Russia: "I am profoundly convinced that these ties and military co-operation will grow even stronger thus assuring further successes in our joint struggle and final-victory of the U.S.S.R. and the United States and Great Britain over our common enemy."

18TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt signed a bill authorizing a million ton expansion of the United States Navy's auxiliaries. The Senate passed a 27,637-million-dollar naval appropriation Bill.

The War Production Board announced that the United States aircraft production during May "reached the unprecedented figure of nearly 7,200 planes of all types, and the output will be substantially larger in June."

21ST JUNE.—The House of Representatives unanimously voaed at 71,000-million-dollar army supply Bill—the largest single money measure in the history of the Congress.

28TH JUNE.—President Roosevelt signed the largest Naval Appropriation Bill in America providing approximately 33,000 million dollars for the fiscal year starting on July 1. Five thousand million dollars of the total amount is to provide the Navy with additional 27,000 planes.

29TH JUNE.—The British High Commissioner in Canada, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, said that at least 14 Axis submarines had been sunk in the last two weeks. "We had a dead submarine served up for breakfast every day for the past fortnight."

Captain Leland Lovett of the Public Relations Department of the United States Navy said that May was "the finest month" in overseas shipping and the sinking of U-boats.

2ND JULY.—A 71,500-million-dollar bill was signed into law by President Roosevelt, three times as much money to spend in the next tweve months as America spent during the whole of the last war.

11TH JULY.—Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary of War, arrived in London.

20TH JULY.—United States Lease-Lend Aid for June totalled 1,030 million dollars, making the aggregate value of the United States' assistance to the Allies nearly 18 milion dollars. This is the first time lease-lend has exceeded a billion dollars in a sigle month.

24TH JULY.—President Roosevelt said that the purpose of the Rome raid was to save the lives of Allied troops in Sicily. It was not a matter of retaliation but military necessity.

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador, said: "Lease-Lend is no longer a one-way proposition. England and the British Commonwealth are now giving the United States as much as they are receiving."

30TH JULY.—President Roosevelt warned neutral countries against giving asylum to war criminals.

31ST JULY.—United States diplomats in neutral countries conveyed President Roosevelt's request to their Governments that they should refuse asylum to Mussolini, Hitler, Tojo or any of their "gang" wanted as war criminals.

7TH AUG.—Admiral Ernest J. King, United States Chief of Naval Operations, said to-day (on the anniversary of the invasion of the Solomon Islands), that the Allied world strategy aimed at keeping China in the war against Japan and exerting "every possible effort" to assist Russia.

8TH AUG.—Colonel Frank Knox, United States Secretary for the Navy, proposed a three-point programme as a contribution by the United States to the rebuilding of the world after the war. They were: (i) Contributions from its military strength to world security; (ii) contributing to an economic system for a free exchange of goods throughout the world, (iii) establishment of a world in which people wanting freedom could achieve it.

9TH AUG.—President Roosevelt returned to Washington after a week's holiday in Canada.

10TH AUG.—Mr. Churchill arrived in Canada for war talks. Mr. Churchill, it was reported, would confer with President Roosevelt after his talks with Mr. Mackenzie King, the Canadian Prime Minister.

Previous Churchill-Roosevelt meetings were: (1) In August 1941 on board H.M.S. *Prince of Wales* to draw up the Atlantic Charter; (2) in December 1941 in Washington after Pearl Harbour; (3) in June 1942 in Washington with shipping experts; (4) in January 1943 at Casablanca where the "unconditional surrender of the enemy" declaration was signed; (5) in May 1943 in Washington with Field-Marshal Wavell to plan Allied offensive in south-west Pacific.

The Daily Mail's diplomatic correspondent said: "Mr. Churchill's immediate object is throughout to be reconsideration of the plans laid down at the Casablanca Conference."

12TH AUG.—Marshal Stalin cabled Canada informing Allied leaders of his regret at being unable to attend the Quebec Conference.

Mr. Churchill arrived in United States.

14TH AUG.—President Roosevelt, in a message, said: "To-day on the second anniversary of the signing of the Atlantic Charter, I would cite particularly two of its purposes and principles. The first is, respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of Government under which they will live. . . The second is, world-wide collaboration with the object of security for all."

President Roosevelt stated that 90 U-boats had been sunk during the months of May, June and July and the United Nations' shipping increased by over 3-million tons. [President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill issued a joint statement on the subject.]

15TH AUG.—A Gallup Poll of Democrat voters throughout the United States showed that 83 per cent were in favour of a fourth term as President for Mr. Roosevelt.

The (London) *Observer's* diplomatic correspondent stated that M. Stalin had sent a letter to President Roosevelt on the eve of the Conference couched in extremely cordial terms.

Mr. Churchill returned to Quebec after his Conference with President Roosevelt.

17TH AUG.—Plans for the invasion of the Italian mainland were taken up at the Quebec Conference.

18TH AUG.—Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, arrived in Quebec.

20TH AUG.—The Soviet paper *War and the Working Class* in an editorial demanded a three-power conference of Britain, United States and Russia.

21ST AUG.—Broad military planning at the Quebec Conference concluded. It was reported that arrangements had been made for a considerable increase in the Lease-Lend aid to Russia. It was also reported that an all-out attack for crushing Japan would be launched from Canada's shores.

Mr. Sumner Welles, acting United States Secretary of State, said that the State Department had received a notification from the Italian Government of its desire to make Rome an open city.

22ND AUG.—M. Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador to United States, was released from his post and M. Andrey Gromyko was appointed in his place.

24TH AUG.—The Conference at Quebec ended. President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill issued a joint statement.

According to the Washington *Evening Star*, Mr. Sumner Welles resigned his post of Under Secretary of State.

25TH AUG.—President Roosevelt addressed the Canadian Parliament.

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

1942

31ST AUG.—It was revealed that organized guerilla bands armed with spears, slings, bow and arrows were operating with deadly effect against the Japanese on the Assam-Burma border.

7TH SEP.—The Commander-in-Chief of Ceylon warned the public against a false sense of security and exhorted them to be ever on guard. He said: "The enemy still has penalty of sting left in his tail."

14TH SEP.—The Royal Air Force attacked Mandalay.

17TH SEP.—According to a New York message, the Grady Report proposed great expenditure of money and materials to assist India to enlarge the productive capacity particularly of war materials.

24TH SEP.—News of extensive plots to assassinate high Japanese personalities in Malaya was disclosed by the Tokyo radio.

29TH SEP.—General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, speaking at a dinner in New Delhi, said: "Ever since the loss of Burma, I have been planning its reoccupation because strategically it is one of the most important areas in the war."

30TH SEP.—Brig. Chennault, Chief of the United States Air Force in China, in a press interview, said: "Japanese dreams of conquering India before the Germans will be unattainable while the Americans continue to hit Japan's conquests from bases in China."

1ST OCT.—Plans for the rebuilding of Burma were discussed by the British War Cabinet.

5TH OCT.—British determination to recapture Burma at the earliest opportunity was re-emphasized by His Excellency Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, Governor of Burma, when addressing personnel of the Royal Burma Navy. "I am fully convinced that as things are moving now, the day is not very far distant when we will meet again in Rangoon."

8TH OCT.—Hostile aircraft were over various points in Bengal within recent weeks.

19TH OCT.—Mr. Li Shao-ta, a Chinese leader from Johore, who arrived in Chungking reported large-scale systematic killing, plundering and burning by the Japanese in Malaya.

24TH OCT.—In the course of a press interview, Maulvi Mutabir Hussain Chowdhury, Minister for Civil Defence, Assam, said that any Japanese attempt to invade India was bound to fail.

It was revealed that a powerful British battle squadron was operating in the Indian Ocean and off the east coast of Africa.

27TH OCT.—Japanese aircraft attacked the airfield drome at Chittagong and some airfields in north-east Assam.

7TH NOV.—Sir Bertram Stevens, formerly Australian Member of the Eastern Group Supply Council in New Delhi, in the course of a speech at Sydney (Australia), said: "In the post-war New Order in Asia the westerners will have no special advantages simply because their skins are white . . . Europeans and Americans will regard the Chinese, Indians, Malayas and Japanese as friends of equal status."

15TH NOV.—Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, in a message to Indians in the Far East (at present under the domination of the Japanese), said: "By what I have seen during these two months in Britain, I am convinced of the inevitability of the victory of the United Nations. Your trials will soon be over and you will be free to join the great federation of nations."

26TH NOV.—One heavily armed Japanese raider was sunk in a battle in the Indian Ocean. Two of her aircraft also were sunk by an Indian mine-sweeper, H.I.M.S. *Bengal* and a Dutch tanker.

29TH NOV.—British troops occupied Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

2ND DEC.—American aircraft made a day-light raid on Port Blair in the Andamans. Docks and warehouses at Rangoon were heavily bombed in a night attack.

It was revealed that the Japanese did not hold the whole of Burma.

7TH DEC.—Japanese aircraft made a brief attack on Chittagong area. Only slight damage was caused.

12TH DEC.—Japanese aircraft raided Chittagong. Slight damage was caused. The Royal Air Force destroyed three of the raiders.

13TH DEC.—Mr. William Phillips was appointed American Ambassador to India.

A 8,000-ton German freighter carrying valuable cargo, scuttled herself in Indian Ocean when intercepted by Allied naval forces.

17TH DEC.—Chittagong area was again raided. Three enemy planes were destroyed.

18TH DEC.—Japanese aircraft again raided Chittagong and Feni.

20TH DEC.—Allied troops moved into Burma and pushed into Arakan.

Calcutta was bombed for the first time.

23RD DEC.—There were two more raids on Calcutta. Casualties and damage were slight.

24TH DEC.—The U.S. planes raided Rangoon.

25TH DEC.—Allied troops occupied a district in Burma.

26TH DEC.—Calcutta was again bombed.

General Wavell, in a message to the fighting forces, said: "The War has now entered a new phase."

29TH DEC.—Calcutta was again raided. A Japanese bomber was shot down.

1943

1ST JAN.—General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of India, was made Field-Marshal.

8TH JAN.—Mr. Phillipps, President Roosevelt's representative in India, arrived.

14TH JAN.—There was heavy fighting in Burma for Rathedaung. Indian troops captured Temple Hill.

16TH JAN.—Flight Sergeant Pring of the Royal Air Force shot down three enemy aircraft over Calcutta in four minutes.

17TH JAN.—Japanese attacks near Rathedaung were repulsed.

18TH JAN.—A Japanese convoy was attacked south of Rangoon by American aircraft. One cargo ship was sunk and another damaged.

Japanese aircraft attacked Feni aerodrome in Chittagong area. One raider was shot down.

20TH JAN.—Calcutta was again raided. One enemy plane was damaged.

A place near Rathedaung was captured by British troops.

22ND JAN.—Chittagong was again attacked. Two enemy planes were destroyed.

27TH JAN.—A Royal Indian Navy ship on patrol in the Mayu river area in Burma rammed and sank an enemy coastal craft.

17TH FEB.—The Hon. Sir H. P. Mody, the Hon. Mr. N. R. Sarcar and the Hon. Mr. M. S. Aney, Members of the Viceroy's Executive Council, resigned in connexion with the Government's decision not to release Mr. Gandhi unconditionally.

22ND FEB.—Hundraj M. Parwani, a prominent Congressman of Sind, who returned to India after an adventurous escape from the Japanese in East Asia, said: "Japan's professions of friendliness and goodwill towards India are insincere and false, meant only to deceive India. Conditions in India would, in the event of a Japanese victory, be a hundred times worse than at present."

23RD FEB.—An attack representing the first Japanese offensive against a United States base was made on an American air-base in Assam.

3RD MAR.—Ten enemy fighters appeared over Chittagong but turned back before the Royal Air Force could engage them.

4TH MAR.—The United States Office of War Information said that India was being strengthened with the aid of Lend-Lease as the source of supply for the Allied armies in China, India and the Middle East.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Cranborne (Leader of the House) said that air transport to China was being increased but "no radical improvement could be expected until the reconquest of Burma made the Burma Road to China once more available. That must remain the primary object of our strategy."

16TH MAR.—Field-Marshal Wavell said: "We have accomplished the imperative task that lay on us after the fall of Malaya and Burma to secure India from the threat of a major attack from the east by sea, land or air."

The London *Times*, commenting on the Japanese counter-stroke in Burma, said: "Whatever the result, it does not seem over-optimistic to say that days of acute anxiety for the safety of India are over."

17TH MAR.—Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's Personal Representative in India, visited Madras.

19TH MAR.—M. Atay (leader of the Turkish Press Delegation), writing in the semi-official *Ulus*, said: "In India, military training centres established in accordance with the most modern methods are training hundreds of thousands of Indian volunteers for motorized and mechanized units. . . With a freedom greater than actually exists in 90 per cent of the European countries, the Indian press enjoys the right not only of discussion but of struggle."

24TH MAR.—Enemy aircraft made a brief attack on an airfield in south-eastern Bengal.

27TH MAR.—Admiral Layton, Commander-in-Chief, said: "Ceylon must expect to remain on the front line for some time and as long as it does so, our defences have got to remain alert and vigilant."

28TH MAR.—Twelve enemy aircraft were destroyed in a series of fierce air combats over the Arakan front.

Ten enemy bombers were shot down and many others were damaged over Cox's Bazaar (south-eastern Bengal).

30TH MAR.—The Royal Air Force intercepted 12 Japanese fighters south of Cox's Bazaar. Three enemy aircraft were badly damaged.

The whole of Bengal was declared by the Government of India to be a "raid area" that is, a place "where serious threat of air raids at present exists from the East."

31ST MAR.—About 22 Japanese bombers attacked objectives in south-east Bengal. Thirteen enemy planes were damaged.

4TH APR.—United States bomber completed a 11,748 miles flight from America to India in 67 hours and 35 minutes, establishing a new record for delivery of aircraft over this distance.

5TH APR.—Members of the Chinese Educational and Cultural Mission visited Madras.

6TH APR.—The Royal Air Force intercepted a force of more than 50 Japanese bombers and fighters which attempted to attack south-east Bengal. Eleven of the enemy aircraft were damaged.

8TH APR.—Mr. Churchill stated in the Commons that India had provided accommodation and, where necessary, support for over 400,000 evacuees.

10TH APR.—A formation of enemy fighters which appeared over south-east Bengal was driven off.

The *Times*, writing on the Arakan campaign, said: "The recovery of Burma and relief of China both depend primarily on a combination of superior sea and air power. . . Until then operations in the Arakan must remain in essence diversionary and defensive."

16TH APR.—Two parties of Japanese were ambushed in the Mayu hills.

17TH APR.—Mr. Churchill sent a message to His Excellency Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy, paying a tribute to Indian troops now fighting in Tunisia.

18TH APR.—An air raid alert was sounded in Cuttack.

23RD APR.—It was disclosed that the Japanese were guilty of murder of British and Indian prisoners of war.

30TH APR.—An alert was sounded at Jorhat (Assam). Some enemy planes were sighted which were chased away.

3RD MAY.—Enemy bombers attacked an airfield in south-east Bengal. One Japanese bomber was shot down.

10TH MAY.—American cargo planes landed in India after completing the longest and largest mass flight in history.

13TH MAY.—His Excellency the Viceroy in a broadcast on the Tunisian victory, paid a rich tribute to the famous Fourth Indian Division which was in at the kill.

14TH MAY.—Allied troops withdrew from Maungadu.

22ND MAY.—A force of Japanese fighters was engaged near Cox's Bazaar by the Royal Air Force. One enemy plane was destroyed and others damaged.

23RD MAY.—The Royal Air Force destroyed or damaged 20 Japanese bombers, escorted by 11 fighters, which attacked Chittagong airfield.

30TH MAY.—Fifteen Japanese bombers attacked Chittagong airfield.

7TH JUNE.—It was revealed that the total number of civilian casualties in all Japanese air raids on India was 1,694.

8TH JUNE.—According to the *Daily Mail's* Military correspondent. "Brigadier Wingate's foray into Burma upset Japanese planes for penetrating Indian territory, while India has been left in comparative peace to train men and build up supplies for the future."

14TH JUNE.—A column of British, Indian and Burmese troops, part of the Wingate expedition into Burma, arrived back in India from China.

17TH AND 18TH JUNE.—It was announced that Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell had been appointed Viceroy and Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India.

1ST JULY.—Mr. Amery gave details of India's food position in the House of Commons, and attributed shortage to grave maldistribution. In answer to another question he declared that no cost of living index numbers were available for the whole of India, but working class index for Bombay city, which was a reliable guide, showed the figure 225 for last April (1943) compared to 105 for August 1939. Wages had risen by 75 per cent and there were also cost of living allowances.

6TH JULY.—*His Excellency General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India, made his first public utterance at a press conference in New Delhi, and said that two years ago India was a base of operations, but now she had a war front and had to defend her own frontier.*

15TH JULY.—Lieut.-General Sir Noel Beresford-Peirse, G.O.C. in charge, Southern Army, addressed the Standing Committee of the All-India Editors' Conference in Bombay. He explained how the Southern Army had been helping the civil Government in conveying foodstuffs and other essential materials for consumption by the civil population.

19TH JULY.—An enemy aircraft approached the east coast of Ceylon.

5TH AUG.—General George Stratmeyer, former Chief of Staff, United States Army Air Force, arrived in Delhi on an "undisclosed but important" mission.

9TH AUG.—General Sir Edward Pellew Quinan, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, North-western Army, retired from service for reasons of health at his own request.

10TH AUG.—Twenty-four men from a British ship torpedoed in the Indian Ocean arrived at a group of islands in the Indian Ocean after being at sea for nearly a month.

11TH AUG.—The Government of India sanctioned the raising of fourth unit in the Civil Pioneer Force in Madras Province—two Tamil companies and two Telugu companies.

14TH AUG.—It was reported that Turkey was now buying from India textile goods, which she formerly bought from Britain. Five hundred tons of cotton yarn had already been shipped from India, there were 1,750 tons of piece-goods still to be bought and 6,000 tons of jute purchases were awaiting shipment.

It was reported that Mr. William Phillips would return to India soon.

16TH AUG. Heavy bombers of the 10th United States Air Force attacked enemy installation on Chatham Island in the Andaman group. Direct hits were obtained on warehouses and other buildings causing great destruction and starting large fires.

19TH AUG.—Brigadier-General H. C. Davidson assumed command of the United States Army 10th Air Force in place of General Clayton Bissell.

22ND AUG.—According to a report by the War Department by Captain Clarke Johnston: "Air bombing has so crippled the Japanese war effort in Burma that they have not been able to exploit the country or use it as an invasion base."

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

1942

30TH AUG.—A heavy raid was made on Tobruk by the Royal Air Force.

1ST SEP.—All British troops left Addis Ababa except a small guard of 50 men for the British Legation.

2ND SEP.—Marshal Rommel launched an attack on Egypt.

3RD SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie, President Roosevelt's Personal Representative, arrived in Cairo.

4TH SEP.—Allied heavy bombers raided Tobruk.

6TH SEP.—Rommel's attack was halted by the British whose armour he failed to split.

12TH SEP.—Three important places were captured in Madagascar.

13TH SEP.—Field-Marshal Rommel issued instructions to his troops that there should be no withdrawals.

15TH SEP.—Ambanja, on the west coast of Madagascar, was taken by the British.

17TH SEP.—The Governor-General of Madagascar, M. Annet, sued to cease fire. Peace envoys were sent to British Commander.

19TH SEP.—British terms for an armistice in Madagascar were rejected by Mr. Annet, the Governor-General, and French resistance was continued.

24TH SEP.—British troops occupied Antamanarivo, capital of Madagascar.

Air Vice-Marshal Wilfred Ashton McClaughry succeeded Air Vice-Marshal K. Rodney Park as Air Officer Commanding, Egypt.

26TH SEP.—Troops in Madagascar still under Vichy orders retired into the southern part. M. Annet, Governor-General of Madagascar, who left the capital, arrived at a "fairly inaccessible place" in Madagascar.

29TH SEP.—German planes bombed and machine-gunned Cairo.

30TH SEP.—The last remaining port in the southern part of Madagascar, Tulear, surrendered without opposition to the British forces.

6TH OCT.—Three thousand alerts had been sounded in Malta since the war began.

10TH OCT.—Ethiopia joined the ranks of the United Nations.

13TH OCT.—American forces arrived in South Africa.

17TH OCT.—It was revealed that Greek troops were fighting on the Egyptian front.

21ST OCT.—The British forces took prisoner the French Commander in Madagascar.

24TH OCT.—The Royal Air Force heavily bombed Genoa. The Italian naval base was damaged. Turin also was raided.

25TH OCT.—Vichy air force was mopped up in Madagascar.

The Eighth Army opened an offensive in the Western Desert.

26TH OCT.—The Royal Air Force raided Milan and bombed important arms works.

Allied troops penetrated the main Axis line in Egypt.

28TH OCT.—Axis ships in Tobruk were destroyed.

29TH OCT.—Lord Croft, Joint Parliamentary Secretary of War, described the offensive in Egypt as a "battle of great moment."

31ST OCT.—The East African troops entered Fianarantsoa, the most important town in South Madagascar.

5TH NOV.—Axis troops retreated in disorder in Western Desert. Over 9,000 Axis prisoners were taken, including General Ritter Von Thoma, Commander of the German Afrika Korps.

5TH NOV.—Hostilities ceased in Madagascar. Armistice terms were signed.

6TH NOV.—Axis troops were in full retreat in Egypt. General Montgomery's order of the day stated: "The enemy is in our power and he is about to crack. I call on all the troops to keep up the pressure and not to relax for a single moment."

8TH NOV.—American Army, Navy and Air Forces landed on French North Africa.

9TH NOV.—Mersa Matruh fell into the hands of the Allies.

10TH NOV.—Algiers fell into the hands of the American army. Hostilities were suspended.

Axis forces retreated into Libya. Enemy troops at Mersa Matruh surrendered. Halfaya Pass road was partially destroyed. Forty thousand prisoners were taken. Major Burckhardt, famous parachutist who took part in the landing at Crete, was taken prisoner.

A big naval engagement began off Casablanca between the French fleet and the Allied units. The 3,500 ton French cruiser *Jean Bart* was hit. A large number of landings were effected by the American army at Oran.

France broke off relations with the United States.

11TH NOV.—United States troops entered Tunisia and advanced in the direction of Bizerta.

American troops captured Oran and American naval forces, overcame French resistance in Casablanca.

Admiral Darlan was a prisoner in the hands of the United States troops at Algiers.

12TH NOV.—American troops took Rabat and poured into Casablanca.

The Eighth Army entered Libya.

13TH NOV.—The Eighth Army entered Cyrenaica.

14TH NOV.—Allies retook Tobruk. Sollum and Bardia were occupied. Nine Italian Generals were captured.

15TH NOV.—Petain censured Darlan. A naval engagement was fought off Algiers.

President Roosevelt directed the Lease-Lend Administration to extend food, clothing and arms to the peoples of the North African territories occupied by American troops.

16TH NOV.—Admiral Darlan appointed General Giraud Commander-in-Chief of North Africa.

The Italian fleet in co-operation with Italian and German air forces, engaged British and American naval forces off North Africa. Thirteen U-boats were destroyed.

17TH NOV.—British troops occupied Mertuba.

General Giraud in a broadcast appeal to the French forces said: "We have but one enemy, one who has occupied our country and keeps one million of our comrades prisoner. We shall first have to drive him out of Africa, then out of France."

18TH NOV.—Allied troops occupied Derna and Mekili.

19TH NOV.—American parachutists were warmly received by French soldiers at a Tunisian aerodrome. The Sultan of Morocco told General Patton, United States Commander-in-Chief in Morocco: "We are glad to receive the Americans as friends and express the best wishes for the prosperity of our countries from now on."

20TH NOV.—British advance units contacted Rommel's army south of Benghazi.

21ST NOV.—German troops evacuated Benghazi.

Admiral Darlan broadcasting over the Algiers Radio said that Petain was still "the living incarnation of France," but that with the invasion of unoccupied territory, he had lost his freedom of action.

22ND NOV.—The whole of Cyrenaica fell into British hands. The Allies launched a three pronged drive on Bizerta.

24TH NOV.—Tunis and Bizerta were surrounded.

25TH NOV.—British troops occupied Agedabia and Gialo in the interior of Libya.

28TH NOV.—Toulon was occupied by German forces. French troops offered resistance to German and Italian troops. All vessels of the French squadron at Toulon harbour scuttled themselves.

Mussolini assumed command of the Italian forces in Libya.

2ND DEC.—Riots broke out in the naval arsenal at Toulon. The French army and navy were disbanded.

French submarines that escaped from Toulon reached Algiers and Valencia.

3RD DEC.—Mussolini, speaking to Italian officials and Fascist party members, said that in the Royal Air Force raids on Italian cities, 1,876 were killed and 3,300 injured; 5,772 houses were destroyed in Genoa. During 30 months of war, 40,000 Italians were killed, 232,700 taken prisoner.

Admiral Darlan assumed the powers of Chief of State in French Africa.

5TH DEC.—The siege of Tunis began.

British and American troops crossed the border of the French Colony of Ivory Coast in West Africa.

The Rome radio said that Italians were fighting to prove to the world that Italians were not just a nation of pub-keepers, fiddlers, tourist guides, waiters or hotel-keepers.

7TH DEC.—Marshal Badoglio was arrested by the Italian secret police for being involved in a plot against the Duce.

9TH DEC.—General Eisenhower announced that Dakar had been handed over for the use of United Nations.

United States Navy Secretary, Col. Knox, announced that one-quarter of the French fleet in Toulon had been captured intact.

15TH DEC.—In the battle of El Agheila, Rommel was thrown out and he retreated.

The administration of Madagascar was handed over to General de Gaulle.

19TH DEC.—Britain reached a working agreement with Darlan.

20TH DEC.—Axis forces evacuated Nofilia.

24TH DEC.—Admiral Darlan was assassinated by a Frenchman.

25TH DEC.—British advanced units reached Buerat.

26TH DEC.—Darlan's assassin was executed by the orders of a French court-martial.

28TH DEC.—General Giraud succeeded Darlan as French Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.

30TH DEC.—French Somaliland joined the Allies.

1943

10TH JAN.—German troops were thrown back in Tunisia.

11TH JAN.—Castel Benito was bombed.

16TH JAN.—Iraq declared war on the Axis.

18TH JAN.—Axis troops retreated in Tripolitania.

23RD JAN.—Tripoli fell into the hands of the Allies. Rommel withdrew into Tunisia.

27TH JAN.—Zuara was occupied by Allied troops.

28TH JAN.—Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt completed a ten-day meeting in Casablanca. They reached complete agreement regarding the offensive programme of 1943.

General Giraud and General de Gaulle also met at Casablanca and announced an agreement.

31ST JAN.—The Eighth Army's forward elements crossed the Tunisian border.

2ND FEB.—General Giraud informed a press representative that he was raising a French army of 300,000 men whom President Roosevelt would equip for the Battle of Europe.

3RD FEB.—The Eighth Army reached the Mareth Line.

7TH FEB.—A North Africa Theatre of Operations was established with General Eisenhower in command.

General Giraud was appointed supreme head of the French African Government.

9TH FEB.—General Montgomery's army crossed into Tunisia on the coastal sector.

11TH FEB.—British troops narrowly missed capturing Rommel in El Alamein by a few minutes.

12TH FEB.—General Eisenhower was appointed Allied Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.

13TH FEB.—The Eighth Army released over 2,000 Jews, residents of Tobruk, Derna, Barce and Benghazi.

14TH FEB.—The Government of Albania resigned.

21ST FEB.—General Sir H. Alexander took over command of all land forces in Tunisia.

General Catroux was appointed permanent Liaison Officer between the Fighting French and General Giraud.

28TH FEB.—American troops entered Kasserine. Enemy attacks were repulsed in the areas of Jebel Mansour, Bon Arlada and Medjez el Bah.

The Eighth Army pierced the defences of the Mareth Line at several places.

4TH MAR.—Axis armies retreated on the whole of Central Tunisia, having suffered enormous losses.

6TH MAR.—The American troops took Pichon.

8TH MAR.—Rommel's attack on the Eighth Army ended in complete failure and cost the Germans a heavy toll of men and armour.

15TH MAR.—According to the Algiers Radio, General Giraud told General Catroux that he was ready to receive General de Gaulle. General Giraud added: "The moment for the union of all Frenchmen of good faith has arrived."

18TH MAR.—The Algiers Radio announced that French Guiana had joined General Giraud.

The United States troops took Gafsa.

General Giraud issued decrees relegating 62 discriminatory Vichy laws against Jews and restoring elective municipal assemblies.

21ST MAR.—American armoured units captured Sened.

22ND MAR.—Under powerful air support from both the Western Desert and the Tunisian air forces, General Montgomery flung the Eighth Army against Axis prepared positions along the Mareth Line and the Battle of Tunisia began. The Eighth Army launched the attack on a six-mile front.

28TH MAR.—General Giraud, for the first time appointed a Jew to a ministerial post.

29TH MAR.—General Montgomery's troops reached El Hamma. The British First Army's offensive in Jebel Abiod succeeded. Rommel fell back to Gabes area. Many prisoners were taken along the Mareth Line.

30TH MAR.—British troops occupied Gabes. Rommel's troops gave up all fortified positions and retreated north along the coast. American and French troops converged on Kaironan.

4TH APR.—Allied troops captured Cape Serrat.

5TH APR.—American Flying Fortresses raided Naples, the heaviest raid of the war on that port. Huge fires were started. Fourteen ships, two of them liners, were hit in the harbour.

The British First Army, which included French troops, advanced beyond Cape Serrat.

General Giraud who paid a visit to Gabes said: "The Axis will have to do 'Dunkirk' from Africa. There will be lots of white caps floating in the Mediterranean soon."

8TH APR.—The Eighth Army linked up with United States forces from Gafsa. General Montgomery sent congratulations to the General Officer Commanding the Fourth Indian division on the brilliant victory at Wadi Arakit.

10TH APR.—The Eighth Army took Sfax.

General Montgomery's order to the Eighth Army stated: "I doubt if our Empire has ever possessed such a magnificent fighting machine as the Eighth Army. It may become a household word all over the world."

13TH APR.—General Montgomery's advanced guards reached Enfidaville. An Indian battalion captured an entire German unit of 400 men. Axis forces in Maknassy were trapped.

20TH APR.—The Eighth Army launched an attack on the Enfidaville line.

24TH APR.—A great attack on the Axis perimeter began. Goubellat in Central Tunisia fell into the hands of the British.

An agreement was reached on all essential points between General Giraud and General de Gaulle.

3RD MAY.—Allied troops captured Mateur.

7TH MAY.—British and American forces captured Tunis and Bizerta. The occupation was complete.

9TH MAY.—General Eisenhower stated that organized Axis resistance had ended in Tunisia. Three German divisional Commanders were captured. The Germans were machine-gunned by planes on their 'Dunkirk' beaches as they tried to get away in small craft. The

Algiers Radio said that about 120,000 Axis troops had been encircled. Twenty-thousand prisoners had been taken.

The Soviet Press hailed the Allied victory in Tunisia as a prelude to a second front. His Majesty the King sent a message to General Eisenhower.

11TH MAY.—It was revealed that Axis armies in North Africa left a total of 476,000 prisoners in Allied hands since 1940 and up to May 9. Of these, 280,000 were Italians, 106,000 Germans and the remaining unspecified.

12TH MAY.—Allied forces reached the extreme tip of Cape Bon Peninsula. Axis forces were encircled.

It was officially announced that von Arnim was taken prisoner at Cape Bon.

13TH MAY.—According to Reuter's special correspondent, armed Axis resistance ended officially at 20-15 hours on Wednesday night (May 12). The Axis losses throughout the Libyan and Tunisian Campaigns totalled 600,000, The German casualties totalled 250,000 against 354,000 Italians.

14TH MAY.—It was revealed that 2,000 Axis planes were destroyed in the entire North African campaign, that Hitler lost three of his best Panzer formations and Mussolini every armoured division he ever had in the battle of Africa.

16TH MAY.—General Alexander reported to Mr. Churchill: "Prime Minister, Sir, it is my duty to report that the Tunisian compaign is over. All enemy resistance has ceased. We are masters of the North African shore."

General Eisenhower, in a message to His Excellency the Viceroy, said: "We are indeed proud to have had your gallant Indian troops fighting with us in Africa and we look forward to the next opportunity of beating our common enemy in whatever part of the world he may be found."

The Algiers radio announced that the investiture of the new Bey of Tunis, Sidi Alim Pasha took place in Tunis.

17TH MAY.—Bordeaux was attacked by British and American planes.

19TH MAY.—Captain Balfour, Under Secretary for Air, stated in the House of Commons that there was no assurance or agreement of any kind whatever that Rome should not be bombed.

21ST MAY.—Bombs were dropped on Malta for the first time since December. Two raiders were shot down and several others damaged.

22ND MAY.—Twenty-eight thousand British, French and American troops who saved Tunis from the Germans marched through the city in the biggest Allied victory parade of the war. General Giraud and General Eisenhower took the salute.

26TH MAY.—Nearly 400 Allied planes attacked Sicily, Sardinia and Pantellaria.

30TH MAY.—General de Gaulle arrived in Algiers. He was welcomed by General Giraud and General Catroux. General Giraud in the course of a statement said: "Agreement has been reached between the French National Committee in London and the French High Command in Algiers."

31ST MAY.—The Algiers radio stated that Generals Giraud and de Gaulle have agreed to send a common representative to Washington.

2ND JUNE.—M. Peyrouten resigned the Governor-Generalship of Algeria.

3RD JUNE.—Mr. E. Stettinius, United States Lend-Lease Administrator, said that a cheque of a further 10 million dollars was received from General Giraud as part payment for Lend-Lease supplies sent to French North Africa.

It was announced that French leaders meeting in Algiers had settled their differences and had formed a Committee of National Liberation which, when the invasion came, would take over the administration in France. It was further announced that General Catroux would take the place of M. Peyrouten. The de Gaulle-Giraud talks were resumed.

7TH JUNE.—It was revealed that the Allies had massed five major armies along the 3,000 miles of African coast line to strike across the Mediterranean and knock Italy out of the war. British and American papers said that an invasion of Europe was imminent—"the last and bloodiest phase of the war in Europe."

10TH JUNE.—*The island of Pantelleria surrendered and was occupied by Allied troops.*

12TH JUNE.—*It was officially announced that Lampedusa had surrendered.*

The French Committee of National Liberation reached an agreement regarding the discharge of high army officers with an anti-Allied Fascist or Petainist background.

13TH JUNE.—*The island of Linosa surrendered.*

14TH JUNE.—*The Italian island of Lampione was captured.*

16TH JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited the British First and Eighth Armies, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force in North Africa. [On a previous occasion, His Majesty visited the British Army in France early in 1940.]

18TH JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Gibraltar.

19TH JUNE.—Martial Law was proclaimed in eight provinces in Italy.

21ST JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Tunis and inspected the First Army.

22ND JUNE.—His Majesty the King visited Malta.

An agreement was reached owing to the intervention of the Allies in the French dispute on compromise over the reorganization of the French forces.

25TH JUNE.—Goebbels writing in *Das Reich* said: "The Anglo-American invasion attempt may well be a prelude to the decision of the war. The Anglo-American powers possess enough shipping and armed forces to land at any given point in Europe."

26TH JUNE.—Ten German divisions were moved into northern Italy to guard the approaches to the Brenner Pass. Two hundred tons of high explosives and incendiary bombs smothered a train, a ferry terminus, docks and marshalling yards at Messina.

4TH JULY.—*General Sikorski, the Polish Premier, was killed in an aircraft crash near Gibraltar while he was on his way to London from the Middle East.* The General was 62.

4TH JULY.—King George of Greece broadcast from Cairo to his people in Greece and promised a Constituent Assembly after the war to consider political reforms.

7TH JULY.—Responsible Government was to be given to Malta after the war, stated the Colonial Secretary Colonel Oliver Stanley in a statement in the House of Commons.

10TH JULY.—*Powerful Allied Forces under the command of General Eisenhower, began landing operations in Sicily with the support of the British and American Naval Forces and Allied aircraft.*

12TH JULY.—The Allies were in possession of all major Italian ports and airfields in south-east corner of Sicily —*Syracuse, Avola, Pachino, Pozallo, Seoglitti, Gela, Licata, Ispica, Rosolini* and *Noto.*

14TH JULY.—The defences of Catania were stormed.

16TH JULY.—Prisoners taken by the Allies in Sicily totalled 20,000. Naples, Foggia and Genoa, all in Italy, were the targets of heavy Allied air raids.

A message from President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill was broadcast from Algiers to the Italian people, informing them that the time had come for them to decide whether the Italians shall die for Mussolini and Hitler or live for Italy and for civilization.

18TH JULY.—General Eisenhower designated General Sir Harold Alexander as Military Governor with supreme authority in Sicily.

19TH JULY.—Hitler and Mussolini met in a town in Upper Italy to-day and discussed "Military questions".

Rome was raided by American Flying Fortresses, the first bombs dropping at 9-13 in the morning. The raid was heavy, dropping 350 tons of high explosives and lasted 2½ hours. The raid was on military targets.

21ST JULY.—A general Axis retreat to the north-east tip of Sicily at Messina began.

Malta had its heaviest air raid since December 18, 1942.

23RD JULY.—PALERMO the Capital of Cicily fell. Thirty to forty-five thousand Italians were trapped in Western Sicily by the capture of Palermo.

24TH JULY.—American troops occupied the important port of Marsala.

Mussolini's Black Shirt Legion to whom the defence of Palermo was entrusted, surrendered without a fight.

General Giraud arrived in North Africa from his visit to England.

25TH JULY.—*Sgr. Mussolini resigned. King Victor accepted his resignation. Marshal Badoglio was appointed Premier.*

Mr. Robert Patterson, United States Acting Secretary for War, announced that 5,000 airborne Allied troops had been used in the invasion of Sicily.

26TH JULY.—Italy was placed under martial law. Demonstrations broke out in many parts of Italy, people celebrating the end of Fascism.

The Americans captured the important town of Termini.

28TH JULY.—The newly appointed Italian Cabinet decided to dissolve the Fascist party.

29TH JULY.—General Eisenhower, in a message to the Italian people, said: "We are coming to you as liberators. Your part is to cease immediately any assistance to any German military in your country. If you do this, we will rid you of the Germans and deliver you from the horrors of war."

The Seventh Army captured the towns of Pollina, Castelbuono and Gangi in Sicily.

31ST JULY.—Count Ciano resigned his Ambassadorship to the Vatican.

1ST AUG.—Sgr. Mussolini's wife, his daughter Edda and her husband Count Ciano were arrested.

The Badoglio Government issued an order calling up for military service all Italians of 1927–1942 classes.

The Duke of Spoleto, appointed King of Croatia in May 1941, abdicated his throne on the orders of the King of Italy.

2ND AUG.—The Algiers radio broadcast a warning to the Italian people: "We insist on an unconditional surrender. You have been betrayed by Mussolini, now Badoglio is betraying you. We are at your gates. You will be made to feel the grim realities of war by our future operations."

3RD AUG.—Emperor Haile Selassie, commenting on the fall of Mussolini, said: "The Duce's crimes have been many and serious. Having been one of his victims, Ethopia sees in Mussolini's passing the vindication of justice and humanity."

It was revealed that Indian troops played a great part in Allied landing in Sicily.

4TH AUG.—Marshal Badoglio ordered an enquiry into the fortunes amassed by Fascists under the Mussolini regime.

Mussolini's first newspaper *Avanti* turned against him calling for his arrest and trial as war criminal.

5TH AUG.—Allied troops occupied Catania. Paterno also was captured. The Eighth Army veterans broke the greatest bastion of the Etna line. With the fall of Catania, the Sicilian campaign entered its final phase.

Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, announced that American casualties in Sicily up to July 22 were 6,741, including 500 killed; 3,871 were wounded and 2,370 missing. The Axis losses were substantial.

It was revealed that the Anglo-American Governments were subsidising bread for the Sicilian civilian population.

6TH AUG.—The Rome Radio said: "The Italian financial situation is very grave". Fascist Party funds in all banks were frozen.

It was officially revealed that the Punjabis, Rajputs, Pathans and Baluchis were operating in Sicily as defence troops.

7TH AUG.—A Royal decree extending the state of siege over the whole of Italy was published.

The Americans captured Troina. Pravina an important key town on the central front in Sicily was entered by American troops.

8TH AUG.—The Allied troops captured Adrano. The Eighth Army captured Mascalucia and Belpasso. There were air raids of great dimensions on Turin, Milan and Genoa. Considerable damage was caused.

9TH AUG.—Reuter's Special Correspondent wrote: "The battle for Sicily is over and won. It is now a question of who can walk the fastest." The German evacuation of Sicily was speeded up.

General Montgomery said: "The Germans in Sicily are doomed. The days of the Boches in Sicily are numbered."

13TH AUG.—Bombers of the North-West African Air Force attacked marshalling yards in Rome, Littoria and San Lorenzo. The raid was under the command of Major-General J. H. Doolittle, hero of the Tokyo raid.

14TH AUG.—The Italian Government declared Rome an open City. [The United States State Department intimated that no efficient communique had been received that Rome had been declared an open city. . . . The British Government's attitude was unaffected by the Italian declaration.]

The whole of Mount Etna fell into Allied hands. The Eighth Army up to August 10, took 30,000 prisoners, including 2,600 Germans. Allied air forces harassed shipping trying to cross the Messina Straits. British and American forces captured five more town in Sicily.

17TH AUG.—*The German News Agency announced the evacuation of Sicily. "The last of the German and Italian troops were removed to the main land from Sicily."*

18TH AUG.—Allied and Axis batteries opened up a heavy gun duel across the Straits of Messina.

General Eisenhower assured Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt that the Allied armies were ready to undertake immediate invasion of Italy.

The Axis lost 306 ships in the evacuation attempt at Messina. It was reported that the Axis lost in the Sicilian campaign 167,000 killed, wounded and prisoners.

19TH AUG.—According to an official statement, the German losses in Sicily were two division killed, wounded or prisoners. The Italian Sixth Army was wiped out—the fifth they had lost in this war.

20TH AUG.—The islands of Lipari and Stromboli, the two main islands of Aeolion group, surrendered to a United States naval expedition.

23RD AUG.—Reuter's special correspondent said that along the whole of the North African coast, massive Allied assault forces were concentrated for further invasion of the European fortress.

It was revealed that 400,000 German troops were in Italy.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

1942

29TH AUG.—The Russians broke into Rzhev. General Zhukov, Commander of the Soviet armies on the Central Front, was appointed Stalin's First Deputy Commissar.

The Germans were halted in their drive on Stalingrad.

31ST AUG.—The Nazis met with reverses in the Caucasus. Landings on Black Sea coast were foiled. The Russians advanced on the Kalinin front.

Soviet planes bombed Berlin, Danzig and Koenigsberg.

1ST SEP.—The final struggle for Stalingrad began.

3RD SEP.—Official and unofficial reports declared that Stalingrad, Russia's great tank city, was in great peril.

15TH SEP.—A battle of annihilation was fought before Stalingrad. The enemy withdrew in Caucasus. German hopes of taking Stalingrad faded.

16TH SEP.—Berlin was troubled by Stalingrad's stand. Hitler himself, it was reported, was "appalled at the sacrifice of manpower."

Soviet bombers raided Koenigsberg in Germany and Bucharest and other Rumanian towns. Ploesti was in flames.

19TH SEP.—There was hand-to-hand fighting between the opposing armies in the streets of Stalingrad. The Soviet army launched a successful offensive in the Mozdok area.

21ST SEP.—General von Kleist, reported a Soviet communiqué, was killed in the Mozdok area. He was Hitler's second best tank expert after Guderian and General Von Bock's right hand man. The Germans denied the report.

Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Moscow from Kuibishev.

22ND SEP.—Mr. Willkie was received by M. Molotov.

24TH SEP.—According to a Swedish newspaper, Von Bock was dismissed service.

A big Anglo-American convoy reached Archangel.

26TH SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie visited Rzhev front. According to the Moscow Radio, Major-General Rettan, the German Commanding Officer and other high officers were killed at Rzhev.

30TH SEP.—Marshal Timoshenko launched a second "relief offensive" south of Stalingrad.

1ST OCT.—The Moscow Radio reported that the Rumanian troops massacred 25,000 Russians in Odessa. They were locked in the barracks which were blown up.

5TH OCT.—German drive on Grozny was halted.

6TH OCT.—Referring to M. Stalin's statement on second front, Lord Halifax said there was no misunderstanding between M. Stalin, Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt.

Great fires swept Stalingrad afresh. A new call was issued to the defenders: "Hold on, whatever it costs."

11TH OCT.—Von List replaced Von Bock. Non-stop attacks were launched by Timoshenko.

16TH OCT.—A decisive stage started in the battle of Stalingrad.

18TH OCT.—Russia and Luxemburg agreed to re-establish relations and exchange diplomatic representatives.

19TH OCT.—Timoshenko's armies hammered at the German left flank. The Soviet army consolidated positions north-west of Stalingrad.

22ND OCT.—The Germans made a bid for Grozny, but their attacks were repelled.

25TH OCT.—There was fierce fighting in Novorossisk. The Nazis were bogged at Stalingrad.

29TH OCT.—Admiral Standley, United States Ambassador to Moscow, in a press statement at Washington, said: "Stalingrad will not fall. The Grozny oil fields will remain in Russian hands. The Germans will not get the Baku oil region."

3RD NOV.—German losses before Stalingrad were estimated in Berlin at over half-a-million killed or wounded. The Russians evacuated Nalchik.

6TH NOV.—The brunt of the German attack was switched to the Caucasus.

9TH NOV.—Nazi advance was halted on the Nalchik front. German troops were driven out of several buildings in Stalingrad. In an order of the day, Stalin stated: "We can and must clear the Soviet soil of the Hitlerite vermin."

18TH NOV.—The Red Army retook villages near Nalchik. Points near Stalingrad were also recaptured.

21ST NOV.—The Germans were in full retreat in the Caucasus having been defeated in the battle in the approaches to Ordzonikidze in which 5,000 Germans were killed.

22ND NOV.—The Russian army took the offensive in Mozdok area.

23RD NOV.—The Russians launched an offensive north-west and south of Stalingrad. Kalach, a town on the eastern bank of the Don, was recaptured. The Germans left 14,000 dead on the field.

25TH NOV.—The Soviet army closed round on the Germans besieging Stalingrad. German line south-west of the city was penetrated.

26TH NOV.—The siege of Stalingrad was lifted. The Soviet army broke through the German fortified lines in the industrial area north of the city and pursued the retreating Nazis. Thousands of prisoners were taken. Russian forces broke through the German positions on the Rzhev front also.

27TH NOV.—Axis troops, 300,000 in number, were trapped in the Don elbow as the Russian pincers closed in.

30TH NOV.—The Russians opened an offensive in the Central Sector; 30,000 Axis troops were killed.

2ND DEC.—M. Stalin assumed personal command of the Russian forces in the Central Sector.

5TH DEC.—On Hitler's orders all the Germans wounded in Stalingrad were sent to the Balkans instead of Germany. All contact between the German wounded and the population was forbidden.

Field Marshal Mannerheim informed the International Red Cross that 20,000 Russian prisoners had died of starvation in Finland.

6TH DEC.—The Russians built an invisible underwater bridge on the Central Front, across which Russian monster tanks were hurled at the Germans.

9TH DEC.—The Red Army launched a new offensive near Voronezh.

12TH DEC.—Russian army broke through the enemy lines near Lake Ilmen.

21ST DEC.—German defences were pierced on the Don front.

22ND DEC.—The Red Army entered Velikie Lukie.

24TH DEC.—The Red Army captured Kamensk.

26TH DEC.—The Russians assumed offensive in the Caucasus.

30TH DEC.— Kotelinikovo was captured by the Russians.

1943

4TH JAN.—The Russians captured Mozdok.

7TH JAN.—The Germans withdrew to Rostov and Crimea.

9TH JAN.—The German radio admitted the "incredible Russian success."

14TH JAN.—Nazi troops retreated in disorder in North Caucasus. The Soviet Caucasus and Kalmuk armies linked. The Russian army began mopping up Hitler's 22 trapped divisions in Stalingrad.

18TH JAN.—The Russians captured Millerovo.

19TH JAN.—The Russians crossed the Donetz and recaptured the Voronezh-Kamensk line.

25TH JAN.—In an Order of the Day issued by Stalin, he said: "Forward—to rout the German invaders and to drive them out beyond the limits of our country." The Order added: "The Red Army has broken through the defences of the German Fascist troops on a wide Front, routed 102 enemy divisions and captured over 200,000 prisoners and 13,000 guns."

26TH JAN.—The Russians reoccupied Voronesh; 70,000 Germans were captured in the Caucasus in 11 days.

28TH JAN.—The Russians opened a new offensive in Rzhev.

30TH JAN.—Russian troops occupied Kropotkin in North Caucasus and captured Novo Oskol. Three German Generals fell into the Red Army's hands.

1ST FEB.—The Maikop oil fields were reconditioned after being recaptured by the Russians.

2ND FEB.—Berlin admitted that the remnants of the German Southern group (Sixth Army) at Stalingrad, after having fired the last round of ammunition, were taken prisoner by the Soviet. Sixteen German Generals were captured. Hundreds of Russian women and children streamed back to Stalingrad. The epic struggle of Stalingrad drew to a close.

3RD FEB.—Russian troops entered the Finnish port of Petsamo.

The last of the German forces at Stalingrad surrendered.

9TH FEB.—The Red Army retook Kursk, the key town north of Kharkov. The Germans retreated from Rostov to Taganrog.

12TH FEB.—The Russians retook Lozovaya on the main line to Crimea and landed troops on the Black Sea Coast.

13TH FEB.—The Red Army retook Krasnodar.

15TH FEB.—The Russians took Rostov and Voroshilovgrad. The Germans abandoned Kharkov.

17TH FEB.—The Russians entered Kharkov and closed in on Orel.

21ST FEB.—Krasnograd was taken in the Ukraine. The Russians launched a three-pronged drive on Orel.

In a message on the Red Army Day to M. Kalinin, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, His Majesty the King said: "To mark the profound admiration felt by myself and the peoples of the British Empire, I have given commands for the preparation of the Sword of Honour which it would give me pleasure to present to the City of Stalingrad."

24TH FEB.—The Russians captured Sumy, an important railway junction in Ukraine, and advanced west of Kursk.

In an Order of the Day, Stalin said: "In three months the Red Army has cleared of the enemy the territory of Voronezh and Stalingrad, regions of Chechenoingush and other autonomous republics . . . Mass expulsion of the enemy from the Soviet country has started."

28TH FEB.—The Russian tanks broke into the main German line south of Lake Ladoga.

1ST MAR.—Moscow announced the start of a new Russian offensive against Hitler's Sixteenth Army on the north-west front. The new drive was under the command of Marshal Timoshenko.

2ND MAR.—Marshal Timoshenko's forces smashed through the German Demyansk fortress south of Lake Ilmen.

5TH MAR.—Russian troops closed in on Vyasma. Marshal Timoshenko launched an attack on Staraya Russa.

A new Finnish Government was formed with M. Edwin Linkomies as Prime Minister and M. Henrik Ramsay as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

7TH MAR.—The Moscow Radio announced that by an official decree, M. Stalin had been created Marshal of the Soviet Union.

12TH MAR.—The Russians took Vyasma and converged on Smolensk.

Writing in *Das Reich*, Goebbels said that the German losses in the east were high enough to cause difficulties and "We have not yet reached the summit."

14TH MAR.—According to the military commentator of *Red Star*, Italian losses on the Russian front were 60,000 killed, 69,000 wounded and 46,000 taken prisoner.

21ST MAR.—Hitler, in the course of a speech, admitted that 5,42,000 Germans had been killed in the war.

Timoshenko launched a new offensive south of Lake Ladoga and in the Leningrad area.

5TH APR.—The Russians captured Bakansk, a town on the main Kuban railway.

8TH APR.—The Soviets captured several favourable positions south of Izum.

10TH APR.—Novorossisk was under siege.

15TH APR.—Soviet aircraft attacked Koenigsberg and Danzig.

19TH APR.—It was revealed that the Germans lost nearly 6,000 men in a series of counter-attacks in the Kuban "pocket" of the Caucasus.

26TH APR.—The Moscow Radio broadcast a special announcement by the Soviet Government that the Soviet Government had decided to break off relations with the Polish Government.

29TH APR.—The Russians launched a large scale attack from the Kuban bridgehead.

1ST MAY.—In an order of the day, Stalin said: "The German-Italian Fascist camp is on the verge of a catastrophe . . . Two or three more powerful blows are needed from the West and from the East in order to make the catastrophe for Germany a fact."

7TH MAY.—The Russian army advanced beyond Neberzhaevskaya in the Kuban and occupied a number of important heights north-east of Novorossisk.

16TH MAY.—Red Army forces smashed their way across the Donetz and captured important positions near Lisichansk.

22ND MAY.—Russia's dissolution of the Third International was hailed in Allied quarters as a major Soviet gesture for the establishment of firm and solid relationship with Britain and United States, both for the remainder of the war and the critical post-war era.

[The Moscow radio broadcast a decree by the Executive Committee of the Communist International, recommending the disbandment of the Communist International.]

29TH MAY.—Premier Stalin, in the course of a statement, said that the dissolution of the Communist International was proper and timely because it facilitated the organization of the common onslaught of all freedom-loving nations against the common enemy, Hitlerism.

7TH JUNE.—Reuter's special correspondent stated that the Germans had lost 5,000 aircraft in the air war in Russia.

10TH JUNE.—The Communist International officially came to an end.

21ST JUNE.—Colonel Knox, United States Navy Secretary, paying a tribute to the Russians, said: "In two years of bitter fighting, the people of Russia have shown famous courage and rock-like determination unsurpassed in the pages of history."

On the eve of the second anniversary of Germany's attack on Soviet Russia, the Soviet press issued a warning against underestimating the strength Hitler had yet left. The Germans suffered considerable losses in men and tanks round Orel. Over 2,000 casualties were inflicted on the Germans in unsuccessful counter-attacks north-west of Mtsensk.

The Moscow Radio broadcast a special communiqué on the second anniversary of Hitler's attack on the Soviet Union: "The German losses during the two years of war in killed and prisoners are 6,400,000 men against the Soviet loss of 4,200,000 killed and missing. Germany lost during the same period 56,500 guns, 42,400 tanks and 43,000 aircraft. Soviet losses in war material were 35,000 guns, 30,000 tanks and 23,000 aircraft."

26TH JUNE.—Soviet troops made several breaches in the main German lines at south-east of Orel, north of Orel and west of Velikie Lukie. Five hundred German planes were destroyed in Soviet raids. Twelve out of the 24 German planes that attempted to raid Leningrad were shot down.

28TH JUNE.—Soviet guerillas had killed about 300,000 Axis troops, including 30 generals in the past two years.

5TH JULY.—Germans launched a big offensive along a 180-mile front between Orel and Kharkov and north-west of Byelgorod.

7TH JULY.—In two days' offensive the Germans lost 1,271 tanks and 314 planes.

15TH JULY.—British Overseas Airways opened a through air service between Britain and Moscow *via* North Africa, Cairo, Iraq, Persia, Astrakhan and Kubishiev.

The Russian army north and east of Orel launched an offensive against German troops in two directions and pierced strongly fortified defensive lines.

24TH JULY.—In an order of the day by Marshal Stalin it was stated that the Russians had completed the liquidation of the German July offensive.

It was revealed that in battles between July 5 and July 23, the Germans sustained the following losses: Over 70,000 officers and men in killed and 2,900 tanks, 195 self-propelled guns, 844 field guns, 1,392 planes and over 5,000 lorries disabled or destroyed.

4TH AUG.—It was officially announced that the Russians broke into Orel.

5TH AUG.—It was officially announced that Byelgorod had been captured. The German troops evacuated Orel. General Rokossovsky's armies pursued the retreating Germans with the cry, "On to Bymansk" Mr. Henry Stimson, United States Secretary for War, said that the Red Army's advance to Orel represented a major defeat for the Germans.

6TH AUG.—The Russians launched a new offensive on the Kharkov front. The Germans suffered heavy losses at Orel and their divisions "melted like sugar in boiling water" . . . "Despite categorical orders to hold Orel at any cost the Germans were forced to retreat."

7TH AUG.—The German General Von Zorn was killed in the fighting around Orel. One million Soviet troops took part in the Orel battle.

Between July 5 and August 5, Soviet troops inflicted the following losses on the enemy: 120,000 officers and men killed, 5,605 tanks destroyed, 1,623 guns smashed 11,000 lorries destroyed and 2,492 planes brought down.

10TH AUG.—The Russian army was battering at the suburbs of Kharkov.

15TH AUG.—The Red Army broke into the outskirts of Kharkov and there was fighting in the streets.

The Russians captured Karachev, key town on the road to Bryansk.

17TH AUG.—The *Washington Post* said the possibility that Soviet Russia may enter the war against Japan "may have been raised" in the Churchill-Roosevelt talks. "Russia may go to war against Japanese in the Pacific and grant the United States air bases at Kamchatka."

18TH AUG.—The Germans rushed up 100,000 shock troops and motorised divisions to Kharkov in a bid to recapture the vital Kharkov-Peltava railway.

21ST AUG.—The Russians recaptured several more places in the Kharkov region. In the period between July 5 and August 20, the Russians destroyed 4,600 German planes, 6,400 tanks and 3,800 guns. The Russians also captured 850 tanks, 1,274 guns and took 25,000 prisoners. There was bitter fighting on the Bryansk front.

A petition signed by 50 prominent Finnish politicians was presented to President Risto Ryti demanding immediate positive measures for a separate peace with the Soviet Union.

23RD AUG.—*The Russians captured Kharkov by storm.* [This was the fourth time that Kharkov had changed hands. It first fell to the Germans four months after their invasion of Russia in 1941. Their occupation lasted for 16 months until February 16, 1943, when the Russians regained it. A month later, on March 15, the Germans were again in occupation and this time they held it for about 23 weeks.]

25TH AUG.—*The Russians captured Zenkov, 85 miles north-west of Kharkov.*

NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

1942

3RD SEP.—In Argentina, a group of Radical Deputies made a recommendation to the Congress to break off relations with the Axis.

8TH SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Ankara.

12TH SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie left Turkey.

13TH SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in Baghdad.

15TH SEP.—Mr. Hammond Namazi, a prominent Persian businessman, on his return to Teheren from Tokyo said that the Japanese people, as a whole, had lost all enthusiasm for the war.

17TH SEP.—The majority of the members of the Chamber of Foreign Relations Committee approved a resolution, urging the Argentine to break off relations with the Axis countries.

1ST OCT.—The Argentine Chamber by voting, recommended a rupture with the Axis.

7TH OCT.—The Iraq Cabinet resigned.

9TH OCT.—A new Iraqi Cabinet was formed with Nuri Es Said as Prime Minister.

20TH NOV.—General Franco refused to grant Germany naval and air bases.

8TH DEC.—General Franco warned Hitler that he would resist any German attempt at crossing Spanish territory to bring help to the Axis forces in Africa.

21ST DEC.—An Iberian bloc was formed by Spain and Portugal.

1943

10TH JAN.—The Turkish press delegation left for India.

1ST FEB.—Mr Churchill visited Turkey as the guest of the Turkish Government Adana Conference.

14TH FEB.—The Prime Minister of Persia resigned.

15TH FEB.—Ali Soheily was chosen as the new Premier of Iran by the Shah.

21ST FEB.—M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, in a broadcast speech declared that a real alliance had been established between Britain and Turkey.

M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, announced that Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, had become an honorary member of the Turkish "Alkerli" (Turkish Cultural Society in foreign countries for Turks living abroad).

22ND FEB.—The new Persian Prime Minister, Ali Soheily, in opening the new Parliament, declared that the new Persian Government would spare no effort to increase the spirit of sincerity and mutual understanding governing Persia's relations with the Allies.

8TH MAR.—President M. Ismet Inenou was unanimously re-elected President of Turkey by the Seventh Turkish Grand National Assembly.

13TH MAR.—M. Falin Rifki Atay, leader of the Turkish Press, Delegation to India (just returned to Turkey), declared that from the Khyber Pass to Aleppo, it was obvious that the prestige and power of the British Empire had been reinforced.

18TH MAR.—M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, speaking in the Grand National Assembly, said: "Since the Adana Conference we have got to know Mr. Churchill more intimately and to love him better." The Assembly gave Mr. Sarajoglu a unanimous vote of confidence.

3RD APR.—Dr. Clodius, the German economic "ambassador" to Turkey, signed a protocol with the Turkish Government, guaranteeing exchange of goods between Germany and Turkey.

9TH APR.—M. Yalchin, writing in *Yeni Sahab*, said: "The Germans should not believe that they can treat Turkey like occupied countries or those under the German yoke—if they do, Turkey is strong enough to kick out the German Commercial Mission with empty hands."

15TH APR.—The Spanish ship *Costidio Monte Allegro* was torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic in a daylight attack by a German submarine.

20TH APR.—An agreement was signed between Germany and Turkey providing for the exchange of 120 millions Reich marks of goods during the next year.

15TH MAY.—Archbishop Spellman arrived in Turkey.

19TH MAY.—The Chilean Government announced the rupture of diplomatic and consular relations with the Governments of Vichy, Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria.

4TH JUNE.—A military revolution triumphed in Argentina and General Arturo Rawson, a cavalry officer, was Chief of a new Provisional Government. President Ramon Castillo fled to Uruguay. Revolutionary forces in the Argentine occupied Government House in Buenos Aires.

7TH JUNE.—The President of the new Argentine Government, General Rawson, resigned and his post was taken over by his War Minister, General Ramirez. It was suggested that the split in the new Argentine Government was on the question whether Argentine should break with the Axis or not.

It was announcel that the Chilean Government had resigned.

8TH JUNE.—General Ramirez, President of the new Argentine Government, stated that Argentine would remain neutral.

A new Chilean Government was formed and sworn in before President Rios.

11TH JUNE.—Both United States and Paraguay decided to recognize the new Argentine Government.

The British Government decided to recognize the new Argentine Government.

The German Overseas Radio announced that the new Argentine Government had been recognized by Germany.

12TH JUNE.—The Vichy Government and Honduras recognized the new Argentine Government.

21ST JUNE.—According to the German Radio, 15,000 people were killed by earthquake in the town of Ada Bazar, which lies about 60 miles east of Istanbul in Turkey. Hendel town also was completely destroyed.

1ST JULY.—Mr. De Valera was re-elected Prime Minister of Eire by 67 votes to 37.

5TH AUG.—Sweeden cancelled her transit traffic agreement with Germany.

10TH AUG.—M. Hussein Yalchin said in article in *Vatan*: "When we are called upon to enter the conflict under our treaty obligations with Britain, we shall not need pushing."

M. Emin Yalman addressed an open letter to President Roosevelt, appealing to him not to insist on the principle of unconditional surrender which was an expression of the spirit of vengeance.

12TH AUG.—The Turkish Government decided to release the seven American airmen interned after their plane crashed into the sea off the Turkish coast following a raid on Ploosti oilfelds.

19TH AUG.—Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Minister of Production, in a message broadcast on the opening of the Turkish International Trade Fair at Izmir, Smyrna, said that it was an open secret that Mr. Churchill's historic visit to Turkey had "not been without its effect on our deliveries of arms to Turkey."

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1942

29TH AUG.—French patriots threw grenades at an S.S. detachment marching through the streets of Paris. Near Bordeaux, French patriots attacked German coastal defences and having captured arms, opened fire on German soldiers.

31ST AUG.—M. Laval herded thousands of Jewish children into concentration camps in Vichy France.

20TH SEP.—The Germans shot 20 hostages from the Croat village of Bugo Selo as a reprisal for ambushing and killing two German soldiers.

Herr Stuelpnagel, Commanding German military forces in Paris, announced that 116 "communist terrorists" were shot for complicity in attacks on German troops.

22ND SEP.—An attempt was made on the life of the Slovak President, Dr. Tiso.

23RD SEP.—According to the figures compiled by the Inter-Allied Information Committee, the total number of persons executed in Occupied Europe up to September 21 was, 207,373.

28TH SEP.—M. Benoit-Mechin, Secretary of State in Laval's Government, resigned.

M. Laval's plan to get skilled French workers to fight on Germany's war production front was announced in a Vichy Decree.

1ST OCT.—The German-controlled Paris Radio stated that a new contingent of 500 workers left for Germany from Paris.

4TH OCT.—In the first six months of this year, German occupation had cost France 72,700 million francs.

5TH OCT.—According to the Moscow Radio, M. Laval was organizing special troops on the German model to suppress the patriotic movement in France.

6TH OCT.—According to telegrams from Ankara received in New York, territorial differences had occurred between Rumania and Hungary over Transylvania.

According to a German Decree, men in the Yugoslav province of Slovenia were to be conscripted for the German army.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 German soldiers were imprisoned for mutiny at Alta in Eastern Finmark in Northern Norway.

7TH OCT.—A state of emergency was proclaimed throughout the province of Trondheim, because of acts of sabotage.

9TH OCT.—Germany gave an ultimatum to Denmark that the Danes must co-operate in the proposed "Great Germany."

16TH OCT.—Four thousand followers of the Croat peasant leader. Doctor Matchek, revolted against the Quisling Government.

18TH OCT.—Countrywide disturbances took place in France. There was an explosion in the Lyons railway station. Another bomb explosion took place in M. Doriot's District Headquarters.

19TH OCT.—In the heaviest daylight raid of the war, the Royal Air Force attacked the Great French armament factory at Le Creusot, about 170 miles south-east of Paris.

20TH OCT.—Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands warned the Dutch of serious consequences for those who assisted the Nazi terror regime.

Registration took place for work in Germany of all male Frenchmen between the ages of 18 and 50.

24TH OCT.—An air raid warning was sounded in Vichy.

5TH NOV.—A reign of terror was inaugurated by the Nazis in Bohemia and Moravia as a reprisal for Czech resistance.

The Vichy Government handed over 35 former Allied merchant vessels in French ports in the Mediterranean to the Axis.

11TH NOV.—Vichy radio announced that Marshal Petain had assumed Admiral Darlan's post of Commander-in-Chief of the French land, sea and air forces.

12TH NOV.—German and Italian troops entered Vichy in spite of Petain's protest.

General Weygand was arrested by Vichy on the orders of the Germans.

19TH NOV.—M. Laval was appointed presumptive successor to Marshal Petain. M. Laval was granted full powers.

21ST NOV.—General Weygand was taken to Germany.

Marshal Petain, broadcasting to the French people, said: "In the interests of France I have decided to extend M. Laval's powers."

27TH NOV.—Hitler ordered the extermination of all Jews in occupied Europe by the end of 1942.

All Jews in Norway numbering 2,300 were arrested by Nazis.

Mass murders of the Jewish population were carried out in Poland by the order of Herr Himmler.

2ND DEC.—It was revealed that when British and American forces landed in North Africa, the Vichy Cabinet refused, by 8 to 6 votes, against the German demand, to declare war on the Allies.

11TH DEC.—Forty-nine tons of gold were taken away by the Germans from the vaults of the Bank of France.

1943

16TH JAN.—Hitler, fearing an Allied invasion through Germany's "back door," gave orders to speed up fortifications in the Balkans.

26TH JAN.—A state of siege was proclaimed at Marseilles.

1ST FEB.—New measures for the persecution of Jews were adopted in France.

7TH FEB.—The Yugoslav War Minister, General Mihailovitch ordered a civil disobedience campaign throughout the country.

14TH FEB.—The Nazis issued new orders to speed up the extermination of the Jews remaining in Occupied Europe by mass massacres and starvation.

23RD FEB.—The Germans occupied Croatia.

28TH FEB.—The German Radio announced that civil mobilization had been ordered of all Greeks between the ages of 16 and 45 in the German-occupied part of Greece.

The Inter-Allied Information Committee published statistics of German terror in nine occupied countries. Among others, 744,000 were executed in Yugoslavia.

14TH MAR.—General Giraud, in a speech at Algiers, gave the people of France a solemn pledge that in everything he was doing in North Africa, he was acting as trustee under the laws of the French Republic.

16TH MAR.—Germany gave M. Laval an ultimatum that unless he sent another quarter-million workers to Germany within the next three days, the German army will be called in to supervise the enrolment of workers throughout France.

18TH MAR.—Hundreds of French patriots in the mountains of Savoy surrendered. The first convoy of workers for compulsory labour service in Germany left Annecy.

M. Andre Philip, Fighting French Commissioner of Interior and Labour, said in London that France was ready to rise on the day the Allies landed.

21ST MAR.—The Polish Government in London received news that the Gestapo had murdered all the Jews who still remained in the ghettos of the following five Polish towns: Radomsk, Ujazd, Sobolon, Radzymin and Szezerzec.

25TH MAR.—M. Vaux, Saint Cyr, Vichy's Minister in Sweden, broke off contact with the Vichy Government and joined General Giraud.

27TH MAR.—Four Ministers resigned from M. Laval's Cabinet.

3RD APR.—M. Laval informed the Vichy Cabinet that a quarter-million French workers had left for Germany in the first three months of this year.

20TH APR.—It was revealed that two million Jewish men, women and children had been wiped out by the Nazis since they began to march through Europe in 1939.

26TH APR.—Dr. Benes, President of Czechoslovakia, said: "Hungary is seeking to make contact with the Allies by all possible means and will betray Germany at the appropriate moment."

2ND MAY.—M. Laval and M. Cathala, Vichy Finance Minister, were wounded by an assassin after a meeting with Hitler.

4TH MAY.—Hitler demanded from M. Laval all Frenchmen between 18 and 40 to be sent to Germany unconditionally and France to join the Anti-Comintern Pact.

9TH MAY.—Martial law was proclaimed in Holland.

Over 100 persons were arrested following wrecking of a German jamming radio station at Toulon.

The Germans, fearing an Allied invasion, cut all Greek communications with the outside world. There was a reign of terror.

Wilhelm Kruger, Gestapo Chief in Poland, was shot dead by Polish patriots.

[Kruger was responsible for the reign of terror in Poland.]

15TH MAY.—A Council of French resistance comprising delegates from every resistance organization and political party was formed in France.

There was a pitched battle in the streets of Lyons.

27TH MAY.—Axis troops started a general offensive against General Mihaiovitch's positions in Montenagro and Herzegovina.

29TH MAY.—According to despatches received by Polish quarters in London, the Jews of Warsaw Ghetto killed or wounded 1,000 Germans in a "second battle of Warsaw" lasting over three weeks. Blocks of buildings occupied by Jews were blown up and men, women and children were murdered *en masse*, but the Jews fought back fiercely, burning factories and German stores of war materials.

3RD JUNE.—The French statesman, M. Edouard Herriot, was deported to Germany.

5TH JUNE.—In a broadcast, M. Laval said: "I have decided to call up the whole 1942 class without a single exception . . . A quarter-million French workers have to leave for Germany between April 1 and July 1."

9TH JUNE.—Vichy Government broke off commercial relations with Chile.

24TH JUNE.—Nazi terror in Poland was intensified. Eighteen-hundred persons, mostly from among the intelligentsia, were arrested.

28TH JUNE.—The Algiers radio said that 50,000 French hostages had been shot or guillotined in France since 1942.

6TH JULY.—French Committee of National Liberation meeting in Algiers, decided on the dissolution of the French Popular Party with all associations and groups attached to it. This party had maintained Nazi connexions through M. Jacques Doriot.

7TH JULY.—Martinique joined the Free French.

9TH JULY.—At a press conference General Giraud announced that complete agreement has been reached with President Roosevelt for the equipment of a French invasion force numbering 300,000.

13TH JULY.—In Martinique, Admiral Robert gave up his post of High Commisioner and M. Alpino of the French Military Mission in America succeeded him.

23RD JULY.—General Giraud arrived back in North Africa after his visit to United States and Britain.

31ST JULY.—China severed relations with Vichy.

The unification of all the French armed forces was achieved. General de Gaulle was appointed President of the Council of National Defence and General Giraud the Commander-in-Chief of all French forces.

1ST AUG.—American Liberators from the Middle East bombed seven Rumanian oil refineries at Ploesti. More than 175 aircraft took part and nearly 600,000 pounds of high explosive bombs and hundred of clusters of incendiaries were dropped. The attack involved a round trip of 2,400 miles from base to target and back. At least 51 enemy aircraft were destroyed. The raid on Ploesti was ranked with the battles of Britain, Stalingrad and Tunisia as one of the major events of the Second World War. [Ploesti was first raided by Soviet bombers on September 16, 1942.]

7TH AUG.—Hand-to-hand fighting between French patriots and German troops broke out in Paris.

10TH AUG.—The Yugoslav Government resigned.

16TH AUG.—By Hitler's orders, all Norwegian Officers were sent to prison camps in Germany. A state of siege was proclaimed in Norway.

20TH AUG.—The Germans issued an ultimatum to French patriots to hand over their arms before August 24.

22ND AUG.—Despite the effort of the Gestapo and Vichy police, 290,000 young Frenchmen evaded deportation to Germany. Some 80,000 fled to the mountains and 200,000 hid themselves in French towns and villages.

SHIPPING

1942

17TH SEP.—His Majesty's ships *Sikh* and *Zulu* were lost in a recent operation off Tobruk.

22ND SEP.—The Canadian destroyer *Ottawa* was sunk by an enemy torpedo.

29TH SEP.—The British submarine Thorn was lost.

1ST OCT.—The British 600-ton corvette Dianthus rammed a German U-boat.

6TH OCT.—The American submarine Grunion was lost.

10TH OCT.—H.M.S. Coventry was sunk. It had a displacement of 4,290 tons and a complement of 400. It was launched in 1917.

17TH OCT.—A west-bound merchantship was torpedoed and sunk off the south shore of the St. Lawrence river. The 4,000-ton ship was one of a small convoy.

1ST NOV.—His Majesty's ship Veteran, a destroyer of 1,500 tons, was sunk.

17TH NOV.—The British submarine *Talisman* was lost.

The British submarine *Unique* was lost.

13TH DEC.—The United States' former liner *President Coioldge* was sunk in the South Pacific.

The British mine sweeper *Cromer* was lost.

15TH *DEC.*—The British destroyer *Penylan was lost.*

18TH DEC.—The British submarine *Unbeaten* was lost.

1943

2ND JAN.—The British destroyer *Blean* was lost.

9TH JAN.—A small United States merchantman was torpedoed and sunk by a submarine in the Indian ocean.

14TH JAN.—The British corvette *Marigold* was lost.

1ST FEB.—The Admiralty announced the loss of submarine "P-222."

12TH FEB.—The British submarine "P. 48" was lost.

22ND FEB.—The United States submarine *Argonaut* was lost.

28TH FEB.—Four American destroyers were launched at Kearny (New Jersey).

Aircraft carrier *Monterey* was launched in Camden (New Jersey).

7TH MAR.—An American cruiser *Astoria* was launched in Philadelphia. Two ships, the *Blueridge* and the *Rocky Mountains* were launched in Kearney.

9TH MAR.—A number of German cargo ships scuttled themselves at Marmagoa (owing to differences among the crew on the question of making a dash to Singapore).

11TH MAR.—The British submarine P-311 was lost.

20TH MAR.—*The City of Flint*, a medium-sized American ship, was sunk in the Atlantic.

21ST MAR.—The troopship *General John Pope*, the largest ship ever built at the 25-year old Federal Shipbuilding Dry Dock Company yards at Kearney was launched.

4TH APR.—The British submarine *Tigris* was lost.

Aircraft carrier *Cabot* was launched at Camden, New Jersey.

21ST APR.—The British submarine *Thunderbolt* was lost.

1ST MAY.—The British destroyer Beverley was lost.

3RD MAY.—The British submarine *Turbulent* was lost.

6TH MAY.—The British submarine *Sahib* was sunk in the Central Mediterranean.

15TH MAY.—The British submarine *Splendid* was lost.

21ST MAY.—A new United States destroyer, *Downes*, was launched in California to replace the ship of the same name lost at Pearl Harbour.

29TH MAY.—The British submarine *Regent* was lost.

12TH JUNE.—The United States submarines *Amberjack* and *Grampus* were lost.

26TH JUNE.—The United States submarine *R*-12 was lost.

29TH JULY.—The British submarine *P* 615 was lost.

1ST AUG.—A new aircraft carrier *Bataan* was launched at Camden, New Jersey, United States.

15TH AUG.—The United States Navy Department announced the loss of six united States warships, including the submarine *Pickerel* and the destroyer *Maddox* in the Mediterranean and Atlantic areas between June 4 and August 5.

17TH AUG.—Six battle cruisers of secret design, it was reported, were being built in the United States to counter Japan's four pocket battleships.

THE FAR EAST

1942

29TH AUG.—Japanese surface forces withdrew from the Battle of Solomons. An American Navy Department's communiqué indicated a United States victory in the second phase of the battle.

30TH AUG.—The Chinese recaptured Lishui, an important air base.

31ST AUG.—The Americans were well-established in the Solomons. The Japanese were annihilated or captured wherever they attempted to regain territory.

1ST SEP.—By lightning attacks the Chinese retook more than 20 towns in Kiangsi and Chekiang.

Japanese withdrew from Milne Bay.

2ND SEP.—Mr. Shigenori Togo, Japanese Foreign Minister, resigned.

3RD SEP.—The Chinese encircled Kinwa.

Marshal Chiang Kai-shek cabled to Mr. Churchill that China will not stop fighting.

12TH SEP.—The Japanese thrust towards Morseby was checked.

14TH SEP.—The Japanese fell back in China. The Chinese forces recaptured Kufang.

The Koreans revolted against the Japanese.

16TH SEP.—The Japanese withdrew from Hopei.

17TH SEP.—The Japanese lost in the latest actions at Guadalcanar 5 bombers, 13 fighters and 3 seaplanes raising to 165, the total losses in the Solomons since August 7.

18TH SEP.—There were heavy United States attacks on Kiska. Ten Japanese ships were sunk and six planes destroyed.

19TH SEP.—Japanese attack on Lanchi was repulsed.

21ST SEP.—The Japanese diplomat to Russia was re-called.

22ND SEP.—Milne Bay was cleared of the Japanese.

23RD SEP.—The Japanese fleet withdrew.

29TH SEP.—Mr. Wendell Willkie arrived in China.

Allied planes raided Kiska.

1ST OCT.—The Allies advanced in New Guinea and captured Iorabaiwa Ridge.

2ND OCT.—The Allies took Nauro in their successful drive in New Guinea.

5TH OCT.—American troops occupied positions in the Andreanof group of the Aleutians.

6TH OCT.—Mr. Wendell Willkie had a talk with General Chiang Kai-shek.

A naval engagement took place off the Solomons.

7TH OCT.—The Americans bombarded Kiska.

The Japanese landed in Guadalcanar in the Solomons.

9TH OCT.—The Japanese abandoned Attu and Agattu in the Aleutians. There were more allied raids on Kiska.

The allied troops occupied the Owen Stanley area. Three Anglican British Missionaries were killed in Papua.

11TH OCT.—Mr. Wendell Willkie left Chungking for the United States.

14TH OCT.—It was revealed that a big Japanese fleet was headed towards South Pacific.

15TH OCT.—In the naval engagement off the Solomons, six Japanese warships were sunk. An American destroyer was lost.

Japanese fighters were driven out of the Aleutians.

Heavy damage was inflicted on the Japanese base at Rabaul.

16TH OCT.—Japanese attempt to land in Kowloon was foiled.

17TH OCT.—The Allies raided Kiska. United States troops occupied another Island in the Aleutians.

A big air and naval battle was fought out in the Solomons Islands.

18TH OCT.—The Japanese were forced back in the Owen Stanley area. The Allies raided Timor and Buin. Japanese assaults were held by the American forces in the Solomons.

19TH OCT.—The Japanese met with reverses in East Chekiang. Enemy forces were attacked east of Canton and heavy casualties inflicted.

21ST OCT.—The Tokyo Radio announced that punishment in accordance with military regulations had been meted out to United States fliers captured after the raid on Japan on April 18.

26TH OCT.—Twelve Japanese planes raided Darwin.

Allied aircraft bombed Hong Kong.

29TH OCT.—In the naval action south-west Pacific, two Japanese warships were sunk and at least three damaged.

31ST OCT.—The Japanese fleet retired from the Solomons.

The Japanese imprisoned in a wooden cage in Manila, Amleto Vespa, author of the best seller "Secret Agent of Japan," a book disclosing Japan's brutal police methods in Manchuria.

1ST NOV.—The first round of the fight in the Solomons was over. The American army held complete control of the situation in Guadalcanar.

3RD NOV.—Seven Japanese ships were believed to have been sunk or damaged in the Battle of Stewart Isles.

4TH NOV.—Allied troops captured Kokoda. A very large Japanese convoy was routed at Buna.

9TH NOV.—The Allies gained control of Papua.

12TH NOV.—The battle for Oivi reached a decisiv stage. The Japanese were encircled.

13TH NOV.—The Japanese retreated with heavy losses in New Guinea. They also retreated north of Canton.

15TH NOV.—American and Japanese units suffered losses in the naval action in the Solomons.

17TH NOV.—Australian and American troops converged on Buna and joined forces.

18TH NOV.—About 24,000 Japanese died when eight transports headed for Guadalcanar were sunk.

20TH NOV.—Following Britain and United States, Belgium also decided to relinquish extra-territorial rights in China.

22ND NOV.—It was estimated that 10,000 Japanese were killed in Guadalcanar.

23RD NOV.—American and Australian troops breaking through Japanese positions, captured Seputa, a port in Buna.

25TH NOV.—The Australians entered Gona, one of Japan's last two footholds on the New Guinea coast. Cape Endaiadere near Buna was captured.

11TH DEC.—Gona was completely cleared of Japanese forces.

16TH DEC.—Allied troops captured Buna in New Guinea.

18TH DEC.—Buna was "busted" by American troops.

28TH DEC.—General Tojo,, Japanese Prime Minister, said: "Real war has only started now."

1943

4TH JAN.—Allied troops captured Buna Government Station.

11TH JAN.—General Tojo, the Japanese Prime Minister, said: "Japan has secured her basic strategical positions. We are in a position to fight."

The Japanese sustained heavy losses in south-west Pacific. An enemy convoy was bombed off New Guinea.

12TH JAN.—Coolies captured from the Japanese at Buna revealed that the Japanese flogged them with whips.

16TH JAN.—General MacArthur opened a new front in New Guinea.

22ND JAN.—Major-General Alexander Patch of the United States Army assumed command of the United States forces stationed in Guadalcanar.

25TH JAN.—Fighting ended in Papua, with the collapse of the Japanese.

30TH JAN.—American troops launched an offensive in Guadalcanar.

6TH FEB.—Explaining the "global strategy" as agreed between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, Mr. Curtin, the Australian Prime Minister, said: "Defeat Germany first, then deal with Japan."

10TH FEB.—The Japanese evacuated Guadalcanar; they also evacuated the Buna area in New Guinea.

12TH FEB.—Mr. Stimson, United States Secretary of State for War, disclosed that 4,000 Japanese were killed and 105 taken prisoner in the Solomons during the last two weeks of January.

22ND FEB.—Sweden relinquished her territorial rights in China.

23RD FEB.—Lieutenant-Commander George Porter of the United States navy disclosed that undersea boats were within "spitting distance" of the Japanese homeland.

27TH FEB.—President Roosevelt sent a cable to General MacArthur congratulating him on the success of his campaigns in the south-west Pacific.

Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek broadcast an appeal to the people and armed forces of Siam to rise against the Japanese, reiterating that China had no territorial ambition in Siam.

3RD MAR.—There was a daylight raid on Port Darwin.

4TH MAR.—The Battle of Bismarck Sea was fought and won by the Allies. The victory was of such completeness as to assume the proportions of a major disaster to the enemy. The Japanese entire force which consisted of 22 vessels—12 transports and 10 warships (cruisers and destroyers)—was completely destroyed. Fifty-two enemy aircraft were shot down; 15,000 ground forces (destined to attack New Guinea) were drowned or killed.

5TH MAR.—The remnants of the enemy convoy of 22 ships were wiped out. Twenty-seven more Japanese planes were shot down. The "Suicide Alley"—Itiaz Straits between New Britain and New Guinea was, according to an Allied pilot, "a tangle of sinking boats and drowning Japanese." Ship after ship went down and the Japs in lifeboats were machine-gunned. Reuter's special correspondent rounded off his report with: "The sun went down on a scene of chaos."

6TH MAR.—It was revealed that 151 Japanese warships had been sunk in the Pacific since Pearl Harbour.

11TH MAR.—It was revealed that the Japanese were arresting and interning German missionaries in the countries they had occupied in the Far East.

14TH MAR.—According to the American Navy Department recapitulation of the naval losses in the Solomon Islands, 179 Japanese vessels were sunk or damaged as compared with United States losses totalling 39.

16TH MAR.—To the intense annoyance of the Germans, the Japanese withdrew numerous troops from Manchurian zones nearest to Russia.

Forty-nine Japanese planes raided Darwin of which 2 bombers and 12 fighters were shot down. Only slight damage was done to Port Darwin.

18TH MAR.—The Japanese authorities gave the newspaper monopoly in the newly-conquered territories to leading Tokyo newspapers.

19TH MAR.—The Japenese interned nationals of the United Nations in occupied China, in Shanghai and other centres.

According to the Tokyo Radio, a number of British, American and other foreign banks in Malaya were to be liquidated.

22ND MAR.—More than 100 Chinese soldiers were affected by poison gas shells fired by the Japanese.

23RD MAR.—Japanese shipping between Shanghai and Nagasaki was disrupted as a result of the destruction of Japanese ships by Allied submarines.

25TH MAR.—According to the American Navy Department, an American submarine surprised, torpedoed and sank a Japanese submarine in the Far Pacific so quickly that the Japanese "never knew what hit them."

26TH MAR.—General Tojo in a speech said: "Unforeseen difficulties still lie ahead."

27TH MAR.—A protocol was signed in Moscow extending the fisheries convention between the Soviet Union and Japan for another year.

2ND APR.—Thirty to forty Japanese fighters were engaged by the United States planes in a big battle north west of Guadalcanar in the Solomon Islands. Sixteen enemy planes were shot down.

Chinese "Puppet" troops guarding the Tsinpu railway (part of the Tientsin-Pukow line), mutined and killed scores of Japanese officers and men and then joined the Chinese forces.

3RD APR.—General Stillwell revealed that United States Air Force in China now had air bases within bombing range of Tokyo in the Kiangzo Province.

8TH APR.—On the anniversary of the fall of Bataan, General McArthur issued the following message: "A year ago to-day, the dimming light of Bataan, a forlorn ray of hope, fluttered and died. . . Our faithful Filipino wards—16 million souls—gasp in the slavery of the conquering soldiery. . . I pray that the merciful God may not delay too long their redemption."

9TH APR.—The report of the Institute of Pacific Relations Conference proposed that Allied troops should occupy Tokyo temporarily after the war and Japan should be completely disarmed and deprived of her entire empire including Korea, Manchuria and the mandated islands.

12TH APR.—Forty-five Japanese dive bombers and fighters attacked Allied shipping at Oro in New Guinea. Twenty-three Japanese planes were shot out of action.

13TH APR.—About 100 Japanese aircraft raided Port Moresby of which 37 were destroyed.

17TH APR.—The resignation from the Bangkok (Siam) Government of Ministers was regarded as confirmation of the disgust over Japan's highhandedness.

21ST APR.—The Japanese Ambassador at Nanking and former envoy in London, Mr. Mamoru Shigemitsu was appointed Foreign Minister in the Japanese Cabinet. It was suggested that Tojo was preparing for a possible German defeat when a peace offensive would be in order.

23RD APR.—American forces occupied Fanfuti Island in the south Pacific without opposition.

29TH APR.—Mr. Morgenthau, United States Secretary of the Treasury, disclosed that the Japanese troops had slaughtered every man, woman, and child in the coastal areas of China.

3RD MAY.—Twenty-one Japanese bombers and 30 fighters made a heavy raid on Darwin. Thirteen enemy planes were destroyed.

4TH MAY.—It was announced that American forces occupied Russell Islands north-east of Guadalcanar in February without opposition.

7TH MAY.—Chinese forces, after bitter fighting recaptured Saio Island off south-east Kwangtung coast near Fukien Port.

8TH MAY.—It was revealed that United States forces occupied Amchikta Island in the Aleutians last January without opposition.

9TH MAY.—Japan lodged a strong protest with Peru against the economic measures taken against Japanese property owners.

14TH MAY.—Strong United States forces landed on Japan's Aleutian island base of Attu in the North Pacific.

A Japanese submarine sank without warning the Australian hospital ship *Centaur* 40 miles east of Brisbane. Two hundred and ninety-nine persons were lost.

United States troops established positions on the island of Attu in the Aleutians.

21ST MAY.—It was revealed by the Tokyo radio that Admiral Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet (who planned the Pearl Harbour attack), was killed "in an aircraft in the course of combat with the enemy" last April.

23RD MAY.—Seventeen out of the 22 American warships lost in the Pearl Harbour attack were back on active duty.

28TH MAY.—Allied aircraft gave Lae in New Guinea its heaviest raid yet with 28 tons of bombs and 12,000 rounds of ammunition.

29TH MAY.—Fourteen Japanese, planes raided Milingimbi in Northern Australia, "causing minor damage and no casualties." Spitfires intercepted and shot down three bombers, damaging others.

30TH MAY.—A United States communique stated:

Japanese forces on Attu Island have been annihilated.

The Tokyo radio admitted: "The Japanese garrison at Attu Island have been completely wiped out."

1ST JUNE.—Mr. A. S. Drakeford, Australian Air Minister, said that since Japan entered the war, Allied forces had destroyed 1,100 Japanese aircraft, damaged 480 and probably destroyed 392. Japanese shipping losses over the same period totalled 446 vessels, aggregating 2,224,600 tons.

4TH JUNE.—It was revealed that troops of the Nanking Puppet Government helped the Chinese by giving away valuable information.

6TH JUNE.—Reuter's Far Eastern Observer wrote: "The resounding defeat suffered by the Japanese in Central China during the past weeks, marks the opening of a new phase in China's six-year struggle with Japan." For the first time, Chinese troops fought under a powerful air umbrella.

General Stilwell said: "We shall have more and more reason to be proud of our great ally, China."

7TH JUNE.—The Tokyo radio reported that Japanese engineers were attempting to refloat *Repulse* which was sunk along with *Prince of Wales* off Malaya in December 1941.

Admirals Numitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, said: "The Japanese are now on the defensive in the Pacific. . . We must do everything in our power to aid China, because we must use bases in China to attack Japan."

12TH JUNE.—*Chinese troops entered Kinhwa, the last Japanese airbase in the Province of Chekiang,* 650 *miles from Japan, one of the three great air bases from which Tokyo could be bombed.*

20TH JUNE.—According to the American Office of War Information, Japanese naval and shipping losses up to June 11 were; 161 combat vessels were definitely sunk, including two battleships, seven aircraft carriers, 34 cruisers and 74 destroyers.

According to the Soviet press, Japan was everywhere on the defensive and had gained nothing by her temporary conquests.

21ST JUNE.—Twenty-two Japanese bombers and fighters nearly half the attacking force were destroyed or damaged in a Japanese raid over Port Darwin.

Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Japanese on the Kungan front on the Yangtse.

24TH JUNE.—The "no confidence" vote against Mr. Curtin's Labour Government was rejected by a majority of one—27 against the opposition's 26 votes. Mr. Curtin informed the House of Representatives that he would seek dissolution of the Commonwealth Parliament.

26TH JUNE.—It was revealed in the United States official figures, that Japanese planes were being destroyed at the rate of eight daily.

27TH JUNE.—The Japanese News Agency reported that the Japanese had completed tests on large ships made entirely of rubber.

28TH JUNE.—Chinese "puppet" troops serving under Japanese officers, mutinied and surrendered to General Chiang Kai-Sheik's forces.

29TH JUNE.—Eighteen Japanese planes attempted to raid Darwin of which two were shot down and four destroyed.

Mr. A. S. Drakeford, Commonwealth Air Minister said: "Allied aircraft covering over 300,000 square miles of north-western Australia, destroyed 44, probably destroyed 10 and damaged 16 Axis aircraft during the month of May—a record bag."

30TH JUNE.—American troops landed on Rendov island in New Georgia group of the Solomon Islands.

1ST JULY.—A new Allied offensive started in South-west and South Pacific with the invasion of Rendova and New Georgia among the Solomon Islands.

5TH JULY—The Australian Parliament was formally dissolved, the General election to take place on August 21, and the new Parliament to assemble not later than September 27.

7TH JULY.—An appeal to the United Nations for launching immediate offensive against Japan was made by General Chiang Kai-shek on the occasion of the "China Day."

7TH JULY.—Chinese War Minister and Chief of General Staff, General Ho Ying-Chin, speaking at an international gathering at Chungking, said that Japanese casualties in China since the start of the war up to June 1943 totalled 1,930,639. The Japanese Navy since the outbreak of the War lost 124 war ships out of 230 first-line naval craft.

According to Mr. L. W. Brockington, Empire Adviser to the Information Ministry, China has lost, during the six years of War, five to six million Chinese soldiers and seven to ten million civilians by famine and flood, while fifty million were homeless refugees.

There was an air raid on Port Darwin, being the 58th.

8TH JULY.—American forces made two new landings on vital points in the Solomon islands.

12TH JULY.—Blockaded by land and sea Japanese garrison at Munda was faced with the alternative of death or surrender.

19TH JULY.—General Tojo, Japanese Prime Minister, at a Tokyo Conference to-day, warned the audience not to under-estimate the Anglo-American Powers who are now attempting to invade East Asia.

21ST JULY.—According to a Japanese News Agency, King George the Fifth Dock, the largest floating dock in the world, which was sunk by the British on Singapore island, had been refloated.

24TH JULY.—It was reported by the German radio that the American air force in China had now planes which could make the trip to Tokyo and back to their base at Kweiling without re-fuelling.

The Americans landed in Nassau Bay in New Guinea.

31ST JULY.—Dr. Evatt, Australian Prime Minister, said that he had secured from Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt "very substantial allocations" of additional aircraft.

2ND AUG.—General Chiang Kai-shek was formally chosen as acting President in the place of Dr. Lin Sen who died.

6TH AUG.—Munda was captured. One thousand six hundred and seventy-five Japanese were killed. [Munda was the Japanese key base in south-west Pacific.]

7TH AUG.—Mr. J. Curtin, Australian Premier, revealed that the Australian Government had established a submarine base at Exmouth harbour on the west coast of Western Australia.

9TH AUG.—A Chinese military spokesman declared that criminal insubordination and desertion were increasing in the Japanese army.

12TH AUG.—According to a Chunking report, Japan put out peace feelers on three occasions in the last two months, but China rejected them all.

13TH AUG.—President Roosevelt gave the people of the Phillippines his word that their republic would be established "the moment the power of our Japanese enemies is destroyed."

15TH AUG.—Flying over 2,500 miles, Allied heavy Bombers attacked the oilport at Balik Papan in Borneo. The whole area was left ablaze.

16TH AUG.—Representatives of the British Foreign Office and the War Office said that the Japanese Government had supplied the names of only 65 per cent of Allied prisoners of war in Japanese hands. It was estimated that 100,000 British prisoners were in Japanese hands, in addition to 75,000 Indian troops, 20,000 Australians, 35,000 Americans, 100,000 Dutch and 2,000 Canadians. There was no news of the fate of Indian prisoners. Facilities were not given to the International Red Cross to visit camps of Indian prisoners of war.

18TH AUG.—A record attack was made on Japanese air bases in Wewak area in New Guinea. 12 enemy planes were destroyed and 50 damaged. General MacArthur said: "It was a crippling blow at an opportune moment."

20TH AUG.—Mr. Edgar Snow, cabling from New Delhi to the New York *Saturday Evening Post* said that Japan missed the boat by not attacking India last year. "It is my guess that Japan will never again be able to afford air protection adequate for a big offensive against India."

A treaty between Japan and Siam was signed whereby Japan recognized the incorporation in Siam of the Malayan States of Kelantan, Thengganu, Kedah and Perlio and the Shan States of Kentung and Mongpan.

21ST AUG.—*Kiska was taken by the American forces from the Japanese without opposition.*

The Japanese retreated from the air base of Salamaua.

22ND AUG.—The last Australian election returns showed that Labour (Government Party) had gained a majority of almost two to one in the House of Representatives and had captured all the 19 of the vacant Senate seats.

Vice-Admiral Thomas G. Kinkaid, Commander of the North Pacific operations, said: "Our recapture of Kiska without opposition means that we have completed our northern road towards Japan."

23RD AUG.—Chunking was bombed for the first time in two years by the Japanese.

Mr. Curtin, Australian Prime Minister, commenting on the election results said that the Government would justify the confidence placed in it by the electors by prosecuting the war with the utmost vigour.

24TH AUG.—A joint statement was issued by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at the end of the conference at Quebec. The statement disclosed that military discussions were centred largely upon the war against Japan.

25TH AUG.—Lord Louis Mountbatten was appointed supreme Allied Commander in south-east Asia.

MR. CHURCHILL.

69510
JL
V21.1.MCG.MA.39
N42.4

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS AND PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WAR PUBLICITY, "VICTORY HOUSE", MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.